

**INQUIRY INTO THE CLOSURE OR DOWNSIZING OF  
CORRECTIVE SERVICES NSW FACILITIES**

**Name:** Name suppressed  
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Partially Confidential

It's a "No Brainer" . Regional Towns struggle to survive at the best of times. Grafton's previous losses with regard to employment from other business & organisations had a major impact on the town, the families & the morale of ALL it's residents. The final death blow that was delivered by the current government, was ill conceived , poorly constructed and heartlessly implemented without concern for the residents of Grafton. It has also been stated (however, unconfirmed ) that the "estimated" savings were inflated to justify the action taken, but is actually a lot less than stated. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand that this impacts on the local organisations & services in the area, as well as affecting the families of not only those directly affected by the closure, but the organisations, business's people and charitable agencies that they support. I can walk into any organisation or business , and lower their operating costs by sacking staff and reducing, delaying or trimming the service\ s mandated to be delivered. That is NOT managing an organisation, that is withdrawing public services which the public purse has funded. Few people realize the affect that this has, not only on the employees, & their families, but also the town as well as the public in general, or the offender's that are affected by this action. The offender's at Grafton I am led to believe are regularly shuffled to other centre's exacerbating anxiety, concern as well as eroding their emotional well being, the first casualty being loss of contact with their family ( even if briefly)., whilst they are transported to another centre. They are also denied a "buyup", other than a weekly opportunity to purchase tobacco (if they have sufficient funds available), however this cannot be supplemented with support from families depositing money into their account through visits) ( Obviously this encourages them to smoke even more adding to poorer health and eventually a greater burden on the Health System itself as well as Justice Health). Offenders at Grafton, since this heartless action to downsize the centre are also denied visits as they can not accommodate this activity at Grafton transit Centre. So... an offender goes to Grafton for what ever reason, charged by Police or from another centre to attend Court they have no visits or buyup's for the time they are there. This can hardly be conceived as "Managing Offenders", particularly when it is viewed in light of Corrective Services N.S.W. mission statement. "Managing" is the term that needs to be examined here. Government is elected to "manage" in this case the state of New South Wales. If Government considers this to be 'managing", we are in a lot of trouble. There are NO positive outcomes to be seen from this action, in fact I believe it must incur additional costs transporting , reissuing processing duplication and recreation of documentation and in some cases overloading available resources needlessly inflating costs in other areas. It is a well accepted formula that for every \$1 (one dollar) that is earned in a community it returns at least \$13 ( thirteen dollars ). That

equates to an enormous loss to the community of Grafton. If it is believed that the woes of this state can be rectified by slashing jobs and downsizing the workforce, then they are not only misguided but delusional. The strength of the State lies in its infrastructure and work force. This is what generates community wealth and well being which, also contributes to reducing crime. The current idea to slash the workforce, downsize infrastructure and service delivery, serves only to condemn the state of New South Wales to become a **WELFARE** state. The mindset that "If they don't have a job they can go on the dole, that gets them off our books and they become a federal burden", "after all they are an opposition party even if they are federal instead of state government" is abhorrent. Further the long term effects of this type of mindset and action are broad and far reaching. Once people are no longer employed they cease to contribute to things such as private Health Insurance and Superannuation this places an even greater burden on the provision of health care and in the case of Superannuation affects the long term retirement plan again placing further burden on a national level and the next generation.