Submission No 143

INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND PRISON-RELATED SERVICES

Name:

Name suppressed

Date received:

27/02/2009

I wish to make a submission in support of the NON PRIVATISATION OF CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE

I have been an Alcohol and Other Drugs Worker at this centre for eight years and in that time have presented many programs for inmates who are struggling to change their dysfunctional lives.

Programs such as Relapse Prevention, Harm Minimisation, Anger Management, Alcohol Awareness, Getting SMART and CALM. In fact this gaol was part of a pilot program for the getting SMART and CALM - both of these programs have now been successfully rolled out across the State.

Our gaol has the esteemed reputation for running the most accredited Education and Offender Programs in the State. To achieve this all staff both officers and OS&P work together with inmates for successful outcomes.

All this is now in jeopardy of being lost if privatisation goes ahead and any chance of rehabilitation for inmates will be minimal.

Currently there is a lot of media focus on young people and the amount of alcohol they consume which leads to violence and crime followed by incarceration. If these programs are lost because of privatisation the recidivism rate will sky rocket.

Therefore I support the call for the NON PRIVATISATION OF CESSNOCK CORRECTIONAL CENTRE.