Submission No 189

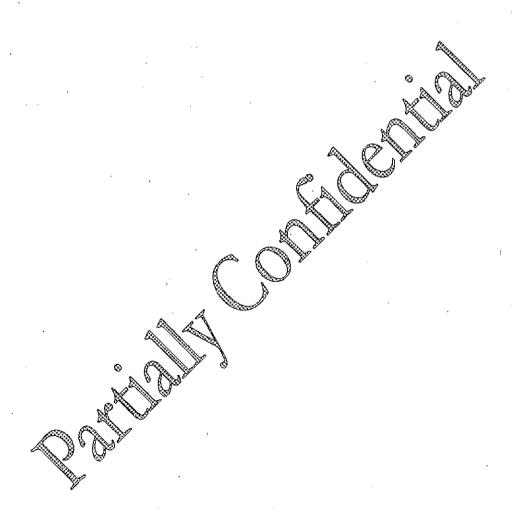
INQUIRY INTO THE PRIVATISATION OF PRISONS AND PRISON-RELATED SERVICES

Name:

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Date received:

25/02/2009



I am an Officer in the new Long Bay PRISON Hospital

Long Bay PRISON Hospital has a capacity of 85 inmates.

Long Bay PRISON Hospital is split into five different wards.

There are three wards in the Mental Health Area of the PRISON Hospital with forty (40) beds in total.

There is an Aged and Frail unit with fifteen (15) beds and a Medical Surgery unit with thirty (30) beds.

I would like to ask the following questions.

Why has the Department of Corrective Services seen fit to negotiate the handing over of this facility to Justice Health.

Is it true that DSC are in the process of offering JH a financial incentive to take over this facility. If so how much is DCS offering JH.

Are the public aware that Long Bay Prison Hospital holds MASS MURDERERS, MULTIPLE RAPISTS, SEX OFFENDERS who prey on CHILDREN and other sick human beings that if given the chance would do the same things again and again.

Are the public aware that this facility holds an inmate that has been described as "THE MOST DANGEROUS INMATE EVER TO BE HELD IN CUSTODY in NSW".

Mr Woodham is content on handing over this facility to JH and for it to be run by nurses and private security.

Is this in the best interest of the people of NSW?

My colleagues and I are Professionals who deal with these inmates ever day. We are trained for any emergency. We have been doing this job since the first fleet arrived.

Would the public feel safe knowing that Nurses (some who are staying in Australia on temporary visas) and Security guards (Who knows what qualifications they have) are able to protect the NSW public from these inmates.

At what cost do you put on the life of a member of the public in the event of an escape? Why would Justice Health want to take over our PRISON Hospital when other Public Hospitals throughout NSW cannot even pay their bills?

Only recently the Government cut the Health budget by five hundred million.

Why should the public accept a Government health Service paying for and giving priority to these inmates over our children, our parents, our grandparents our family and our friends? Should these inmates get priority over the people of NSW?

Long Bay Prison Hospital must NOT be run by any other organisation. It must stay completely in the hands of The Department of Corrective Services.

I agree that Corrective Services has problems. I have no doubt that Mr Woodham will once again try to blame the unions. However I am of the belief that the problems lie with some of the Senior Management that run this organisation.

The majority of Officers have either little or no confidence in Mr Woodham.

This enquiry needs to look at these people and the damage that they have done to this Department. A Government Department that is funded by every Australian taxpayer.

The answer is not to PRIVATISE gaols and hand over to other agencies.

The people of NSW deserve to know the truth on how The Department of Corrective Services is being managed.

Thank-you for listening.