

# Bandyup Prison

## Purposes:

- The state’s main maximum/medium-security facility for holding women on remand or serving a sentence.
- A dispersal prison for women transferred from other facilities due to management reasons or to access metropolitan health services.

## Capacity Information & crowding measures

Design standard capacity	209
Modified standard capacity	385
Special beds	18
Total capacity	403
Compliant standard beds	70
Count: 30 June 2016	399
Increase over 12 months	20.2%
Unused modified capacity	-14
Utilisation of modified capacity	103.6%
Utilisation of design capacity	190.9%
Compliant beds over 2016 count	17.5%

## Key overcrowding issues:

- Bandyup is grossly crowded and most women have to share with someone else, including in Unit 1 where cells are not compliant even for single person occupation. Mattresses placed on floors adjacent to cell toilets had been used extensively in the past and at 30 June 2016 this practice had just returned.
- Women complained about a lack of privacy, insufficient showers and feelings of a lack of safety. They experienced bullying, standovers, and assaults from others in accommodation and common areas.
- The family and social visits centre has never been expanded as extra beds and units have been added over the years and is grossly inadequate. Nor has video or e-visits been appropriately developed at Bandyup. Reception, crisis care, management unit, and health centre are also stretched.
- The 2015 inspection found that health services were inadequately resourced and needs were not being met, including in mental health and counselling. There was also an obvious risk of infection due to the degree of crowding in the prison.
- Availability of education and training had also diminished as population rose and re-entry services were also stretched.

NOTE: The Melaleuca Women’s Remand and Reintegration Facility created from the former Units 11 and 12 at Hakea Prison was due to commence operations in December 2016. It will replace Bandyup as the main receipt prison for women. The future role of Bandyup is not yet clear. Melaleuca will be operated by Sodexo.