

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Directed Review of Allegations made by Amnesty International Australia about ill-treatment at Banksia Hill Detention Centre

The report by the Inspector of Custodial Services on the directed review of allegations made by Amnesty International Australia about ill treatment at Banksia Hill Detention Centre will be tabled in Parliament 14 August 2018. The report will also be made available on our website the same date (www.oics.wa.gov.au).

Although the report was substantially completed within four months of receiving the Minister for Corrective Services' 19 January direction to review Amnesty's allegations (see attached), the Inspector was unable to provide the necessary copies of the report to Parliament by the end of May to enable tabling to occur before Parliament recessed.

As the acting Inspector, Mr Andrew Harvey explains:

Unfortunately, under the *Inspector of Custodial Services Act 2003* any report the Inspector intends to table is subject to a minimum 30 day embargo period after being delivered it to Parliament before it can be tabled. Further, tabling can only occur on a day a House is sitting. Parliament's first sitting day after the end of June is 14 August.

While the Act permits an exception after the 30 day period when the Inspector believes that waiting for the next sitting day is unreasonable having regard to the contents of the document, in this case I have had to balance this against the fact that this is a Directed Review. Given the nature of the allegations, and that it was the Minister who directed the review be undertaken, I have formed the view that this report should be tabled when Parliament is sitting.

Therefore, although I am unable to comment further until the report has been tabled, I can say that the allegations of ill treatment have been thoroughly reviewed.

Andrew Harvey
A/Inspector

For Further Media Information

The A/Inspector, Mr Andrew Harvey can be contacted on 0477 307 559



Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services

Our Ref: 65-03261

Professor Neil Morgan
Inspector
Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services
Level 5, Albert Facey House
469 Wellington Street
PERTH WA 6000

Dear Professor Morgan, *Neil*,

ISSUES RAISED BY AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL AUSTRALIA REGARDING BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE

Please find attached two letters from Ms Tammy Solonec, Indigenous Rights Manager at Amnesty International Australia dated 14 December 2017 and 12 January 2018. These letters relate to allegations of the treatment of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] while detained in Banksia Hill Detention Centre.

I understand that these issues were also conveyed to you at the same time.

I ask that you provide an opinion on the contents of the letters and direct you to investigate the authenticity of the statements and allegations, specifically in accordance with Section 17 (2)(b) to:

- i) review the allegations made in Ms Solonec's letter to me dated 14 December 2017 (attached) as they relate to the treatment of [REDACTED]
- ii) review the allegations made in the Ms Solonec's letter to me dated 12 January 2018 (attached) as they relate to the treatment of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]
- iii) review any other matters you believe are incidental or relevant to these allegations.

I ask that you carry out the above review in a timely manner and report back directly to me both verbally and in writing.

Yours sincerely,

HON FRANCIS LOGAN MLA
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES; CORRECTIVE SERVICES

Att.

19 JAN 2018