

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 2PM ON 17 JUNE 2025

Report 161: 2024 Inspection of Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women

The Inspector of Custodial Services, Mr Eamon Ryan, has today released the report for the 2024 inspection of the Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women. This is the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services' seventh announced inspection of Boronia – a minimum-security facility helping women in custody successfully reintegrate back into the community.

The inspection found Boronia continues to be a high-quality facility providing women with important self-improvement opportunities in the lead up to their release. An experienced senior management team brought stability and ensured the philosophy of the centre was at the forefront of service delivery.

Boronia offered residents a range of programs, employment, and training opportunities to develop their skills and resilience prior to their release. The Yirra Djinda employment and training program for Aboriginal women was a highlight. But there were opportunities to do more. Residents wanted more programs to address grief, abuse, and trauma. There also remained significant delays for women trying to access employment and leave opportunities beyond the bounds of Boronia's perimeter fence.

Lines attributable to the Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan:

"Our 2024 inspection of the Boronia Pre-release Centre for Women has once again found it to be a high-quality facility, with staff working hard to provide support and rehabilitation opportunities for the women who reside there."

"Boronia's philosophy of providing residents with opportunities for self-improvement in preparation for release was evident in most of the areas we examined. This has been bolstered by stability in leadership and improved communication, which has reinforced this approach in day-to-day operations."

"Still, there remain opportunities to improve the services available to residents. We heard that access to education and self-improvement courses were often hampered by limited or no access to online education resources and materials. There also continues to be long delays approving applications for external activities important for helping women transition to community life."

Eamon Ryan

Inspector of Custodial Services

For further media information:

The Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan, will be available for comment from 2pm on 17 June 2025 and can be contacted on 0421 480 925.

The full report will be available on the Inspector's website (www.oics.wa.gov.au).