

## MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 2PM ON 19 August 2025

### Report 164: Inspection of Karnet, Pardelup & Wooroloo Prison Farms

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Today the Inspector of Custodial Services, Mr Eamon Ryan, released the report for the 2024 inspection of Karnet, Pardelup and Wooroloo Prison Farms. This multi-site inspection brings together the three minimum-security facilities within the adult male estate, which have similar pre-release functions but also produce food such as meat, eggs, dairy, fruit and vegetables for the prison system statewide.

While the prison farms continue to offer a range of benefits to men nearing release, the inspection found the rehabilitation and reintegration potential of the prison farms were not being maximised due to system-wide challenges including population pressures, staffing shortages and ongoing delays in treatment assessments.

The report argues for the Department of Justice to provide stronger support, clearer planning, and better resourcing to ensure the prison farms meet their twin goals of food production and rehabilitation.

Lines attributable to the Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan:

"Prison farms have historically played a crucial role in preparing individuals for life beyond prison. However, they are now facing significant strain due to increasing prisoner numbers, constrained resources, and delays in treatment assessments. These pressures are limiting the system's ability to meet prisoner needs and diminishing opportunities for meaningful rehabilitation prior to release."

"The Department of Justice's new Strategic Plan (2025–2030) signals a welcome focus on fostering environments that support positive change and reduce reoffending. This is a promising development, particularly for minimum-security facilities such as Karnet, Wooroloo, and Pardelup. Its success will depend on robust planning and sustained investment."

"It is disappointing that the Department has opted not to support key recommendations aimed at accelerating access to external activities and employment programs. These initiatives offer minimum-security prisoners a valuable opportunity to reconnect with family and secure meaningful employment ahead of their release – both of which are critical to successful rehabilitation and reintegration into the community."

**Eamon Ryan**  
**Inspector**

**For further media information:**

The Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan, will be available for comment from 2pm on 19 August 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](http://www.oics.wa.gov.au)).