

MEDIA RELEASE  
EMBARGOED UNTIL 21 January 2026  
Report 166: 2025 Inspection of Broome Regional Prison

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The Inspector of Custodial Services, Eamon Ryan, has today released the report for the 2025 inspection of Broome Regional Prison.

The inspection found the prison remains unfit for purpose and that prisoners accommodated in the Maximum-Security Section were held in unacceptable conditions that fail to meet basic standards. The prison's infrastructure is degraded and poorly maintained, posing ongoing risks to both prisoners and staff. Despite some improvements - such as strengthening community relationships, provision of community work programs and engagement with local elders - most services, including health and mental health support, remain inadequate and there were few meaningful rehabilitation opportunities. For women, conditions are only marginally better, but population pressures have forced them to share their unit with men, which falls well short of minimum national and international standards for safety and dignity.

In May 2019, the government announced the allocation of \$1.4M to begin planning for a new facility to replace Broome Regional Prison. But to date, a site has not been confirmed, no construction has commenced, and the uncertainty around the current facility remains.

Lines attributable to the Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan:

"The prison operates in overcrowded, degraded and unhygienic conditions which fall well short of community expectations and international standards."

"The prison is operating beyond its capacity, which places staff, services, and infrastructure under unsustainable strain. The cumulative impact of these pressures upon prisoner and staff wellbeing is also unsustainable."

"The absence of clarity around a new prison in Broome means that men and women sent there must endure sub-standard conditions that offer limited rehabilitation opportunities, and most will be released no better than when they were first sent there."

Eamon Ryan  
Inspector

For further media information:

The Inspector, Mr Eamon Ryan, will be available for comment from 2pm Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2026 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)).