



Justice  
Corrective Services

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Ms Anne Gardiner  
General Secretary  
Public Service Association  
GPO Box 3365  
Sydney NSW 2001

20 March 2016

Dear Ms Gardiner

I am writing to let you know that today the Government made two important announcements affecting Corrective Services NSW. These are parts of a major reform program called Better Prisons, which is likely to impact on CSNSW operations. It will lift standards, and make prisons more efficient and more effective.

The Government has announced over 1,000 new beds across the system, including the reopening of Berrima prison and another 620 beds at Cessnock. Additional public sector staff will be employed to run these new beds.

We have already briefed you on benchmarking, whereby prison managers will be given more independence and expected to achieve precise performance targets within set budgets. Those not meeting those targets could be subject to market testing, whereby the private sector will be allowed to bid for the right to operate a prison.

The Government has also announced that John Morony Correctional Centre will not be benchmarked but proceed directly to market testing. CSNSW has been invited to make an in house bid to continue to manage the centre.

Over the next six months, a dedicated team from CSNSW will develop an in-house bid that will propose how the centre can be run more effectively while providing value for money.

Assistant Commissioner Kevin Corcoran will lead the bid team.

The PSA's involvement in this process is critical and I want to work with you as representatives of our staff. Specifically I would like a PSA representative to work with the in-house bid. Being part of the in-house bid is our opportunity to create better opportunities for staff and to demonstrate the quality and value of our services and to retain management of the centre within the public sector.

I have written to all staff and outlined the government's decision and the impact for staff. A copy of those materials is attached.

I want to work with the PSA to provide the best possible support to staff through this period of change.

A meeting has been scheduled for the afternoon of Tuesday 22 March 2016 to meet with you and staff to discuss this decision. It will be the first of many meetings with you and your members about these changes and our response to them.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read 'Peter Severin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

PETER SEVERIN  
**COMMISSIONER**