

Public Service Association of New South Wales
General Secretary: Stewart Little ♦ President: Kylie McKelvie
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In reply please quote: *EC:VV*

20 March 2017

Commissioner Peter Severin
Corrective Services NSW
20 Lee Street
Sydney, NSW 2000

Dear Commissioner Severin,

Re: Benchmarking

Your letter to Stewart Little, General Secretary of the Public Service Association, dated 22 February 2017, referred to the recommencement of benchmarking and invited the PSA to continue its participation. You would be aware that PSA staff and delegates have been involved in the meetings which commenced on 17 March 2017 at the Wellington Correctional Centre.

While the PSA is prepared to be involved in the current benchmarking process, delegates and members still have concerns about the implementation of benchmarking before the current bed crisis is resolved. There is no sign of a decrease in inmate numbers and little chance of the Government repealing the laws which have contributed to the increase and the PSA will not agree to any restructure until the bed crisis is resolved. The PSA will not accept any overall reduction in staff numbers at any centre. Any affected staff must be maintained at grade and location and given a sunset arrangement. When a job becomes vacant it must be immediately filled.

The PSA has previously raised its concerns that any cut in staff numbers will have an effect on safety. This remains a significant concern and any negotiations will be predicated on the basis that staff safety must not be compromised.

Should you wish to discuss this further please contact Evan Cole, PSA Industrial Manager – Justice, on phone number 9220 0906 or ecole@psa.asn.au.

Yours faithfully,

Evan Cole
for **STEWART LITTLE**
GENERAL SECRETARY