

David Bitel
President
Community Justice Coalition

The Hon John Dowd AO QC
Vice President
International Commission of Jurists Australia

PO Box 345
BROADWAY NSW 2007

Dear Sirs

Pre 2011 State Election submission and questionnaire for specific reforms to the NSW Prison System

Please find enclosed a detailed response to the Community Justice Coalition's (CJC) pre election questionnaire. The response has been prepared on behalf of NSW Government Members of Parliament.

The Keneally Government recognises the importance of delivering effective education, rehabilitation and therapeutic programs to the inmate population as well as offenders serving community-based sentences and parolees. This year alone, the Government is investing more than \$140 million on programs delivered by Corrective Services NSW that are not only designed to correct offending behaviour, but also improve employment opportunities for offenders post-release.

The Government has also already introduced a raft of diversionary, positive court programs which seek to engage offenders in treatment for problems relating to health, education, disability, welfare and housing.

I thank you for the opportunity to respond to this comprehensive set of reforms put forward by the CJC.

Should you require any further assistance please contact my Chief of Staff, Peter McCabe, on 9228 5055.

Yours Sincerely



Phil Costa MP
Minister for Corrective Services