



David Elliott
Minister for Corrections
Minister for Emergency Services
Minister for Veterans Affairs

MEDIA RELEASE

Monday, 1 February 2016

PRISON PROJECTS TO DELIVER 1,650 BEDS

Minister for Corrections David Elliott today announced plans for the new Grafton prison and the Parklea Correctional Centre have been expanded – with the projects now delivering at least 1,650 new beds into the system.

The NSW Government is calling for Expressions of Interest from the private sector to design, build and operate the new facility in Grafton, delivering ongoing jobs and investment as well as boosting prison capacity.

“The new Grafton facility has been expanded from 600 beds to at least 1,000 beds, and we will be asking the market to cost options for a larger facility on the 195 hectare site, which we know can take at least 1,700 inmates,” Mr Elliott said.

“We want this prison to play an important role in reducing reoffending through rehabilitation programs and helping keep the community safer, as well as reducing the burden on police and courts.”

At Parklea in Sydney’s northwest, an additional 250 beds will be added to plans to expand the existing prison by 400 beds which were announced last year, bringing the total extension to 650 new beds.

Corrective Services Commissioner Peter Severin said the new Grafton prison and Parklea extension is just one way in which the Government is planning for the increasing inmate population.

“We are taking a long term view at Grafton and across the system to ensure new inmate capacity is created cost efficiently while also maximising benefits to the broader community,” Commissioner Severin said.

Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis encouraged residents to learn more about the Grafton project at community information sessions this month.

“We are determined this innovative corrective services facility will be an asset to the Northern Rivers region, fostering community involvement and providing at least 250 jobs for locals, including indigenous employment programs,” Mr Gulaptis said.

The new Grafton facility is one of the first projects to be delivered by Projects NSW, a specialist unit of Infrastructure NSW.

For details about the Community Information Sessions, Expression of Interest and to register for project updates, visit the Infrastructure NSW website: www.insw.com.

MEDIA: Katherine Danks | 0437 428 715