

## BRITNELL, Charity

---

**From:** Alexander, Christine  
**Sent:** Friday, 9 September 2016 2:15 PM  
**To:** Statewide Operations Communications  
**Subject:** RTI170283 - Capricornia CC overcrowding - response to part B

Good afternoon Charity,

In relation to the below request, the Performance Unit can advise that based on a script run today, the Integrated Offender Management System (IOMS) recorded that **514 prisoners** were in custody at **Capricornia Correctional Centre** (secure facility) on the **2 September 2016**.

Any emails, documents, memos and/or briefing reports to the Minister about overcrowding at the Capricornia Correctional Centre. To include:  
b) Information and/or advice about how many inmates are currently housed at the facility

Thank you,



**Christine Alexander**

Principal Adviser, Performance & Reporting | Strategy and Governance  
(07) 340 55764

Level 23, State Law Building | 50 Ann Street, Brisbane QLD 4001

Queensland Corrective Services

Department of Justice and Attorney-General | Queensland Government

## DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY-GENERAL BRIEF FOR NOTING

**Date:** 17 March 2016  
**To:** **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services  
and Minister for Corrective Services**  
**From:** Kerrith McDermott, Acting Commissioner, Queensland Corrective  
Services  
**Subject:** Anonymous correspondence received – Capricornia Correctional Centre  
**Requested by:** Minister's office

---

### RECOMMENDATION

That you **note** the information in this brief in relation to an anonymous complaint received from prisoners at the Capricornia Correctional Centre (**Attachment 1**).

### BACKGROUND SUMMARY

1. On 19 February 2016, correspondence was received by the Minister from 'Concerned Inmates' at the Capricornia Correctional Centre.
2. The author/s raised nine concerns in relation to issues regarding the Capricornia Correctional Centre .

### ISSUES

3. The concerns have been assessed in accordance with the Agency's Complaints Management procedure, with none of the matters substantiated. Details of each of the concerns, and the views of Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) are as follows:

S73 RTI



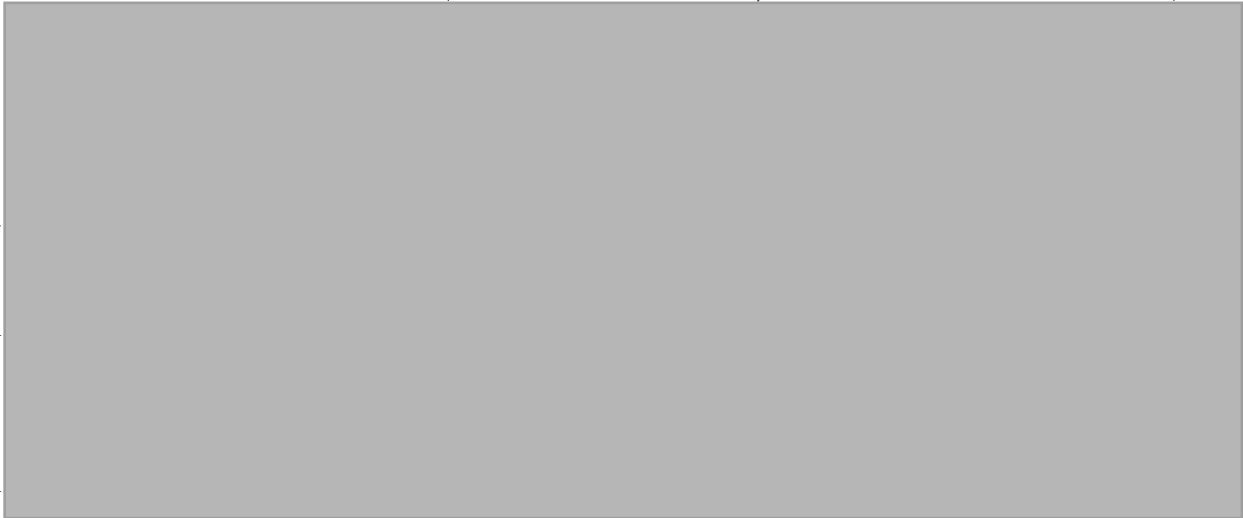

S73 RTI

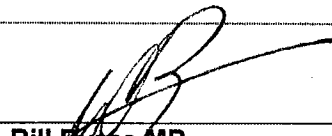

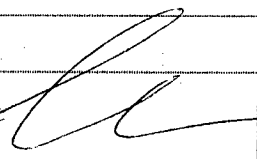


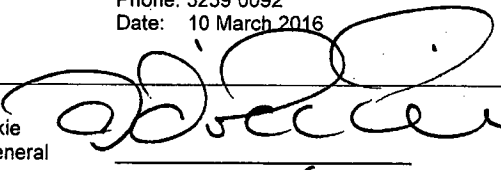
- h. Overcrowding in Capricornia Corrections is causing friction among prisoners, hostility between officers and prisoners, and sexual assaults.*

The Capricornia Correctional Centre is currently above capacity and that does place a higher demand on prisoner support services and infrastructure. Additional staff have been provided to support the needs of prisoners at times when the facility is above capacity.

During the 2015/16 financial year (to 9 March 2016) there has been one sexual assault reported (in August 2015).




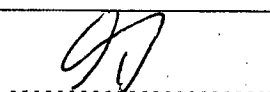
NOTED or APPROVED / NOT APPROVED <b>Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services                  and Minister for Corrective Services</b> Comments		
 <b>Bill Byrne MP</b> Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services 21 Mar 16	 <b>Chief of Staff</b>	 <b>Policy Advisor</b> 21, 3, 16 18 03, 16

Contact Officer:	Name: Charity Britnell Position: Principal Advisor, Communications Phone: 3239 0528 Date: 10 March 2016	Approved by:	Name: Peter Shaddock Position: Acting Deputy Commissioner Phone: 3239 0092 Date: 10 March 2016
Approved by:	Name: Kerrith McDermott Position: Acting Commissioner Phone: 3239 3929 Date: 11 March 2016	Endorsed:	 David Mackie Director-General 17/3/16
<input type="checkbox"/> Election Commitment <input type="checkbox"/> CBRC / Cabinet related <input type="checkbox"/> ECM related			

**QCS Minister Correspondence Cover Sheet  
ESB Correspondence Completions Process**

Edocs #	<i>incoming</i> 3166172	Surname/Briefing Topic	<i>issues at capricornia CC</i>
	3188029		
	57332911		

**PROOFED BY EXECUTIVE SERVICES AND DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S OFFICE**


ESB: Print on letterhead and envelope		17/MAR 2016
ESB: Track to ODG on eDOCS		17 MAR 2016

**APPROVED BY DIRECTOR-GENERAL**

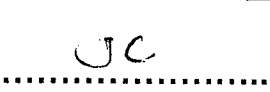
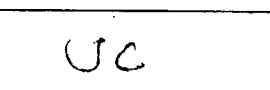


Director-General

Date: 17/3 / 2016

ESB: Track to OAG on eDOCS	.....	1 1
DLO: Track on OAG spreadsheet		18/3/16

**CLEARED AND SIGNED – OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES**

ESB: Received by ESB	.....	1 1
ESB: Scan signed copy		2/9 MAR 2016
ESB: Post and finalise in eDOCS		29 MAR 2016 1 1

Retention schedule ESB use only

7 years	Permanent	Other

Division:

*QCS*

**MINISTERIAL CORRESPONDENCE ACTION SHEET**

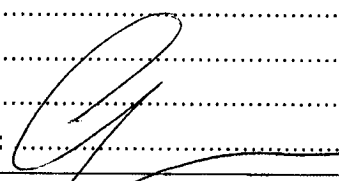
**Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and Minister for Corrective Services  
The Honourable Bill Byrne MP**

QPS <input type="checkbox"/>	MIN REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO MINISTER <input type="checkbox"/>
QFES <input type="checkbox"/>	CHIEF OF STAFF REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO QPS COM <input type="checkbox"/>
QCS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PPA / SPA / PA REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO QFES COM <input type="checkbox"/>
PSBA <input type="checkbox"/>	ACKNO LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO QCS COM <input type="checkbox"/>
I-GEM <input type="checkbox"/>	REFERRAL LETTER <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO CEO PSBA <input type="checkbox"/>
MO <input type="checkbox"/>	QPS REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO I-GEM <input type="checkbox"/>
Adrian T <input type="checkbox"/>	QFES REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO COS <input type="checkbox"/>
Brad R <input type="checkbox"/>	QCS REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO MEDIA <input type="checkbox"/>
Cathie T <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PSBA REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY TO POLICY <input type="checkbox"/>
Ellen Mc <input type="checkbox"/>	I-GEM REPLY <input type="checkbox"/>	
Jackie H <input type="checkbox"/>	COPY OF RESPONSE <input type="checkbox"/>	
Mark J (Insp) <input type="checkbox"/>	BRIEFING NOTE <input type="checkbox"/>	
Michelle C <input type="checkbox"/>	DOT POINT ADVICE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Zac S <input type="checkbox"/>	FILE IN MIN'S OFFICE <input type="checkbox"/>	
Date: 19 FEB 2016	FILE AT DEPARTMENT <input type="checkbox"/>	
	FOR INFO/ACTION <input type="checkbox"/>	

**KEY:**  
 QPS – Queensland Police Service  
 QFES – Qld Fire & Emergency Services  
 QCS – Qld Corrective Services  
 QPS COM – Commissioner of Police  
 QFES COM – Commissioner of QFES  
 QCS COM – Commissioner of Corrective Services  
 CEO PSBA – Chief Executive Officer, Public Safety Business Agency  
 I-GEM – Inspector-General, Emergency Management  
 COS – Chief of Staff  
 PPA – Principal Policy Advisor  
 SPA – Senior Policy Advisor  
 PA – Policy Advisor  
 PPQ – Possible Parliamentary Question

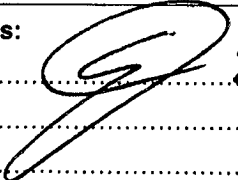
**Admin Comments:**  
 .....

**Policy Advisor Comments (Policy Advisor must sign the action requested above):**  
 .....

**Policy Advisor Signature:**  **Date:** 19/2/16

**COS Comments (Chief of Staff must sign the action requested above):**  
 .....

**COS Signature:** ..... **Date:** .....

**Department Comments:**  22/2/16  
 .....

MINISTERIAL REFERENCE: C2538 Date Sent to Dept: 19 FEB 2016  
 DEPARTMENT REFERENCE: 573329/1  
 DUE DATE: 1.1 MAR 2016  
**RTI File No:170283** **Page 7**

OPTION	DESCRIPTION
<b>MIN REPLY</b>	A letter is prepared for the Minister's signature. Generally, such replies are to members of parliament, stakeholders and the Minister's constituents.
<b>CHIEF OF STAFF REPLY</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Chief of Staff.
<b>PPA REPLY</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Principal Policy Advisor.
<b>SPA REPLY</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Senior Policy Advisor.
<b>PA REPLY</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Policy Advisor.
<b>ACKNO LETTER</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Chief of Staff which acknowledges the correspondence received. NOTE - not for emails as a response is automatically generated.
<b>REFERRAL LETTER</b>	A letter is prepared for the signature of the Chief of Staff which acknowledges the correspondence received and advises the matter raised does not fall within the responsibility of the Minister's portfolio and is being referred to another department/agency.
<b>QPS REPLY</b>	The Queensland Police Service replies direct to the author. The correspondence is filed by QPS.
<b>QFES REPLY</b>	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services replies direct to the author. The correspondence is filed by QFES.
<b>QCS REPLY</b>	Queensland Corrective Services replies direct to the author. The correspondence is filed by QCS.
<b>PSBA REPLY</b>	The Public Safety Business Agency replies direct to the author. The correspondence is filed by PSBA.
<b>I-GEM REPLY</b>	The Inspector-General, Emergency Management replies direct to the author. The correspondence is filed by I-GEM.
<b>COPY OF RESPONSE</b>	After a direct reply from the agency is prepared and signed, an electronic copy is forwarded to the Minister's Office.
<b>BRIEFING NOTE</b>	A Ministerial Briefing Note is prepared in relation to the correspondence.
<b>DOT POINT ADVICE</b>	Dot point advice is provided by the relevant agency in relation to the matter.
<b>PPQ</b>	A Possible Parliamentary Question is prepared at the request of the Minister's Office in relation to the correspondence.
<b>FILE IN MIN'S OFFICE</b>	For retention at the Minister's Office.
<b>FILE AT DEPARTMENT</b>	Correspondence is forwarded to the relevant agency and filed with no further action.
<b>FOR INFO/ACTION</b>	The correspondence is forwarded to the agency for information or action.

### General Rules

Where an email address has been provided, the signed letter is to be emailed to the writer.

A Weapons licensing inquiry by a member of the public will be actioned as a **QPS REPLY**.

The Honourable Minister  
Bill Byrne  
PO Box 15195  
City East  
Brisbane  
QLD 4002

RECEIVED  
19 FEB 2016

BY: .....

Sir  
S73 RTI

We would like to bring to your attention a number of issues which are occurring in Capricornia Correctional Centre and have been for some time:



S73

9. Overcrowding in Capricornia Corrections is causing friction among prisoners, hostility between officers and prisoners, and sexual assaults.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] issues [REDACTED]-9 will give you some idea of why Capricornia has one of the worst reputations in the State.

We hope you will treat this letter with the seriousness that it implies.  
Thank you,

Concerned Inmates.



Department of Justice and Attorney-General  
Office of the Director-General

In reply please quote: 573216/1, 3273518

15 JUN 2016

Mr Peter Cantwell  
Assistant Ombudsman  
Queensland Ombudsman  
GPO Box 3314  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

State Law Building  
50 Ann Street Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
Telephone (07) 3239 3520  
Facsimile (07) 3239 3474  
www.justice.qld.gov.au

ABN 13 846 673 994

Dear Mr Cantwell

Thank you for your letter dated 17 May 2016 regarding a report of the visit to the Capricornia Correctional Centre (CCC) from 21 to 23 March 2016.

I note your comments and recommendations, and provide the following in response.

**Overcrowding**

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) is committed to alleviating prisoner capacity pressure in Queensland correctional centres. In the interim, QCS has been using double up placements to manage surges in prisoner numbers including using 'buddy cells' and temporary bunk beds, trundle beds and mattresses in secure cells or residential areas.

Options exist to build additional prison capacity at a number of existing correctional centres in Queensland. In particular, these include the Southern Queensland, Arthur Gorrie, and Capricornia Correctional Centres. A further option includes the expansion of capacity by building new facilities at the Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct at Gatton. While a range of options exist, they must be considered by Government through the normal infrastructure planning and budgetary processes.

S73 RTI

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

David Mackie  
Director-General



**QUEENSLAND  
OMBUDSMAN**  
*Standing for fairness*

Our ref: EDOCS49142

17 May 2016

**RECEIVED BY**

**19 MAY 2016**

Office of the Commissioner  
Queensland Corrective Services

**Confidential**

**Queensland Ombudsman**  
ABN 257 657 579 00

Level 17, 53 Albert Street  
Brisbane Q 4000

GPO Box 3314  
Brisbane Q 4001

**P** 07 3005 7000  
1800 068 908  
(outside Brisbane)

**F** 07 3005 7067

**E** ombudsman@  
ombudsman.qld.gov.au

**W** ombudsman.qld.gov.au

Mr David Mackie  
Director-General  
Department of Justice and Attorney-General  
GPO Box 149  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

**Attention:** Mr Yme Dwarshuis, Acting General Manager, Capricornia Correctional Centre

Dear Mr Mackie

**Report of Visit to Capricornia Correctional Centre, 21-23 March 2016**

Please find **enclosed** a report of the visit to the above centre undertaken by Acting Principal Investigator, Ms Stephanie Herreygers and I in March 2016.

S73 RTI



**Recommended action**

However, you will note from the enclosed report that a number of issues were raised by representatives from the centre's Prisoner Advisory Committees which appear to stem from overcrowding and the extent of doubling up at the centre



Yours faithfully



Peter Cantwell  
Assistant Ombudsman  
Investigation and Resolution Unit

**encl.** Visit report 2015/16


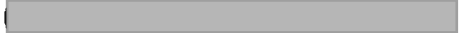


cc: Mr Mark Rallings  
Deputy Director-General  
Queensland Corrective Services  
Department of Justice and Attorney General  
GPO Box 1054  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Queensland Ombudsman's Office  
 Correctional Centre Visit Report 2014/2015

Name of Centre: Capricornia Correctional Centre

Date of visit: 21-23 March 2016

Officers undertaking visit: Assistant Ombudsman Peter Cantwell & A/Principal Investigator Stephanie Herreygers

Topic	Yes	No	N/a	Comments
<p>1. Briefing with General Manager</p> <p>S73 RTI</p> 			<p>N/a</p>	<p>Commenced visit by meeting Acting General Manager (GM) Yme Dwarshuis and Deputy General Manager (DGM) Alexis Gibson.</p> <p><b>Numbers</b></p> <p>It was noted that the Centre was more recently being affected by overcrowding. Officers were advised that the built capacity for the centre is 410 and 96 at the Farm and the centre was currently 120 over </p>  

Topic	Yes	No	N/a	Comments
				<p>S73 RTI</p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p><b>PAC Protection</b></p> <p>[Redacted]</p> <p>Issues raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- [Redacted]</li> <li>- Overcrowding [Redacted]</li> <li>- [Redacted]</li> <li>- [Redacted]</li> </ul>