

Appendix 1

THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE 2013 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Acceptance Level/Response
Racism, Aboriginality and equity 1. Implement plans for Stage Two of the Unit 4 redevelopment at Greenough Regional Prison as outlined in the Female Prisoners Plan 2012–2022.	Supported – existing Departmental initiative It is the Department's position that it will continue to redevelop Greenough Regional Prison as outlined in the Female Prisoners Plan. As with all plans, it will be subject to funding and ongoing priorities.
Correctional value for money 2. Continue to prioritise and address infrastructure and maintenance needs at Greenough Regional Prison.	Supported – existing Departmental initiative The Department's commitment to addressing infrastructure and maintenance needs at Greenough Regional Prison is clearly evidenced by the current works undertaken and site audit carried out in July 2012 to identify areas of priority.
Staffing issues 3. Appoint substantive occupants for all senior management positions at Greenough Regional Prison.	Supported – existing Departmental initiative Currently, there are a number of complex and valid reasons as to why there have been delays in filling substantive senior positions. However, good progress has been made since this inspection was carried out.
Custody and security 4. Ensure that a fair, transparent and defensible drug testing procedure is in place.	Supported The Inspector's comments are noted and will be incorporated into future procedures.
Custody and security 5. Fund and establish a properly equipped emergency command centre.	Supported in principle Greenough Regional Prison currently has an area identified for use as a command post which is equipped with the basic requirements. However, the Security Directorate will complete an audit of current emergency management capability at Greenough Regional Prison to include the specific requirements of equipment, documentation etc. in relation to a command post and provide recommendations as appropriate.

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Care and wellbeing	Supported
6. Increase involvement of peer support in reception, induction and orientation processes.	Reception and Orientation processes currently provide for peer support participation. However, greater participation by peer support will need to be facilitated to provide suitable services to both men and women.
Custody and security	Supported
7. Implement measures to increase staff appreciation of the value of dealing with prisoner grievances at the local level in order to improve prisoner confidence that grievances lodged in their unit will be resolved fairly and professionally.	Senior Management will continue to communicate and train Unit Staff, in relation to prisoner grievances and will ensure officer/prisoner interaction at unit level is increased.
Rehabilitation	Supported
8. Ensure that adequate resources are available to complete treatment assessments within Departmental timeframes at Greenough Regional Prison.	The Department has experienced difficulties recruiting staff for this function at Greenough Regional Prison. A number of strategies have been implemented to address this problem. As with all resource issue they are subject to staff availability and budget priorities.
Reparation	Supported in part
9. Implement a simpler and faster recruitment and appointment process for Vocational and Support Officers.	The recruitment and appointment process used for the selection of Vocational and Support Officers (VSO) is a standard process that complies with Public Sector Standards. However, there is always the capacity to assess selection processes and endeavour to make them more effective and efficient although care needs to be taken not to compromise the integrity and quality of the process as a consequence, particularly as they are working within secure and complex environments.

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<p>Reparation</p> <p>10. Ensure all Vocational and Support Officer positions are occupied in order to maximise meaningful employment for prisoners at Greenough Regional Prison.</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>The Department is committed to filling all Vocational and Support Officer vacancies as soon as practically possible. Since the inspection a number of positions have been filled with the remainder in the recruitment and selection stages.</p>
<p>Reparation</p> <p>11. Establish and recruit a third section 95 officer position.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>A full review of minimum security numbers inclusive of females and the requirements of section 95 activity will be undertaken and if there is justification for an increase in section 95 activity then a business case for a third Officer will be completed by the Prison.</p>
<p>Racism, Aboriginality and equity</p> <p>12. Establish a temporary cultural meeting place.</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>A temporary cultural meeting place is currently being developed by Prison Management and Peer Support.</p>
<p>Custody and security</p> <p>13. A basic set of legal resources should be established and maintained in the library of each regional prison to provide general information about criminal law, court processes and how to access legal aid.</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>The State Librarian's position is in the final stages of the selection process. Once this position is filled substantively a review of the legal resources required by all prison sites will be conducted. However, Greenough Regional Prison has already been provided with an electronic set of legal library resources.</p>
<p>Custody and security</p> <p>14. Prisoners intending to represent themselves in court should be identified during initial reception and orientation processes and offered a temporary or permanent transfer to an appropriate metropolitan prison to provide better access to the resources they need.</p>	<p>Supported – existing Departmental initiative</p> <p>Prisoners are provided through the case management assessment process with the opportunity to advise prison staff of their need for legal assistance where they are self-representing. Any application by a prisoner to be relocated to facilitate increased access to legal resources will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.</p>