

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## 2100 NEW CORRECTIONS JOBS IN TWO YEARS

The NSW Government's prison infrastructure and reform program has created more than 2100 extra jobs, with new correctional officers, rehabilitation experts, and intelligence specialists joining the ranks to help protect community safety.

The \$3.8 billion infrastructure program has so far delivered innovative Rapid Build Prisons at Wellington and Cessnock, and recommissioned centres at Berrima and Unanderra, creating new jobs in regional areas and helping drive local economies.

More than 1100 new roles are frontline correctional officer positions, and more than 420 jobs are in inmate management and programs. A further 519 positions are in Community Corrections offices, and another 68 are in security and intelligence operations.

"The NSW Liberals and Nationals Government is committed to stimulating employment and economic growth in regional NSW, ensuring every community receives its fair share," Minister for Corrections David Elliott said.

"It's my job to ensure taxpayers get bang for their buck in terms of prison security, community safety and inmate rehabilitation."

Mr Elliott flagged the creation of more jobs to help staff expanded facilities at Bathurst, Cessnock, South Windsor, Kempsey, Nowra, Junee and Parklea, as well as a new 1700-bed prison at Grafton.

A \$330 million investment in reducing reoffending initiatives supports the infrastructure spend and includes targeting high-risk and persistent offenders who are responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime. The NSW Government is also investing \$47 million in combatting radicalisation across the prison system.

"In delivering improved inmate rehabilitation and additional inmate beds, the NSW Government is making a real and lasting difference to the people of NSW," Mr Elliott said.

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