

Letter sent to Premier, Minister and Commissioner asking for postponement of occupation

Date: Friday, 15 December 2017 at 1:11 pm

Subject: Postponement Rapid Build Dormitory Occupation

Dear Minister,

I am writing to request that the use of the rapid build dormitory prison at Wellington be postponed and not occupied on Saturday the 16th of December, 2017.

The Upper House Inquiry into the Parklea Correctional Centre and Other Operational Issues has been extended to bring rapid build dormitory prisons within its ambit. In light of this, I seek a stay of occupation of the dormitory until concerns generated by the facility are adequately addressed in this forum.

The concerns we have regarding dormitory accommodation is predicated on international experience which articulates this system compromises personal security and privacy, leading to increased levels of violence, bullying and fear. These issues ultimately result in poor health and recidivism outcomes for inmates.

I ask that you postpone the decision to occupy the dormitory facility at Wellington until its effects are fully examined through the Inquiry.

Will you support this action?

Yours faithfully,
John Dowd AO QC

President

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