

**MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES — RESPONSE TO STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
REPORT INTO THE TRANSPORT OF PERSONS IN CUSTODY**

Recommendation	Response
<p>Public Sector Comparator <i>Recommendation 1: The Committee recommends that in its response to this report the Government provide to the Legislative Council the Public Sector Comparator in order to verify the evidence given by the Commissioner.</i></p>	<p>The tender process for the Court Security and Custodial Services (CS&CS) contract is currently underway. As the Public Sector Comparator (PSC) is commercially sensitive information, I remain of the view that disclosure of the PSC could prejudice the State’s position in relation to the re-tender. The State may not obtain the optimal tender price, and its ability to deliver cost effective correctional services to the community may be compromised. I decline the recommendation to provide a copy of the PSC to the Legislative Council.</p>
<p>Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services <i>Recommendation 2: The Committee recommends that the Inspector of Custodial Services Act 2003 be amended to require that the Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services conduct regular reviews and make recommendations regarding all aspects of transport of persons in custody.</i></p>	<p>The Office of the Inspector of Custodial Services (OICS) regularly considers the transport of persons in custody as part of thematic reviews and wider reports on prisons and custodial services. OICS concluded an inspection of services covered by the <i>Court Security and Custodial Services Act 1999</i>, including the transport of persons in custody, in early 2016 and is expected to report shortly.</p>
<p>Governance and Contract Management <i>Recommendation 3: The Committee recommends that the Minister advise how, in future contracts, this significant risk [contract management resourcing] will be managed.</i></p>	<p>The Department of Corrective Services has a suitably resourced and experienced contract management team overseeing the delivery of court security and custodial services. The team is supported by the Department’s risk and assurance frameworks.</p> <p>Risk management and effective governance will continue to be a focus for the Department’s management of future contracts.</p>

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<p><i>Recommendation 7: The Committee recommends that each of the Directors General Governance Group and the Senior Officers Group meet regularly to ensure, in regard to any future contract, better communication and clarity for stakeholders.</i></p>	<p>The Directors General Governance Group (DGGG) last met in September 2015. The tender process commenced shortly after this, and is being led by a high level Project Steering Committee. For this reason the DGGG has not met since this time. It is anticipated that the group will reconvene after services commence under the new contract. The CS&CS Board, comprising the CEO (or delegate) of each client agency of the contract) and contractor representative, continues to meet on strategic and policy issues on a quarterly basis.</p> <p>The Senior Officers Group has met twice in 2016, and monthly meetings have been scheduled for this group. This group focusses on interagency operational matters and provides an effective forum for communication between client agencies. Effective governance arrangements will continue to be a priority for the new CS&CS contract.</p>
<p>Scope and Operation of the Contract</p> <p><i>Recommendation 4: The Committee recommends that any future contract address the issues identified by the Committee regarding the multiple handling of persons in custody with a view to streamlining the current inefficient process.</i></p> <p><i>Recommendation 5: The Committee recommends that any future contract address the issues identified by the Committee regarding prisoner transport vehicles that arrive early to court. These vehicles should be cleared for entry immediately rather than having to wait outside the sally port.</i></p>	<p>As the tender process is still underway, the Government is unable to comment on specific changes to services provided under the contract.</p> <p>It is expected that the new contract will deliver increased efficiencies and improvements to the delivery of CS&CS services. The CS&CS contract is not intended to cover the entire scope of court security and custodial required in the state, rather it is intended to strike a balance between the delivery of these services to the community and achieving a value for money outcome for the state. Where any issues identified in the above recommendations are not addressed through this tender process, they may be considered as part of future contracts.</p>

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<p><i>Recommendation 6: The Committee recommends that any future contract should make greater allowance for transfers to occur within the scope of the contract.</i></p> <p><i>Recommendation 8: The Committee recommends that any future contract address the current gaps regarding the transfer of persons in custody to and from Rockingham.</i></p> <p><i>Recommendation 10: The Committee recommends that any future contract address the significant gaps outlined in this report.</i></p>	
<p>Magistrates Court at the Northbridge Police Complex</p> <p><i>Recommendation 9: The Committee recommends that the Magistrates Court at the Northbridge Police Complex be funded to operate seven days per week.</i></p>	<p>The funding and operation of the Magistrates Court at the Northbridge Police Complex is a matter for consideration by the Attorney General.</p>