

29 August 2024

The Hon Paul Papalia MLA
Minister for Corrective Services
10th Floor, Dumas House
2 Havelock Street
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Email: Minister.Paplia@dpc.wa.gov.au

Dear Minister

ELIMINATION OF LIGATURE POINTS IN PRISONS IN WESTERN AUSTRALIA

I refer to your letter dated 11 July 2024.

The Law Society is pleased that the State Government has allocated capital funding that you have detailed in your letter and also that the expansion projects at the Goldfields Regional Prison, the Bunbury Regional Prison and Casuarina Prison included ligature minimised cells.

However, with respect, your letter does not provide sufficient information for the Law Society to be satisfied that the State Government has undertaken the urgent action recommended by the Coroners Court to address what was described as “this appalling situation”.

The Law Society would appreciate it if you would forward to it the following information:

- (a) in each prison in Western Australia the percentage of cells that are now fully ligature minimised; and
- (b) in each prison in Western Australia the percentage of cells that not ligature minimised at all.

The Law Society is particularly keen to ascertain the extent to which there has been any improvement on the percentages quoted by Coroner Jenkin in relation to Hakea Prison as at September 2022.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the above, please contact Susie Moir, General Manager Advocacy and Professional Development on smoir@lawsocietywa.asn.au or telephone 9324 8646.

Yours sincerely



Paula Wilkinson
President