



# Department of Justice and Regulation

Corrections Victoria

Level 22  
121 Exhibition Street  
Melbourne Victoria 3000  
Telephone: (03) 8684 6600  
Facsimile: (03) 8684 6611  
justice.vic.gov.au  
DX: 210085



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Ms Karen Batt  
Branch Secretary  
CPSU SPSF Group Victorian Branch  
PO Box 24233  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

*Karen*

Dear Ms Batt

## Local negotiations re reducing operating costs

Corrections Victoria is currently facing a number of budgetary pressures, in part related to increasing overtime utilisation rates despite the move towards over-establishment staffing at most prisons.

Accordingly, I have asked prison General Managers across the State to commence discussions with their local CPSU groups about a range of measures that may assist in delivering more cost-efficient operations. These may include, but should not be limited to –

- examining or re-examining the identification and use of low priority posts;
- the process to be followed in covering shifts where there is a higher-than-anticipated level of unplanned leave;
- the temporary closure of areas or units in order to free up staff who may be redeployed elsewhere within the prison; and
- an internal redeployment policy where staffing levels in one area might temporarily exceed the number required to deliver the service (e.g. in reception when the number of prisoners received is fewer than expected, or visits when the demand is low).

The broad approach to these matters is perhaps something that we can discuss at a forthcoming High Level meeting – at which we could also discuss staff accessing overtime shifts after a period of sick leave.

Yours sincerely

  
Rod Wise  
**Acting Commissioner**

cc: Mr John Byrne, Director, Workplace Services, People & Culture, DJR  
Mr Brendan Money, Acting Deputy Commissioner, Operations, CV  
Ms Leanne Barnes, Executive Director, West Area, DJR  
Mr Jake Hawley, Executive Director, Business Services, CV  
Prison General Managers