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Gary Humphries MLA

Australian Capital Territory

2000-01 BUDGET

23 May 2000

\$1.718 MILLION IN FUNDING FOR CORRECTIONS INITIATIVES

The Government is providing a further \$1.718 million in funding for corrections initiatives in this Budget, Minister for Justice and Community Safety, Gary Humphries, said today.

Mr Humphries said \$1.4 million would be used to fund the procurement process for the proposed ACT prison, including the tender and evaluation process due during 2000-01. In addition, \$318,000 is being allocated to enhance security and safety of detainees at existing detention facilities in the ACT.

“Funding for upgraded security will be used to upgrade lighting and install security cameras and metal detectors at the Quamby Youth Detention Centre.

“Changes will also be made to the running procedures of the Centre to ensure that the most experienced staff members are on hand and easily accessible to young persons in custody to provide them with the necessary support and guidance.

“By enhancing adult and juvenile safety and security, the Government aims to facilitate better service to the community and also to its clients within the facilities.

“The funding for the procurement process for the proposed ACT prison will allow the development of detailed tender specifications and the conduct of a comprehensive tender and evaluation process.

“Community involvement in the development of the tender specifications and in the process of establishing the prison will continue, with consultation occurring with the recently established ACT Prison Community Panel and other relevant community groups.

“It is an exciting time for the Territory as the establishment of the ACT prison draws near. With this funding, the challenges faced in this complex project will, I am confident, be met with the resulting rewards for the ACT community” Mr Humphries said.

Statement Ends

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