

NEW CORRECTIONAL CENTRES

The Mid North Coast Correctional Centre, the new 500 bed multi-classification centre at Kempsey, was completed in June 2004 and officially opened in July 2004 by the Premier.

Dillwynia Correctional Centre, the new 200 bed women's facility at South Windsor, was officially opened in July 2004 by the Governor of NSW, Professor Marie Bashir.

Mid North Coast Correctional Centre

Capacity: 500 multiple classification male and female inmates

Cost: \$106.6 million

Location: Kempsey

The Mid-North Coast community has been extremely supportive of the new centre. In November 2003 thousands of visitors from the surrounding area accepted an invitation to tour the centre. The Department is extremely grateful for this interest and encouragement, which spans government, commercial and residential groups and individuals.

The Mid-North Coast Correctional Centre will employ up to 200 staff and inject approximately \$10 million in salaries annually into the local economy.

Many staff have been recruited from the local area with all training delivered on site. This allowed employees to become familiar with the centre while they learn skills in inmate management and supervision. This is a break with tradition, which previously saw all primary training being done in Sydney.

Dillwynia Correctional Centre

Capacity: 200 medium and minimum security female inmates

Cost: \$53.56 million

Location: Windsor

The female inmate population has increased by 92% increase since 1995, representing 7% of today's inmate population. Significantly, the female remand population has grown from 38 to 156 over the same period.

Dillwynia Correctional Centre will cater for this expansion and will improve the way the Department manages female inmates by better preparing them for eventual release and reintegration into the community.

Inmates at Dillwynia Correctional Centre are expected to be employed and attend programs to address offending behaviour. Inmate employment will be linked to vocational training accredited through TAFE NSW. This will allow the women to receive a Statement of Attainment and continue their vocational training on release.

The physical environment at Dillwynia reflects the fact that female inmates often have families and young children who will visit their mothers in custody. The centre features domestic-style living units to promote respect and responsibility among the inmates.