

Dr Vanessa Goodwin MLC

Shadow Minister for Corrections

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100 per cent cost blowout and Risdon still not secure

Revelations that the high security cells at Risdon Prison are not secure is a damning indictment of the incompetence of the Labor-Green Government.

The original budget for Risdon Prison was \$53 million. According to the latest figures, it's now \$110 million – and climbing.

How much more will be required to make the prison secure?

What is the cost of the consulting architect that the Corrections Minister Nick McKim has commissioned?

How long will high security inmates be housed in the old prison?

Mr McKim needs to recognise that he's the Minister and it's no longer good enough to be all care and no responsibility.

On his watch as Minister this year:

- May 2010 – convicted murderer and hardened criminal gets out of maximum security block and onto prison roof.
- June 2010 – blowout in cost of prison fence revealed.
- August 2010 – Ombudsman Simon Allston reports prisoners being held at Launceston and Hobart reception centre because Risdon unsuitable.
- September 2010 – Corrections officers were injured in a prison riot.
- October 2010 – High security prisoners moved back to the old prison because Risdon isn't secure.

Each time all Mr McKim has done is commission a "review" – it's time he took responsibility and stopped mouthing platitudes and blaming others.

For further information or comment please call Bronwyn Perry – 0459 802 513