

Vanessa Goodwin MLC

Shadow Attorney-General

10 February, 2010

Risdon Prison lockdown

The revelation that medium security prisoners have been in lockdown for 23 hours a day since 13 December shows a complete lack of control by Lisa Singh over her portfolio.

Why has it taken the Minister over two months to address this issue?

Even the unions are turning on Labor, with CPSU assistant general secretary Mat Johnston saying *"This...was brought about by serious assaults and failure of the Government for five years to deal with identified and documented problems"* (The Mercury, 10 February 2010).

Ms Singh promotes herself as someone who ensures *"the human rights of all people are respected"* (www.lisasingh.com.au). She has in fact displayed the exact opposite. Her inaction on this issue has led to a potentially explosive situation, with the very real risk of a further prison riot.

On 20 March, Tasmanians will have a choice between a Labor Government who pays lip service and sits on its hands or a Liberal Government who will take immediate action to address issues as and when they arise.

For further information please call Brad Stansfield - 0416 277 035