



## MEDIA STATEMENT

Thursday, 6 October 2016

### Proper resources are needed to stop incidents at Banksia Hill

Rikki Hendon, spokesperson CPSU/CSA

*"Banksia Hill is at breaking point.*

*The centre's behavioural management unit at capacity and the young adult unit has been closed, which has resulted in two less staff on the ground.*

*Closing the young adult unit means young men are being placed in accommodation with children.*

*Among these young adults are the ones who were involved in property damage and roof incidences over the weekend.*

*These incidences are evidence of the failure of the Young Adult Development Program.*

*The program has not been properly resourced and its implementation has been compromised.*

*CPSU/CSA members claim the young adults in the centre are acting-out because they are not engaging in programs that address their complex needs and prepare them for adult life.*

*As a direct consequence of this, the safety of staff and other young people in the centre is being put at risk.*

*Banksia Hill will continue to be plagued with issues until proper resourcing for rehabilitation of young people in the centre is provided."*

<END STATEMENT>

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Timeline of incidences at Banksia Hill:

Friday, 30 September:	Officer warned management at Banksia Hill of Instability.
Sunday, 2 October:	MORNING – 6 boys got mop handles and smashed the metalwork shop, (including windows) and damaged air-conditioning units.
	Member has confirmed an Officer was hit across the head with a mop handle.
	All six detainees got onto the roof.
	One of the 17yr old detainees involved was the same boy who broke and dislocated an Officer's arm a fortnight ago.
	3PM - lockdown finished
	6PM – 2 more detainees got onto the roof.
Tuesday, 4 October:	Two Officers were spat in the face – currently awaiting results of Hepatitis and HIV test.

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**AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT:** Rikki Hendon, Spokesperson

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