



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.

AVAILABLE FOR COMMENT: Rikki Hendon, Spokesperson

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