



Anthony Roberts
Minister for Counter Terrorism and Corrections

MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, 14 August 2019

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST PRISON NEARING COMPLETION

The 1700-bed Clarence Correctional Centre is now one year away from taking inmates.

Since the first sod was turned two years ago significant progress has been made on the site, with today marking the completion of the male minimum security buildings.

Minister for Corrections Anthony Roberts said the new prison focuses heavily on security and surveillance, as well as the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates.

“Each inmate will be monitored 24/7 by approximately 1,650 cameras across the complex and biometric technology. The secure perimeter fencing will also feature specialised sensors, cameras, microwave technology and microphonics.

“The prison has also been designed to reduce recidivism. Across the centre, community buildings have been designed to deliver cohort-specific programs and services, preparing inmates for release.”

Corrective Services NSW Commissioner Peter Severin said inmates can participate in meaningful work experiences and trades, preparing them for reintegration into the community.

“The centre is equipped with 10 industry areas, furnished for carpentry and woodworking, joinery, heavy, medium and light steel fabrication, sandblasting and coating, bakery, general assembly and small engine repairs.

“There will be partnership opportunities for local registered training organisations, businesses and community organisations to assist in the delivery of rehabilitation opportunities.”

Member for Clarence Chris Gulaptis said the project delivers unrivalled benefits for the local community.

“We expect the new prison will inject \$560 million into the economy over the next 20 years, with local jobs being created during both the construction and operations phases.”

Commissioning and testing across the complex will commence in the coming months, in time for the centre to be operational in mid-2020.