

## **Correctional Officers Call For Security Review At Lotus Glen Correctional Centre**

The union of public sector workers is rejecting reported calls from a Queensland business lobby group for more Government Owned Corporations to be privatised.\*

Correctional officers are calling for a special review of security at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre following allegations there was a breach of weapons protocol at the facility.

"Reports that a weapon vanished from the Lotus Glen armoury and mysteriously reappeared wrapped in a parcel are simply unacceptable to our members, who are very concerned about safety," said QPSU Cairns organiser, Kevin O'Sullivan.

"The claims revealed in the media raise real concerns there's been failure of security and control at this particular corrections facility and that's why we are calling on the Minister to order an immediate security review across Lotus Glen's operations.

"The QPSU has previously raised concerns with the department about a range of security issues at Lotus Glen and that's why we are saying enough is enough, there must be a comprehensive security review at Lotus and our members should be consulted as part of that process.

"Our members are dedicated to a strict adherence to weapons protocols and controls across every correctional facility as these are crucial to ensure these facilities are operated safely and that workplace health and safety is delivered for all public sector workers," Mr O'Sullivan said.

"On behalf of the Mareeba and Tablelands communities, as public sector workers we will do what we can to ensure that the Minister orders a review at Lotus and that security standards are improved.

"Correctional officers are determined to ensure that weapons are safely and securely stored and that the recent allegation marks the end of a string of security concerns, which includes a reduction in staffing levels. Action must be taken to ensure these sorts of events don't happen."

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