Minister Attends Annual Corrections Conference

The Territory’s Justice Services Minister Peter Toyne will tomorrow attend the annual Corrective Services Ministers’ Conference in Adelaide.

All Australian jurisdictions and New Zealand will be represented at the one-day meeting.

Dr Toyne said there are a number of items on the agenda for discussion including drug control and detox management, the interstate transfer of prisoners, and guidelines governing inmates deemed a terrorism risk.

“I am especially eager to hear the New Zealand-sponsored submission on managing prisoner numbers,” he said.

“Any models that other jurisdictions can put forward that tackle the cause of growth in prisoner numbers or how to manage the demand will be of great interest.”

Other items on the agenda include the security threat posed by illicit mobile phones in prisons and Indigenous justice issues.

“I will be outlining a range of initiatives available in the Territory to address Indigenous justice issues such as community courts, cross-cultural mediation workshops and strategies to reduce the overrepresentation of Indigenous people in jails,” he said.

Dr Toyne said he would also take the opportunity to seek talks with the Federal Justice Minister Chris Ellison on the new Commonwealth laws covering the apprehension and detention of illegal fishermen caught in north Australian waters.

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