



ALS

Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited

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30 July 2014

Commissioner Peter Severin
Commissioner, Corrective Services
NSW Department of Justice, Corrective Services
GPO Box 31
Sydney NSW 2001

Attention: Director, Justice Policy
Department of Justice
E-mail: justice.policy@agd.nsw.gov.au

Dear Commissioner,

**Consultation on proposed Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Regulation 2014
Response by the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited**

Thank you for consulting the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited on the proposed *Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Regulation 2014*.

I have had the opportunity to read both the proposed Regulation and the Regulatory Impact Statement. I note that clause 84 of the proposed Regulation restates clause 80 of the existing Regulation in making provision for Aboriginal inmates to receive visits by a field officer of the Aboriginal Legal Service (or other approved organisations providing legal or other assistance to Aboriginal persons).

Please note that the correct name for our service, which is the Aboriginal legal aid organisation that is recognised by NSW legislation and delegated legislation¹ is the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) Limited, although I acknowledge that the intention of the Regulation in referring to our service is clear.

¹ For example: *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation 2005*, cl 33; *Crimes (Forensic Procedures) Regulation 2008*, cl 4.

In addition, I would wish to stress the importance to Aboriginal people of kinship obligations and, in particular, the attendance, by Aboriginal inmates, at funerals of both immediate and extended family members. The recognition of such obligations can play a significant role in an inmate's rehabilitation during their period of imprisonment, as well as their reintegration into their extended family and community on their release. I would strongly recommend that Aboriginal inmates be enabled to meet these obligations through attending such funerals whenever possible.

If you would like to discuss this or any other issue further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Naden', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Phillip Naden
Chief Executive Officer