

LS5796 Released Document No. 7

Hi Doug

This NO draft response to Justice Action does not answer their specific questions.

As previously discussed - here is a draft covering NSW Corrective Services, NSW Juvenile Justice, NSW Justice Health NSW, ACT Corrective Services and the ACT Directorate responsible for Juvenile Services in the ACT.

If you are ok with it we should clear with Corrctrive Services NSW, ACT and Juvenile Justice NSW.

It is compulsory for all eligible Australian citizens over 18 years to enrol and to vote. You are eligible to enrol and to vote if you are:

- an Australian citizen or a British Subject who was enrolled on 25 January 1984
- are 18 years or older

The individual is responsible for ensuring that they are correctly enrolled and, if eligible, that they vote.

In partnership with Corrective Services in NSW and the ACT and with Juvenile Justice in NSW the AEC has taken steps to provide enrolment opportunities to all inmates in the care of Corrective Services NSW and the ACT including those in custody but not serving a sentence. And to the potentially eligible population in the care of Juvenile Justice NSW.

Sufficient enrolment forms and reply paid envelopes to cater for the entire population in the care of these agencies were provide directly to the respective Correctional Centres and to a central point with respect of Juvenile Justice. This provision occurred in July 2013 prior to the announcement of the Federal Election. Staff in these Agencies have assisted by making these forms available to inmates and have been available to assist inmates to correctly complete and return enrolment forms to the AEC. But note: that while inmates could seek assistance in completing the forms correctly they were not required to do so.

Approximatly10 600 enrolment forms and reply paid envelopes were provided to the above agencies and the rate of return from inmates is well short of 1%.

Sufficient Postal Vote Applications and reply paid envelopes to cater for the entire 'eligible' voting population have been provided to Corrective Services NSW and Juvenile Justice in MSW.

Similar arrangements have been formalised with Corrective Services ACT. With provision scheduled for 13 August 2013. Mobile polling will also be available to inmates in the care of ACT Corrective Services.

You will need to contact the relevant bodies if you want to obtain contact information for their staff.

Attempts to formalise the provision of enrolment forms to, and their return to the AEC from persons in the care of Justice Health NSW did not come to fruition. While we have attempted to make contact with the directorate responsible for Juvenile Services in the ACT we have not been successful. We will continue to seek arrangements with these two entities in order to provide voting opportunities to persons in their care.