

Education - Non-Centralised Delivery

Hi Daniel

I am employed by Corrective Services and the views and opinions contained in my email to you, although work related, are my personal views as to the direction Prison Education WA should consider taking.

Education, in my opinion, whether it be delivered in a prison environment, a traditional school setting or by home delivery is a potential game changer.

It has the power to change lives.

I don't think I could have survived so long in a prison setting thinking otherwise.

That said, given the fiscal challenges that are now facing all of us, and for the delivery of Education to survive within the WA prison system, I propose that the following changes are necessary:

- Education delivery should be the responsibility of each Prison Superintendent.
- Education Centres report to the Superintendent as opposed to a centralised education management unit.
- In effect, each Education Centre will become virtually autonomous from each other.
- Education staff, in conjunction with the Superintendent, will set the pace and landscape of education delivery appropriate for their centres.
- Each Education Centre contracts outside RTO's when delivery of accredited training is deemed appropriate. [RTO=Registered Training Organisation]
- The current centralised DCS accredited RTO [ASETS] be dismantled.
- Under this new model, the current Perth based Education and Vocational Training Unit will now become obsolete.
- Each Education Centre retain their substantive staff.

In my opinion, Prison Education, without a centralised body, can function and is strong enough to determine its own direction.

I would not have been confident of making this comment a few years ago.

Kind Regards—Jim Watmore

Prison Education Coordinator.