



MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday, 12 September 2016

Serious Injury at Banksia Hill

One of the teenagers involved in the riot at Banksia Hill Juvenile Detention Centre 12 days ago, has lashed out again – causing serious injury to an Officer.

Staff have reported the 17year old began throwing large rocks at Officers within Harding Unit on Sunday.

During a struggle to restrain the teen, an officer was attacked sustaining a dislocated elbow and broken arm.

He was brought to Armadale hospital and later transferred to Royal Perth Hospital for surgery.

Banksia Hill is currently undergoing a “transformation process”, which involves a softer approach with detainees.

In principle, Officers agree with an approach which is centred around rehabilitation, counselling, education and a homelier environment for juvenile offenders.

Recent experience reveals less harsh penalties for misbehaviours within the centre, which is of concern to Union members.

CPSU/CSA members believe detainees are taking advantage of this soft handed approach – testing the boundaries of what they can get away with without formal punishment.

Incidents in recent weeks include; the trashing of two units causing upward of \$200,000 damage, using objects as projectiles against staff and most recently, significant injury to an Officer.

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Banksia Hill staff are now consulting with their Union about issues facing staff and the transformation process.

MORE INFORMATION & MEDIA COMMENT:

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