



Corrective Services NSW

Corrective Services NSW was approached by Justice Action about its proposal to set up the website iexpress.org.au. CSNSW did not endorse and does not support the website. CSNSW has raised concerns with Justice Action about the potential adverse impact on victims and others of material that might appear on the site.

CSNSW sought legal advice regarding the site and was told it cannot prevent inmates providing content for such a site except in limited circumstances, for example when content might have security implications.

Inmates provide content for the site by way of a third party. Inmates in NSW prisons do not have internet access.



“QCS has a number of checks in place to ensure that prisoner correspondence is controlled to prevent unwanted or illegal contact. Except for privileged mail, the contents of all letters are regularly screened.

“Additional vetting measures were implemented last year as a further safeguard.”

Victorian prisoners do not have access to the internet and cannot upload or publish information themselves.

If a member of the public chooses to publish this sort of material on the internet, that's their business, but Corrections Victoria does not endorse or support it.

Our staff carefully vet correspondence coming in and out of prison. They will censor or withhold any mail that's threatening or harassing, threatens prison security, or may contribute to unlawful activity.

Like the rest of the community, we would expect iExpress to seriously consider the effect that publishing this information has on victims of crime.

DEPARTMENT FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES



Government of South Australia
Department for Correctional Services

The South Australian Department for Correctional Services first and foremost has a duty of care to victims of crime and does not condone the unauthorised use of such sites by prisoners. If it emerges that inappropriate content involving South Australian prisoners the Department will take the necessary action required to request the removal of said inappropriate content. It should also be noted that no South Australian prisoners have internet access.



Government of **Western Australia** Department of **Corrective Services**

The Department is investigating whether the iExpress website content constitutes a breach of any policies and procedures.

Telecommunications devices used by prisoners cannot connect to the internet. Prisoners found in possession of any unauthorised communication device are charged under the respective section of the *Prisons Act 1981* and face a range of penalties, including internal prison based charges and/or criminal charges by the WA Police.

The Department's stringent communications policies and procedures are one of many tools that help ensure the security of custodial facilities, enhance the safety of staff and prisoners, and limit further impacts on victims.

To ensure prisoners abide by its strict communications policies, the Department uses a range of procedural, dynamic and physical security protocols, including:

- Random and intelligence-driven search operations in and around prisons;
- The joint-agency Prison Team – a collaboration between the Department and WA Police; and
- The vigilance of custodial staff in sharing and reporting information and observations.

The Department also monitors inbound and outbound communications from prisons. General mail to or from a prisoner that is not listed as privileged, such as legal mail, may be opened by authorised officers and read for clearance.



Department of Correctional Services

- NT Correctional Services is aware of the organisation and the iexpress site but does not promote it within the corrections system
- Our prisoners do not have access to the internet but are free to send normal mail to outside organisations if they wish provided the correspondence does not contain threats, coded messages or anything that may impact on the security of the prison
- All prisoner communications are screened and monitored
- We have no further comment