



Ref: CEN/06/1738

3 December 2007

Control Room Staff  
Yatala Labour Prison  
1 Peter Brown Drive  
YATALA SA 5085  
Via General Manager

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Dear Colleagues

Thank you for your letter dated 16 October 2007 regarding camera observation of prisoners. I appreciate your raising your concerns with me.

I am advised that camera observation procedures outlined in Local Operating Procedure (LOP) 104 do not require staff to perform activities that are not already part of existing correctional practice at Yatala Labour Prison. I consider that the introduction of camera observation for prisoners at risk of suicide or self harm in G Division is an appropriate measure and consistent with good practice in prison management. Considerable thought was given to the arrangements prior to introduction.

Opportunity for self harm by a prisoner placed into a camera observation cell is significantly reduced when procedures as detailed in LOP 104 are followed and in particular, any concern relating to the activity of prisoners under observation are communicated to G Division.

The Department for Correctional Services remains committed to a strategy of effective offender management by ensuring the provision of a safe, secure and humane environment for prisoners. This strategy is supported by a principle of enabling new and improved ways of service delivery through technology.

Please discuss any other issues you may have in this regard with the General Manager.

Yours sincerely

**PETER SEVERIN**  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

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