

Changing of the guard at Junee Correctional Centre

GEO Australia has appointed a new General Manager at Junee Correctional Centre with Scott Brideoake set to retire from the role and a long-standing career in the corrections industry.

Mr Brideoake joined GEO Australia in June 2015 to oversee Junee Correctional Centre following 26 years in various roles at Corrective Services NSW (CSNSW). These included Manager of Security and Governor's positions, such as CSNSW Hostage Response Group Commander and Specialised Training Unit Manager.

GEO Australia Managing Director Pieter Bezuidenhout recognised Mr Brideoake as an exemplary leader through some significantly challenging times.

"Scott's legacy is his leadership expertise and the great respect he has engendered among all of his colleagues," Mr Bezuidenhout said. "We wish him all the very best in his retirement."

In addition to the regular complexities of running a safe and secure prison, Mr Brideoake led staff through a major expansion project, which includes a new administration complex, 480-bed maximum security wing and a women's remand unit.

He also successfully managed staff, inmates and visitors during one of the worst periods of COVID-19 in NSW, including establishing an inmate quarantine facility within the Centre.

Mr Brideoake said: "I will look back on what was an incredible opportunity in my corrections career and want to acknowledge the hard working and dedicated staff of Junee Correctional Centre who assisted in making my job easier."

Former Governor of Cessnock Correctional Centre, Richard Heycock, was appointed as the new General Manager and started last week. He brings to the role more than 12 years' experience with CSNSW, including as General Manager and Governor of Hunter Correctional Centre.

"I feel privileged to begin my new role as General Manager at Junee Correctional Centre and appreciate that some very high standards have been set by my predecessor," Mr Heycock said.

"I look forward to the challenges ahead and to working with the staff, our partners and broader local community to maintain the level of excellence achieved in the operations of the Centre, and to support inmates with their rehabilitation and reintegration goals."

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- *The GEO Group Australia is Australia's largest provider of private correctional services. Our focus is on rehabilitating prisoners and giving them the support and growth to become positive and productive contributors to our society.*
- *GEO Australia manages Junee Correctional Centre on behalf of Corrective Services NSW, with 370 staff and a capacity for 1300 prisoners. Find out more at: geogroup.com.au*