

Jon Stanhope MLA

CHIEF MINISTER

TREASURER MINISTER FOR BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, WATER AND
CLIMATE CHANGE
MINISTER FOR THE ARTS
MEMBER FOR GINNINDERRA

Mr B McConnell
Community Coalition on Corrections
PO Box 849
MAWSON ACT 2607

Dear Mr McConnell

Thank you for your letter of 25 October 2007 regarding the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).

I am pleased to see the interest your group and other community groups are showing in the AMC. No doubt that community interest will increase over the next few months as the AMC moves towards completion and commissioning in 2008.

To provide a focus for that community interest, the Attorney General is proposing to establish a community reference group in 2008. This group will be invited to meet on a regular basis once the AMC becomes operational and will provide a range of community groups, such as yours, with the opportunity of receiving information first hand on the prison's operations, as well as the opportunity to have some input.

In relation to your 'report card' that you attached to your letter, as you may appreciate, the Prison Project has been subject to close government scrutiny since its inception. There will be mechanisms established within government to monitor and review the AMC's operations against policy and operational objectives, as part of normal audit and review processes. Therefore, the ACT Government has chosen to decline your invitation to participate in the Community Coalition's 'report card'.

The Attorney General will be writing to you again in due course inviting your organisation to be a member of the reference group.

Yours sincerely

Jon Stanhope MLA
Chief Minister

10 DEC 2007

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