

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#); [Thomas, Ian](#)  
**Cc:** [Wise, Rod](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00:00 PM

---

1.

Hi Tristan and Ian

We've received the below request from Lucy MacDonald at the ABC. Can you please prepare a response?

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

2.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Lucy Macdonald](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:01:00 PM

---

Hi Lucy

We will seek a response from the TPS and come back to you.

Thanks  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02:00 PM

---

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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ABC



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 Journalist  
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**From:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

Hi Ange

We've also just received this, if you can please do lines for both queries.

Thanks  
 Kat

**From:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

Hey mate- see below. Journo has gone to Justice as well. Wants us to come back to her with some lines on the highlighted policy section below.

Story will be up tomorrow- deadline is this afternoon.

### James Whiteley

Media Adviser  
 Office of the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania  
 Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000  
 Mobile: 0467869963  
 e-mail: [james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)



[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

You don't often get email from [macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hey James,

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Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

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The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

Thanks,

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
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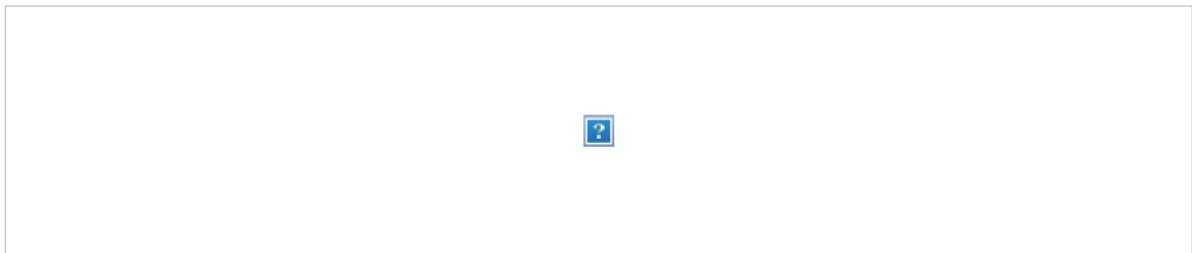
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**From:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**To:** [Communications; Thomas, Ian](#)  
**Cc:** [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:20:30 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Leave it with me Ange

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
 Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
 Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
 (p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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Thanks  
 Ange

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**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Paterson, Bruce](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:21:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Hi Bruce,  
 Can you give me any words on the highlighted question below please?  
 We need to get this out today sorry so there is some time pressure.  
 Thanks  
 Jen

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:11 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
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**James Whiteley**  
 Media Adviser  
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 Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000  
 Mobile: 0467869963  
 e-mail: [james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)



[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)





---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

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**From:** [Thomas, Ian](#)  
**To:** [Communications; Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Cc:** [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:24:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Thanks all,

Happy to assist with the lockdown details.

Ian.

**Ian Thomas** (he, him, his)

Director of Prisons

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

03 6165 7372 | 0409 823 685 | [ian.thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:ian.thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

PO Box 24, Lindisfarne, TAS 7015 | 672 East Derwent Highway, Risdon Vale, TAS 7016

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*In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, we would like to acknowledge and pay our respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.*

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

18.

Hi Tristan and Ian

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 Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM

19.

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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**From:** [Paterson, Bruce](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Bourne, Kristy](#); [Poulter, Felicity](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 3:44:03 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

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Hi Jen,

I spoke to Clare Hopkins, Deputy Ombudsman. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. I have suggested some lines below.

- [REDACTED]
- Alternatively, the Ombudsman may also investigate matters on the Ombudsman's own motion. To further support this power, an amendment is currently before Parliament to ensure the Ombudsman can make preliminary enquiries and require information from public authorities for the purposes of deciding whether to conduct an own motion investigation. This is in the Justice and Related Legislation (Further Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023.
- There are statutory protections to ensure the Ombudsman's office has the ability to address complaints from prisoners confidentially. The Ombudsman and staff can visit a prison at any reasonable time, and must be given full assistance by correctional officers. Prisoners have the right to send and receive letters from the Ombudsman without those letters being opened by prison staff.
- There is also a free telephone service for prisoners to call the Ombudsman's office.
- The Government's view is that this protective framework for prisoners ensures the Ombudsman can appropriately respond to issues for prisoners.

Regards,  
Bruce

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** Paterson, Bruce <Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

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**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

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Kat

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10 PM  
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**Cc:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
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Media Adviser  
Office of the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania  
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[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



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**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM

24.

**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

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Hey James,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

Thanks,

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

**From:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\); Media](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01:21 PM  
**Attachments:** [~WRD0000.jpg](#)

---

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks

Kat

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

26.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks

Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>

27.



**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM

**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:05:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Thanks Kat

Is the GMO responding or are we?

I have some lines from Bruce that I'm just waiting for approval – do you still want additional info from the TPS?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

29.

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM

30.

**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

31.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

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These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:07:11 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

If I can see the additional info and then let you know if I think you need to respond as well?

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications (DoJ) <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

33.

Thanks Kat

Is the GMO responding or are we?

I have some lines from Bruce that I'm just waiting for approval – do you still want additional info from the TPS?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

34.

Hi Ange

These are our lines

### **Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

35.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

36.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist





ABC News | Hobart

P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:10:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)

---

FYI

How are you going?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:07 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

38.

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications (DoJ) <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

39.

Thanks Kat

Is the GMO responding or are we?

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---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
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40.

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Thanks  
Kat

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

41.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

42.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

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Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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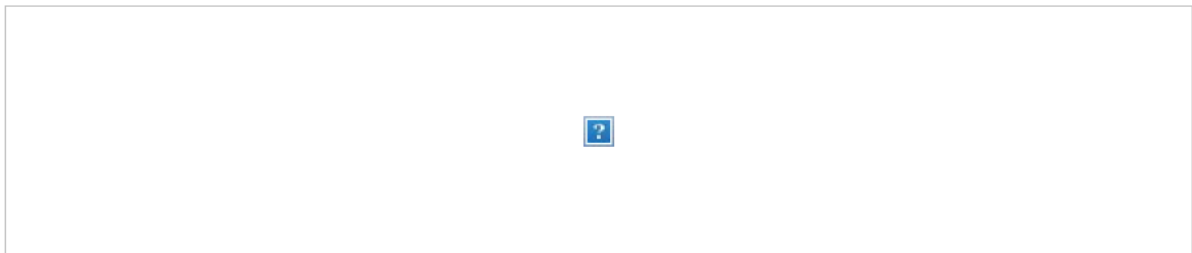
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**From:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:12:16 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)

---

Just about to send through Ange – be with you in 2 mins

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
 Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
 Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
 (p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:11 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

FYI

How are you going?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:07 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

If I can see the additional info and then let you know if I think you need to respond as well?

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications (DoJ) <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Kat

Is the GMO responding or are we?

I have some lines from Bruce that I'm just waiting for approval – do you still want additional info from the TPS?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

47.

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks

Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

48.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks



Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

49.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Webster, Ginna](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications](#); [Bourne, Kristy](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:15:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
**Importance:** High

---

Hi Ginna

Would you mind reviewing the below in Kristy's absence? We have a 5pm deadline.

Thanks

Ange

---

**From:** Paterson, Bruce <Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Bourne, Kristy <Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au>; Poulter, Felicity <Felicity.Poulter@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre

51.

Hi Jen,

I spoke to Clare Hopkins, Deputy Ombudsman. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]. I have suggested some lines below.

- [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED]
- Alternatively, the Ombudsman may also investigate matters on the Ombudsman's own motion. To further support this power, an amendment is currently before Parliament to ensure the Ombudsman can make preliminary enquiries and require information from public authorities for the purposes of deciding whether to conduct an own motion investigation. This is in the Justice and Related Legislation (Further Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023.
- There are statutory protections to ensure the Ombudsman's office has the ability to address complaints from prisoners confidentially. The Ombudsman and staff can visit a prison at any reasonable time, and must be given full assistance by correctional officers. Prisoners have the right to send and receive letters from the Ombudsman without those letters being opened by prison staff.

There is also a free telephone service for prisoners to call the Ombudsman's office.

- The Government's view is that this protective framework for prisoners ensures the Ombudsman can appropriately respond to issues for prisoners.

Regards,  
Bruce

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** Paterson, Bruce <[Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

52.

Hi Bruce,  
Can you give me any words on the highlighted question below please?  
We need to get this out today sorry so there is some time pressure.  
Thanks  
Jen

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:11 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

53.

Hi Ange

We've also just received this, if you can please do lines for both queries.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

54.

Hey mate- see below. Journo has gone to Justice as well. Wants us to come back to her with some lines on the highlighted policy section below.

Story will be up tomorrow- deadline is this afternoon.

**James Whiteley**  
Media Adviser  
Office of the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania  
Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000  
Mobile: 0467869963  
e-mail: [james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)



[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

55.

You don't often get email from [macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hey James,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

Thanks,

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#); [Thomas, Ian](#)  
**Cc:** [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:15:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Hi all,

Suggested response is:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Thanks

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)

Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>; Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>; Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

57.

Hi Tristan and Ian

We've received the below request from Lucy MacDonald at the ABC. Can you please prepare a response?

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

58.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

Lucy MacDonald

ABC



Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:16:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Thanks 😊

**From:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:16 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi all,

Suggested response is:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Thanks

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
 Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
 Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
 (p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)





In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

61.

Hi Tristan and Ian

We've received the below request from Lucy MacDonald at the ABC. Can you please prepare a response?

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

62.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

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My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,

Lucy

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:16:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Are you happy with this Rod?

---

**From:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:16 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

64.

Hi all,

Suggested response is:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Thanks

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
 Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
 Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
 (p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Wise, Rod <[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

65.

Hi Tristan and Ian

We've received the below request from Lucy MacDonald at the ABC. Can you please prepare a response?

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

66.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,

Lucy

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work

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**From:** [Webster, Ginna](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Bourne, Kristy](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:29:35 PM  
**Attachments:** [image004.jpg](#)  
[image005.jpg](#)  
[image001.jpg](#)

Thanks Ange approved

## Ginna Webster (she, her, hers)

Secretary

Department of Justice

03 6165 4943 | [Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:15 PM  
**To:** Webster, Ginna <[Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Bourne, Kristy <[Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

68.

Hi Ginna

Would you mind reviewing the below in Kristy's absence? We have a 5pm deadline.

Thanks  
Ange

**From:** Paterson, Bruce <[Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Bourne, Kristy <[Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Poulter, Felicity <[Felicity.Poulter@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Felicity.Poulter@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre

69.

Hi Jen,

I spoke to Clare Hopkins, Deputy Ombudsman. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have suggested some lines below.

- [REDACTED]
- Alternatively, the Ombudsman may also investigate matters on the Ombudsman's own motion. To further support this power, an amendment is currently before Parliament to ensure the Ombudsman can make preliminary enquiries and require information from public authorities for the purposes of deciding whether to conduct an own motion investigation. This is in the Justice and Related Legislation (Further Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023.
- There are statutory protections to ensure the Ombudsman's office has the ability to address complaints from prisoners confidentially. The Ombudsman and staff can visit a prison at any reasonable time, and must be given full assistance by correctional officers. Prisoners have the right to send and receive letters from the Ombudsman without those letters being opened by prison staff.
- There is also a free telephone service for prisoners to call the Ombudsman's office.
- The Government's view is that this protective framework for prisoners ensures the Ombudsman can appropriately respond to issues for prisoners.

Regards,  
Bruce

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** Paterson, Bruce <[Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

Hi Bruce,  
Can you give me any words on the highlighted question below please?  
We need to get this out today sorry so there is some time pressure.  
Thanks  
Jen

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:11 PM

70.

71.

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

Hi Ange

We've also just received this, if you can please do lines for both queries.

Thanks

Kat

---

**From:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10 PM

**To:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

72.

Hey mate- see below. Journo has gone to Justice as well. Wants us to come back to her with some lines on the highlighted policy section below.

Story will be up tomorrow- deadline is this afternoon.

**James Whiteley**

Media Adviser

Office of the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania

Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000

Mobile: 0467869963

e-mail: [james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)



[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM

**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

73.

You don't often get email from [macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hey James,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that



was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

Thanks,



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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74.

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Webster, Ginna](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:30:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

---

Thanks Ginna

75.

**From:** Webster, Ginna <[Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:30 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Bourne, Kristy <[Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre

Thanks Ange approved

**Ginna Webster** (she, her, hers)

Secretary

Department of Justice

03 6165 4943 | [Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

76.

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**To:** Webster, Ginna <[Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ginna.Webster@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Bourne, Kristy <[Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

Hi Ginna

Would you mind reviewing the below in Kristy's absence? We have a 5pm deadline.

Thanks

Ange

77.

**From:** Paterson, Bruce <[Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 3:44 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Bourne, Kristy <[Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Kristy.Bourne@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Poulter, Felicity <[Felicity.Poulter@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Felicity.Poulter@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre

Hi Jen,

I spoke to Clare Hopkins, Deputy Ombudsman. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I have suggested some lines below.

- [REDACTED]
- Alternatively, the Ombudsman may also investigate matters on the Ombudsman's own motion. To further support this power, an amendment is currently before Parliament to ensure the Ombudsman can make preliminary enquiries and require information from public authorities for the purposes of deciding whether to conduct an own motion investigation. This is in the Justice and Related Legislation (Further Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023.
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- There is also a free telephone service for prisoners to call the Ombudsman's office.
- The Government's view is that this protective framework for prisoners ensures the Ombudsman can appropriately respond to issues for prisoners.

Regards,  
Bruce

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** Paterson, Bruce <[Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Bruce.Paterson@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre  
**Importance:** High

Hi Bruce,  
Can you give me any words on the highlighted question below please?  
We need to get this out today sorry so there is some time pressure.  
Thanks  
Jen

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:11 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

79.

Hi Ange

We've also just received this, if you can please do lines for both queries.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:10 PM  
**To:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre

80.

Hey mate- see below. Journo has gone to Justice as well. Wants us to come back to her with some lines on the highlighted policy section below.

Story will be up tomorrow- deadline is this afternoon.

**James Whiteley**  
Media Adviser  
Office of the Premier, the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP

Premier of Tasmania  
Level 11, 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000  
Mobile: 0467869963  
e-mail: [james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:james.whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)



[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** Whiteley, James <[James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:James.Whiteley@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

81.

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre

You don't often get email from [macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:macdonald.lucy@abc.net.au). [Learn why this is important](#)

Hey James,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

Thanks,



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:35:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)

---

Hi Kat

Lines re Ombudsman are below. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- [REDACTED]
- Alternatively, the Ombudsman may also investigate matters on the Ombudsman's own motion. To further support this power, an amendment is currently before Parliament to ensure the Ombudsman can make preliminary enquiries and require information from public authorities for the purposes of deciding whether to conduct an own motion investigation. This is in the Justice and Related Legislation (Further Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2023.
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- There is also a free telephone service for prisoners to call the Ombudsman's office.
- The Government's view is that this protective framework for prisoners ensures the Ombudsman can appropriately respond to issues for prisoners.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:07 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

If I can see the additional info and then let you know if I think you need to respond as well?

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:05 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>;  
 Communications (DoJ) <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Kat

Is the GMO responding or are we?

I have some lines from Bruce that I'm just waiting for approval – do you still want additional info from the TPS?

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks  
 Kat



---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

86.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

87.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPAc\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPAc\)](#); [Media](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:38:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

Hi Kat

TPS lines are:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

1. [REDACTED]

\_\_\_\_\_

(b) (7)(C), (b) (7)(D)

1. [REDACTED]

\_\_\_\_\_

- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

90.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

91.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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**From:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:52:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Thanks Ange

Are you able to provide the same lines that we did and just add into the background that there was only one day of lockdown during that period?






Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:38 pm  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Communications (DoJ) <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Kat

TPS lines are:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.
- 
- 
- 
- 
- 
- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

---

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

94.

Hi Ange

These are our lines

**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

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In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

Thanks  
Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

95.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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97.

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\); Media](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:54:12 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Will do.

Thanks Kat

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

---

98.

**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:52:51 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Ange

Are you able to provide the same lines that we did and just add into the background that there was only one day of lockdown during that period?

Thanks  
Kat

---

99.

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:38 pm  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Communications (DoJ) <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Kat

TPS lines are:

- As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

█ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

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**From:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:01 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

100.

Hi Ange

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**Elise Archer, Attorney-General, Attorney-General, Minister for Justice, and Minister for Corrections and Rehabilitation**

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Thanks

Kat

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

101.

Hi Kat

Just a heads up that we have received the below query. We will come back to you with a proposed response from the TPS.

Thanks  
Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

102.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

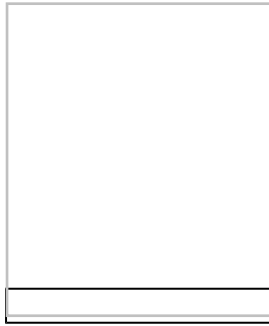
What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893



and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Lucy Macdonald](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 4:59:26 PM

---

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

#### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is

the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

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These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
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**From:** [Thomas, Ian](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications; Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:10:54 PM

---

Thanks Tristan

Looks good to me

Ian

Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Aug 2023, at 4:15 pm, Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au> wrote:

106.

Hi all,

Suggested response is:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->As at 28 August 2023 the Southern Remand Centre is accommodating 139 remandees.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->In addition, remandees in the new Southern Remand Centre have a phone available in their room, so that even if they are locked down they are still able to have phone contact



with family, lawyers and others during this time.

**By way of background** – In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Thanks

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)

Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

<image001.jpg>

In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 1:00 PM

**To:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>; Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>; Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

107.

Hi Tristan and Ian

We've received the below request from Lucy MacDonald at the ABC. Can you please prepare a response?

Thanks

Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 12:55 PM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

108.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.



Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Lucy Macdonald](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:14:46 PM

---

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

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---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

#### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a

full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

111.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

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Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Thomas, Jan](#); [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Cc:** [Wise, Rod](#); [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:09:28 PM

---

Hi again,

As you will see below, the reporter has come straight back to us on this one. I spoke to Tristan when the email came back just to double check there were no other lock downs during the period, which he confirmed but noted that it was possible individuals may be locked down for disciplinary reasons.

I then spoke to Kat who was happy for me to call the reporter and note on background that sometimes an individual may be confined to their cell for behavioural reasons so I phoned Lucy and passed that on.

She said the offender told his mother that he and at least 4 other people around him in SRC were locked down from the Wednesday afternoon when a package came over the fence until the Monday. She has also just sent me a text to say she's spoken to the mother again and she is adamant the dates are correct, it was not an individual thing with all or some of the SRC in lockdown and that the inmates were strip searched during that time. She also claims they are locked down today. There was also reference to being without power for a period but not sure if that is within this window or unrelated.

Lucy does seem to at least acknowledge that it is possible that the offender is not being entirely honest with his mother but asked if we can just confirm whether any of this occurred please?

She advised the offender is [REDACTED] but then said she probably shouldn't have told us that as she didn't want there to be any repercussions for him.

Thanks  
 Jen

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

114.

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

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The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

115.

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

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My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
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**From:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas, Ian](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:12:24 PM

---

I'll pass this on and see if I can get any further information.

**Tristan Bell** (he, him, his)

Assistant Director; Engagement, Communications and Policy  
 Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
[03 6165 7399](tel:0361657399) | [0427 617 277](tel:0427617277) | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:09 pm, Communications  
 <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

117.

Hi again,

As you will see below, the reporter has come straight back to us on this one. I spoke to Tristan when the email came back just to double check there were no other lockdowns during the period, which he confirmed but noted that it was possible individuals may be locked down for disciplinary reasons.

I then spoke to Kat who was happy for me to call the reporter and note on background that sometimes an individual may be confined to their cell for behavioural reasons so I phoned Lucy and passed that on.

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Lucy does seem to at least acknowledge that it is possible that the offender is not being entirely honest with his mother but asked if we can just confirm whether any of this occurred please?

She advised the offender is [REDACTED] but then said she probably shouldn't have told us that as she didn't want there to be any repercussions for him.

Thanks  
 Jen

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

118.



**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

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---

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**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

119.

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

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In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

120.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

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My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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121.

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas, Ian](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:23:07 PM  
**Attachments:** [image0.png](#)

---

122.

Thanks Tristan,  
She's just texted me the following 5 messages in less than 10 minutes  
J



Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:12 pm, Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

123.

I'll pass this on and see if I can get any further information.

**Tristan Bell** (he, him, his)  
Assistant Director; Engagement, Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
[03 6165 7399](tel:0361657399) | [0427 617 277](tel:0427617277) | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:09 pm, Communications  
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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

126.

Hi Lucy

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Kind regards  
Angela

127.

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**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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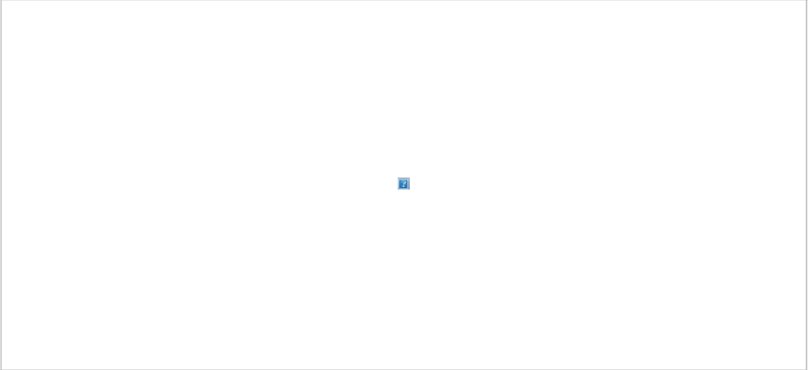
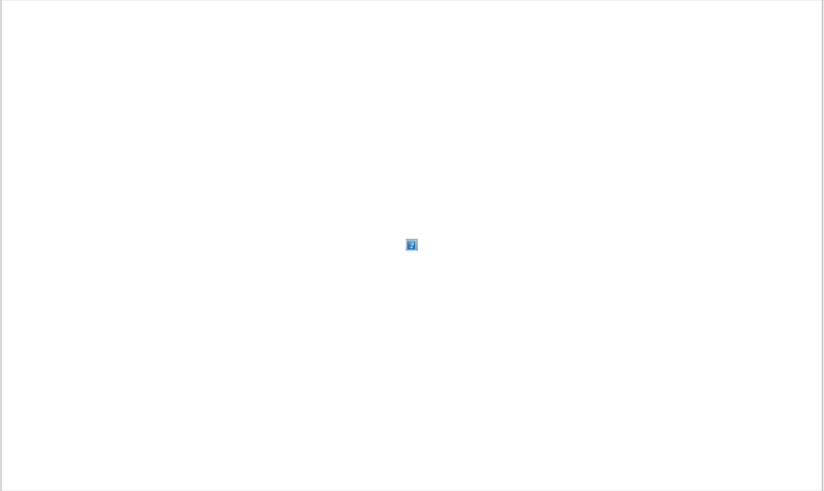
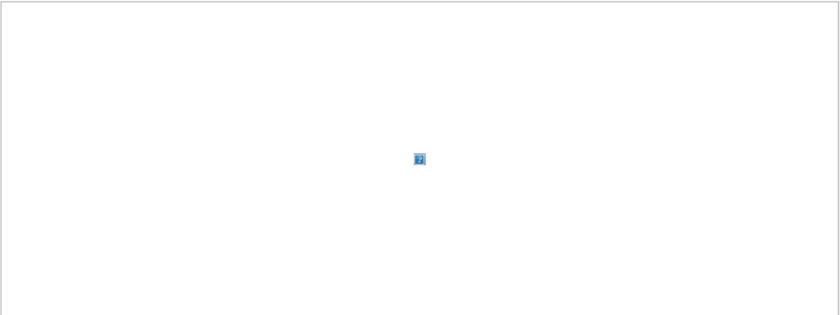
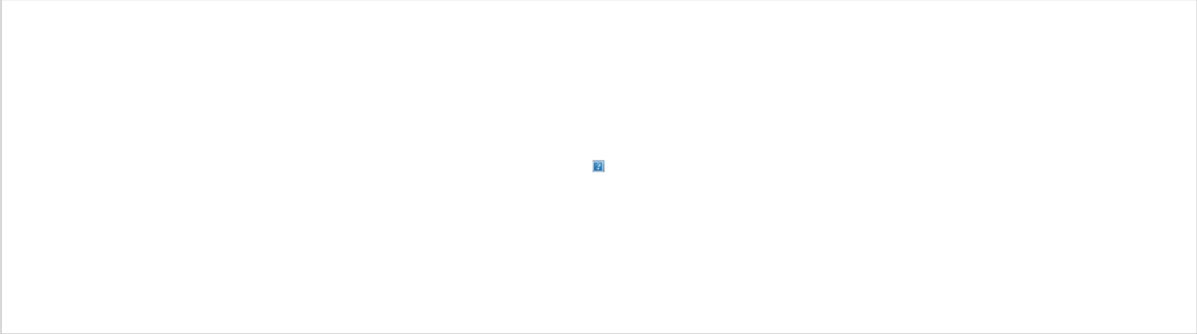
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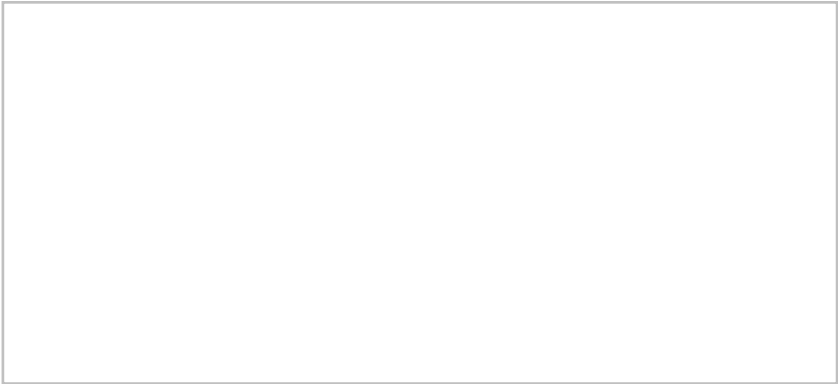
From: [Jim Trevino](#)  
To: [B.L. Trevino](#)  
Subject: [COVID-19](#)  
Date: Monday, 28 August 2023 6:42:00 PM  
Attachments: [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[image005.png](#)  
[image006.png](#)

Hi  
I just file all the TPS daily reports and don't normally read them but just went back through the ones from the period referred to and they do have both SRC units in lockdown for most of that 5 day period which is quite different to the info we provided the journo earlier?  
Thanks  
J



128.  
Images -  
129.  
130.  
131.  
132.  
133.



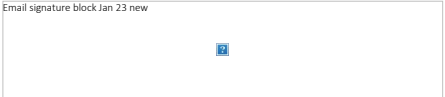


**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications  
Department of Justice  
0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

Working hours – Monday 8.30-17.00 Tuesday 9.00-14.00 Wednesday 9.00-17.00 Thursday 9.00-14.00

Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

From: [Bel, Tristan](#)  
To: [Lee, Jennifer](#)  
Subject: RE: lockdowns  
Date: Monday, 28 August 2023 7:30:31 PM  
Attachments: [jenn020.jpg](#)  
[jenn021.jpg](#)  
[jenn022.jpg](#)  
[jenn023.jpg](#)  
[jenn024.jpg](#)  
[jenn025.jpg](#)

Thanks Jen – that's interesting.

Very different to the lockdown report which was sent to me and the information provided to me! I'm not sure if I'm reading one of the reports wrong (I don't think so) or if the information isn't matching up.

I passed on your previous email to [REDACTED] and he said he'll get me a response first thing tomorrow as he needs to speak to Supervisors and the Superintendent to find out if there were any specific lockdowns that impacted a number of prisoners. I'll also pass on now the daily report info you've pulled out and ask for an explanation around that.

Sorry for any confusion. The other lines all remain the same regardless...

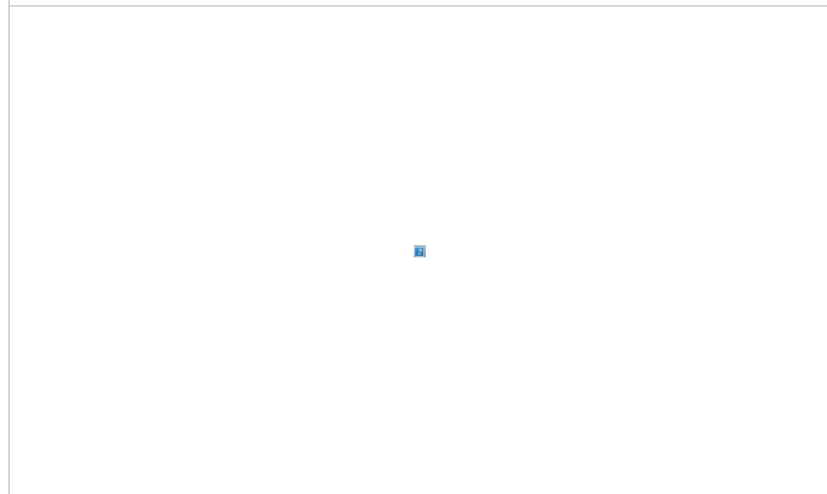
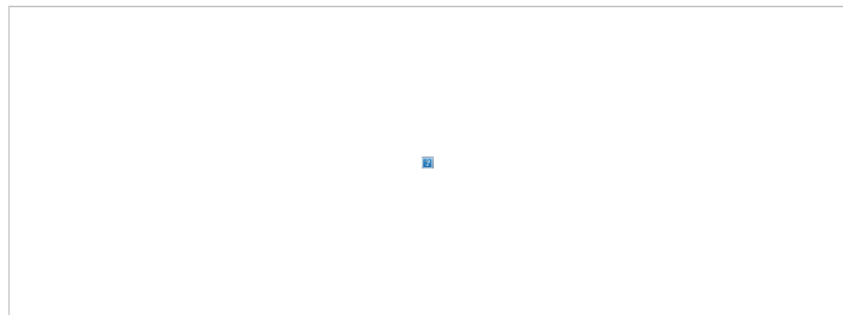
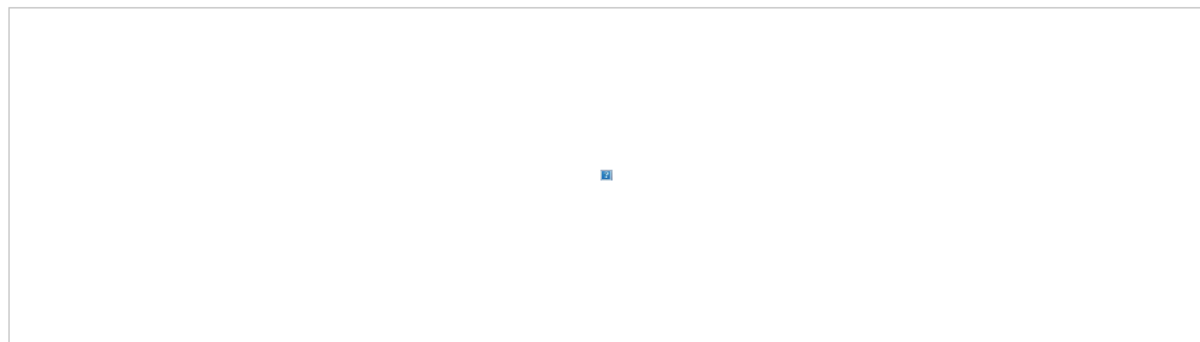
Tristan Bell (he him his)  
Assistant Director | Engagement Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all  
Tasmanian Aboriginal people, the past and present custodians of the land.

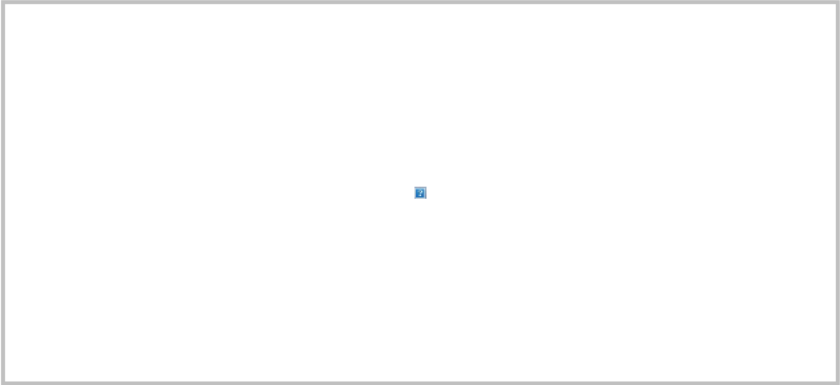
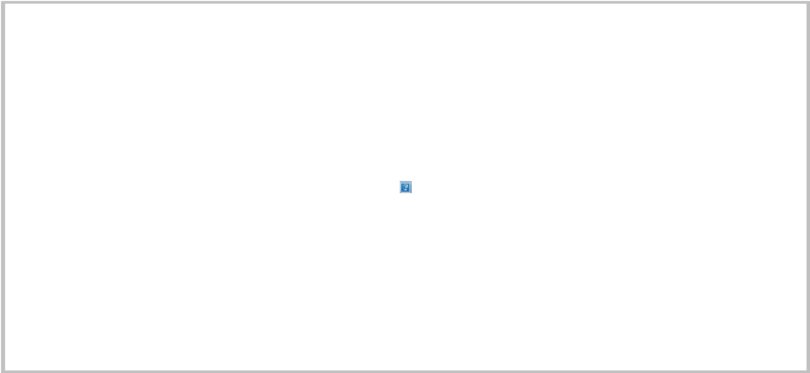
From: Lee, Jennifer <[jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
Sent: Monday, 28 August 2023 6:50 PM  
To: Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
Subject: lockdowns

Hi  
I just file all the TPS daily reports and don't normally read them but just went back through the ones from the period referred to and they do have both SRC units in lockdown for most of that 5 day period which is quite different to the info we provided the journo earlier?  
Thanks  
J



134.  
Images -  
135.  
136.  
137.  
138.  
139.

140.



Jennifer Lee (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications  
Department of Justice  
0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)  
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Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

From: Lee, Jennifer  
To: Bell, Tristan  
Subject: Re: lockdowns  
Date: Monday 28 August 2023 8:07:34 PM  
Attachments: image000.png  
image001.png  
image002.png  
image003.png  
image004.png  
image005.png  
image006.png  
image007.png  
image008.png  
image009.png  
image010.png  
image011.png

Thanks Tristan, much appreciated.  
It seemed weird to me to have such a disconnect too.  
I've told Lucy we won't have an answer for her tonight so will leave you in peace now and get on to school lunches!  
Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Aug 2023, at 7:39 pm, Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au> wrote:

Thanks Jen – that's interesting.

Very different to the lockdown report which was sent to me and the information provided to me! I'm not sure if I'm reading one of the reports wrong (I don't think so) or if the information isn't matching up.

I passed on your previous email to [REDACTED] and he said he'll get me a response first thing tomorrow as he needs to speak to Supervisors and the Superintendent to find out if there were any specific lockdowns that impacted a number of prisoners. I'll also pass on now the daily report info you've pulled out and ask for an explanation around that.

Sorry for any confusion. The other lines all remain the same regardless...

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
(p) 03 6365 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

image001.jpg

In recognition of the diversity and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all  
Tasmanian Aboriginal people, the past and present custodians of the Land.

From: Lee, Jennifer <Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au>  
Sent: Monday 28 August 2023 6:50 PM  
To: Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>  
Subject: lockdowns

Hi  
I just file all the TPS daily reports and don't normally read them but just went back through the ones from the period referred to and they do have both SRC units in lockdown for most of that 5 day period which is quite different to the info we provided the journals earlier?  
Thanks  
J

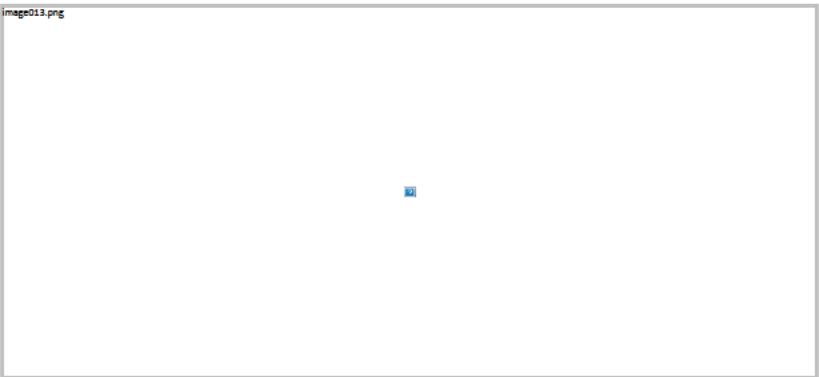
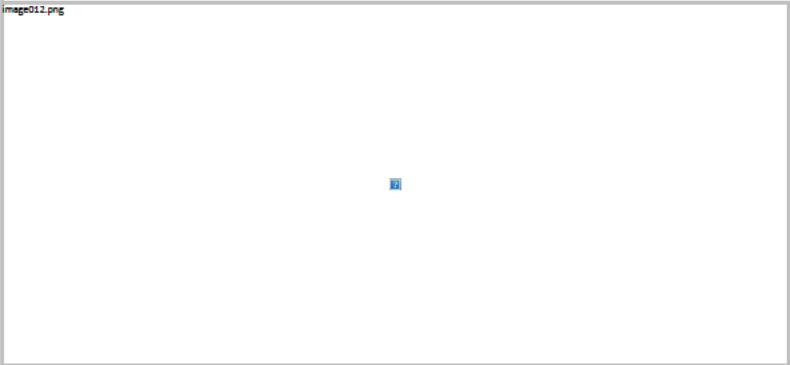
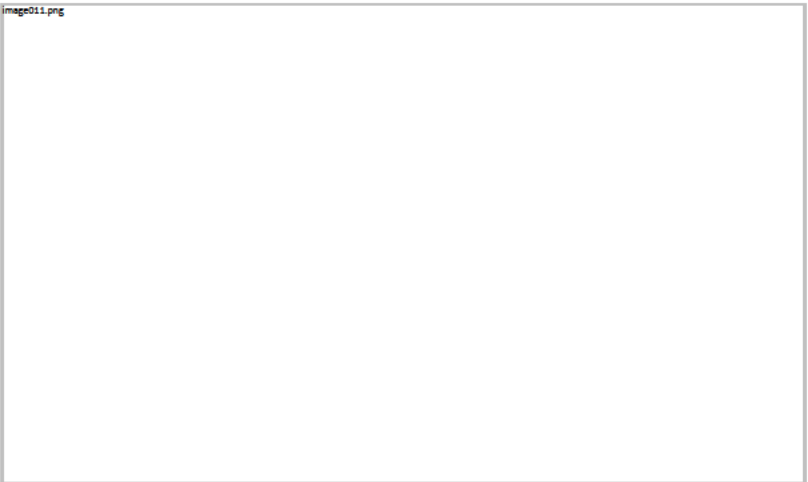
image009.png

image010.png

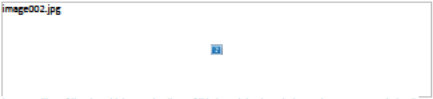
141.  
Images -  
142.  
143.  
144.  
145.  
146.

147.

148.



Jennifer Lee (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications  
Department of Justice  
0 38 5 9 796 | [jenn.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jenn.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)  
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In recognition of the deep history and culture of this is and, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all  
Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Lucy Macdonald](#)  
**Cc:** [Communications](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:57:00 AM

---

Hi Lucy

We are still awaiting a response from the TPS. I'll follow up again now.

Kind regards  
 Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Lee, Jennifer  
 <Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
 Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](#)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

152.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the First Australians and Traditional Custodians of the lands where we live, learn and work.

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 9:01:00 AM

---

FYI

I'm following up with the TPS.

Kind regards  
 Ange

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Lee, Jennifer  
 <Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

154.

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

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My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
 Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](#)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm

155.

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

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These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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---

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**From:** [Bell, Tristan](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas, Ian](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southernsome further Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 9:49:16 AM  
**Attachments:** [image003.png](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)

---

Hi all,

After Jen pointed out last night that the daily reports indicated SRC was locked down for 5 days in a row, contrary to the lockdown report that we generally rely on, as well as the additional information provided by the reporter I asked [REDACTED] to look at this one again.

Unfortunately the information we provided last night was wrong.

There was an incident on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July where multiple packages (5) were thrown over the fence of the SRC. All packages were recovered by remandees and unable to be recovered by staff. This resulted in a lockdown to conduct searches of every remandee and throughout the SRC. Those searches and lockdowns continued for five days.

In addition to the general lines we provided yesterday I'd suggest we need to also provide the following:

[REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question. We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Apologies for the need to back track.

Thanks,

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)  
Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>

159.

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:23 PM

**To:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>; Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>

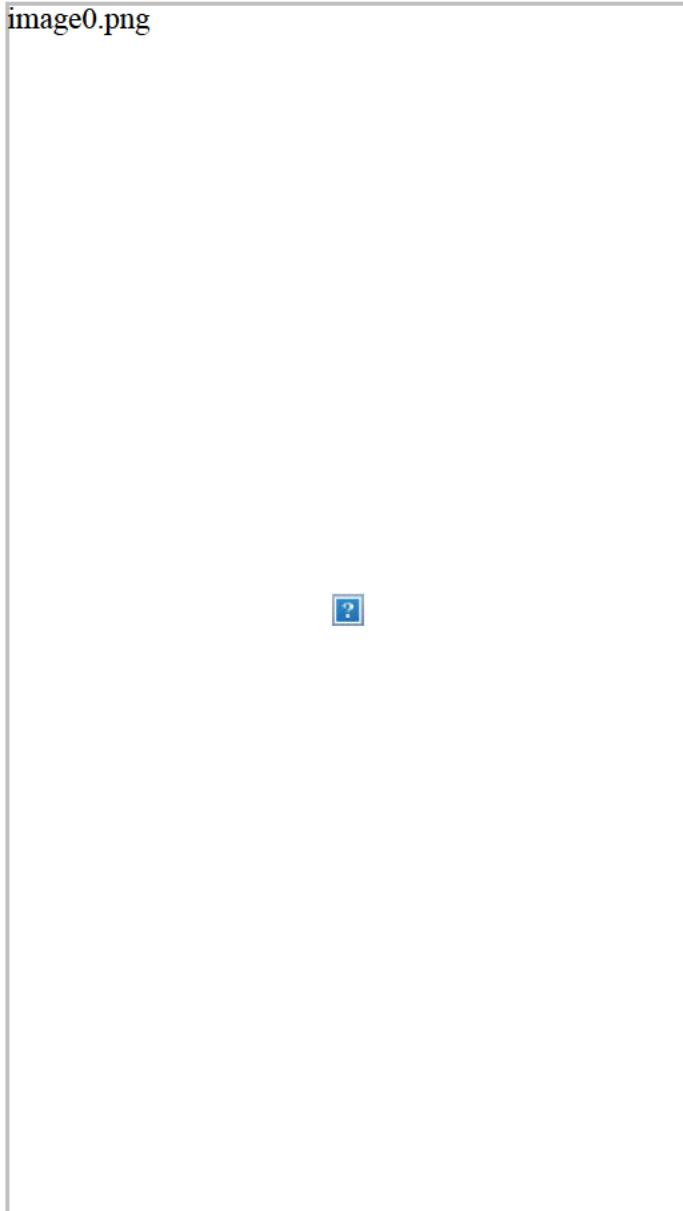
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Tristan,

She's just texted me the following 5 messages in less than 10 minutes

J

image0.png



Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:12 pm, Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

160.

I'll pass this on and see if I can get any further information.

**Tristan Bell** (he, him, his)

Assistant Director; Engagement, Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
[03 6165 7399](tel:0361657399) | [0427 617 277](tel:0427617277) | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:09 pm, Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

161.

Hi again,

As you will see below, the reporter has come straight back to us on this one. I spoke to Tristan when the email came back just to double check there were no other lock downs during the period, which he confirmed but noted that it was possible individuals may be locked down for disciplinary reasons.

I then spoke to Kat who was happy for me to call the reporter and note on background that sometimes an individual may be confined to their cell for behavioural reasons so I phoned Lucy and passed that on.

She said the offender told his mother that he and at least 4 other people around him in SRC were locked down from the Wednesday afternoon when a package came over the fence until the Monday. She has also just sent me a text to say she's spoken to the mother again and she is adamant the dates are correct, it was not an individual thing with all or some of the SRC in lockdown and that the inmates were strip searched during that time. She also claims they are locked down today. There was also reference to being without power for a period but not sure if that is within this window or unrelated.

Lucy does seem to at least acknowledge that it is possible that the offender is not being entirely honest with his mother but asked if we can just confirm whether any of this occurred please?

She advised the offender is [REDACTED] but then said she probably shouldn't have told us that as she didn't want there to be any repercussions for him.

Thanks  
Jen

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

162.

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

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163.

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

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#### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

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Kind regards  
Angela

164.

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**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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---



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165.

**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#); [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas, Ian](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southernsome further Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 9:52:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

---

166.

Thanks Tristan,  
Much appreciated.  
Ian and Rod are you ok with this?  
J

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

*Working hours – Monday 8.30-17.00, Tuesday 9.00-14.00, Wednesday 9.00-17.00, Thursday 9.00-14.00*

Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

167.

---

**From:** Bell, Tristan <Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 9:49 AM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Ian <Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au>; Wise, Rod <Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** RE: Southernsome further Remand Centre lockdown

Hi all,

After Jen pointed out last night that the daily reports indicated SRC was locked down for 5 days in a row, contrary to the lockdown report that we generally rely on, as well as the additional information provided by the reporter I asked [REDACTED] to look at this one again.

Unfortunately the information we provided last night was wrong.

There was an incident on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July where multiple packages (5) were thrown over the fence of the SRC. All packages were recovered by remandees and unable to be recovered by staff. This resulted in a lockdown to conduct searches of every remandee and throughout the SRC. Those searches and lockdowns continued for five days.

In addition to the general lines we provided yesterday I'd suggest we need to also provide the following:

[REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question. We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Apologies for the need to back track.

Thanks,

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)

Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)



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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:23 PM

**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Wise, Rod <[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Tristan,

She's just texted me the following 5 messages in less than 10 minutes

J

image0.png



Sent from my iPhone

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:12 pm, Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

169.

I'll pass this on and see if I can get any further information.

**Tristan Bell** (he, him, his)

Assistant Director; Engagement, Communications and Policy

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

03 6165 7399 | 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:09 pm, Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

170.

Hi again,

As you will see below, the reporter has come straight back to us on this one. I spoke to Tristan when the email came back just to double check there were no other lock downs during the period, which he confirmed but noted that it was possible individuals may be locked down for disciplinary reasons.

I then spoke to Kat who was happy for me to call the reporter and note on background that sometimes an individual may be confined to their cell for behavioural reasons so I phoned Lucy and passed that on.

She said the offender told his mother that he and at least 4 other people around him in SRC were locked down from the Wednesday afternoon when a package came over the fence until the Monday. She has also just sent me a text to say she's spoken to the mother again and she is adamant the dates are correct, it was not an individual thing with all or some of the SRC in lockdown and that the inmates were strip searched during that time. She also claims they are locked down today. There was also reference to being without power for a period but not sure if that is within this window or unrelated.

Lucy does seem to at least acknowledge that it is possible that the offender is not being entirely honest with his mother but asked if we can just confirm whether any of this occurred please?

She advised the offender is [REDACTED] but then said she probably shouldn't have told us that as she didn't want there to be any repercussions for him.

Thanks  
Jen

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

171.

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

172.

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

#### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#); [Brown, Trudy \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:53:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
**Importance:** High

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Hi Kat,

I understand you have spoken with Tristan this morning who has provided some clarity about what happened here.

The TPS have provided the following updated response and background lines:

■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]  
■ [REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Are you ok for us to provide the lines and for me to call Lucy and explain that background - noting her 12 noon deadline please?

Thanks

Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



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---



**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Lee, Jennifer <Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
 Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still

maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

177.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy

Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

ABC



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178.

**From:** [Thomas, Ian](#)  
**To:** [Communications](#)  
**Cc:** [Bell, Tristan](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Southernsome further Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:16:45 AM  
**Attachments:** [image002.jpg](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

---

179.

Hi Jen

Yes good to go from me thanks

Ian

Sent from my iPhone

180.

On 29 Aug 2023, at 9:52 am, Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)> wrote:

Thanks Tristan,  
Much appreciated.  
Ian and Rod are you ok with this?  
J

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications  
Department of Justice  
0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)  
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Thursday 9.00-14.00*

<[image004.jpg](#)>

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Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

181.

---

**From:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 9:49 AM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Wise, Rod  
<[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southernsome further Remand Centre lockdown

Hi all,

After Jen pointed out last night that the daily reports indicated SRC was locked down for 5 days in a row, contrary to the lockdown report that we generally rely

on, as well as the additional information provided by the reporter I asked [REDACTED] to look at this one again.

Unfortunately the information we provided last night was wrong.

There was an incident on the 19<sup>th</sup> of July where multiple packages (5) were thrown over the fence of the SRC. All packages were recovered by remandees and unable to be recovered by staff. This resulted in a lockdown to conduct searches of every remandee and throughout the SRC. Those searches and lockdowns continued for five days.

In addition to the general lines we provided yesterday I'd suggest we need to also provide the following:

[REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.  
<!--[if !supportLists]-->• <!--[endif]-->The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question. We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Apologies for the need to back track.

Thanks,

Tristan Bell (he, him, his)

Assistant Director | Engagement, Communications and Policy

Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice

(p) 03 6165 7399 | (m) 0427 617 277 | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

<image002.jpg>

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**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

182.

**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 6:23 PM  
**To:** Bell, Tristan <[Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tristan.Bell@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Thomas, Ian <[Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Ian.Thomas@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Wise, Rod  
<[Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Rod.Wise@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Thanks Tristan,  
She's just texted me the following 5 messages in less than 10 minutes  
J

<image003.png>

Sent from my iPhone

183.

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I'll pass this on and see if I can get any further information.

**Tristan Bell** (he, him, his)  
Assistant Director; Engagement, Communications and Policy  
Tasmania Prison Service | Department of Justice  
[03 6165 7399](tel:0361657399) | [0427 617 277](tel:0427617277) | [tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:tristan.bell@justice.tas.gov.au)  
[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

On 28 Aug 2023, at 6:09 pm, Communications  
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184.

Hi again,  
As you will see below, the reporter has come straight back to us on this one. I spoke to Tristan when the email came back just to double check there were no other lockdowns during the period, which he confirmed but noted that it was possible individuals may be locked down for disciplinary reasons.

I then spoke to Kat who was happy for me to call the reporter and note on background that sometimes an individual may be confined to their cell for behavioural reasons so I phoned Lucy and passed that on.

She said the offender told his mother that he and at least 4 other people around him in SRC were locked down from the Wednesday afternoon when a package came over the fence until the Monday. She has also just sent me a text to say she's spoken to the mother again and she is adamant the dates are correct, it was not an

individual thing with all or some of the SRC in lockdown and that the inmates were strip searched during that time. She also claims they are locked down today. There was also reference to being without power for a period but not sure if that is within this window or unrelated.

Lucy does seem to at least acknowledge that it is possible that the offender is not being entirely honest with his mother but asked if we can just confirm whether any of this occurred please?

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Jen

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**Sent:** Monday, 28 August 2023 5:15 PM  
**To:** Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

185.

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He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

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**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59:25 PM  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications  
<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

186.

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald



<[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm

**To:** Communications

<[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres  
Strait Islander peoples as the First  
Australians  
and Traditional Custodians of the lands  
where we live, learn and work.

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**From:** [Brown, Trudy \(DPaC\)](#)  
**To:** [Communications; Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\); Media](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:45:22 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)

---

Hi Jen,

Please see lines approved below. Please note highlighted changes.

- **Restrictions of this nature** are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period **where these measures are necessary** to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Thanks

Trudy

---

**From:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:54 AM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Importance:** High

Hi Kat,

I understand you have spoken with Tristan this morning who has provided some clarity about what happened here.

The TPS have provided the following updated response and background lines:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Are you ok for us to provide the lines and for me to call Lucy and explain that background - noting her 12 noon deadline please?

Thanks

Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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GPO Box 825 Hobart TAS 7001 | Level 1, 85 Collins Street, Hobart, TAS 7000

*Working hours – Monday 8.30-17.00, Tuesday 9.00-14.00, Wednesday 9.00-17.00, Thursday 9.00-14.00*

Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

190.

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Lee, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

191.

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards

Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

192.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

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These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Trudy \(DPaC\)](#); [Communications](#); [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#); [Media](#)  
**Cc:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:47:23 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

Thanks Trudy, I'll get this to Lucy now  
 Appreciate your help with this one  
 Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

**From:** Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:45 AM

**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Huigsloot, Katherine (DPaC) <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Jen,

Please see lines approved below. Please note highlighted changes.

- **Restrictions of this nature** are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period **where these measures are necessary** to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security



matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.

- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Thanks  
Trudy

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:54 AM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Importance:** High

195.

Hi Kat,  
I understand you have spoken with Tristan this morning who has provided some clarity about what happened here.

The TPS have provided the following updated response and background lines:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
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- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Are you ok for us to provide the lines and for me to call Lucy and explain that background - noting her 12 noon deadline please?

Thanks  
Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice  
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Email signature block Jan 23 new



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**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Lee, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

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Hi,

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My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

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#### **On background**

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Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

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In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
 Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

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his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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199.

**From:** [Lee, Jennifer](#)  
**To:** [Brown, Trudy \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:58:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image002.jpg](#)  
[image006.jpg](#)

---

With 8 minutes to spare in the end!

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



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---

**From:** Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:50 AM  
**To:** Lee, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

200.

Glad we could get there in the end.

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:47 AM  
**To:** Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Communications (DoJ) <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

201.

Thanks Trudy, I'll get this to Lucy now  
Appreciate your help with this one  
Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



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---

**From:** Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

202.

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:45 AM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Huigsloot, Katherine (DPaC) <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Jen,

Please see lines approved below. Please note highlighted changes.

- **Restrictions of this nature** are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period **where these measures are necessary** to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Thanks

Trudy

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

203.

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:54 AM

**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown



**Importance:** High

Hi Kat,

I understand you have spoken with Tristan this morning who has provided some clarity about what happened here.

The TPS have provided the following updated response and background lines:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Are you ok for us to provide the lines and for me to call Lucy and explain that background - noting her 12 noon deadline please?

Thanks

Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Lee, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>

204.

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

205.

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**



Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

206.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Bell, Tristan](#); [Thomas, Ian](#); [Wise, Rod](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:57:00 AM  
**Attachments:** [image001.jpg](#)  
[image004.jpg](#)

Just FYI – this is what was cleared and we got it to Lucy with 8 minutes to spare!

Thanks for your help on this one Tristan

Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

[www.justice.tas.gov.au](http://www.justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

**From:** Brown, Trudy <Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:45 AM

**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Huigsloot, Katherine (DPaC) <Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au>; Media <media@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Mignot, Amber (DPaC) <Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Jen,

Please see lines approved below. Please note highlighted changes.

- **Restrictions of this nature** are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period **where these measures are necessary** to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.

- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Thanks  
Trudy

---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 10:54 AM  
**To:** Huigsloot, Katherine <[Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Katherine.Huigsloot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Media <[media@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:media@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Cc:** Mignot, Amber <[Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Amber.Mignot@dpac.tas.gov.au)>; Brown, Trudy <[Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Trudy.Brown@dpac.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Importance:** High

209.

Hi Kat,  
I understand you have spoken with Tristan this morning who has provided some clarity about what happened here.

The TPS have provided the following updated response and background lines:

- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]

By way of background to the reporter, I'd suggest we speak with her and advise:

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

Are you ok for us to provide the lines and for me to call Lucy and explain that background - noting her 12 noon deadline please?

Thanks  
Jen

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)  
Director | Strategic Communications  
Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



In recognition of the deep history and culture of this Island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past and present custodians of the Land.

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>; Lee, Jennifer <[Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

210.

Hi,

Just following up on the below. The situation has progressed since my earlier enquiry.

Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:

Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
Lucy

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---

**From:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm  
**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

#### **On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
 Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm  
**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of

his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

---

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**From:** [Communications](#)  
**To:** [Lucy Macdonald](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Southern Remand Centre lockdown  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 11:48:00 AM

---

Hi Lucy,

Please see below an updated response from the Tasmania Prison Service on this one.

- Restrictions of this nature are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period where these measures are necessary to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

I'll give you a call with some background in a moment.

Thanks for your patience with this one

Jennifer

**Jennifer Lee** (she, her, hers)

Director | Strategic Communications

Department of Justice

0438 549 796 | [jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:jennifer.lee@justice.tas.gov.au)

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Email signature block Jan 23 new



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**From:** Lucy Macdonald <Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au>

**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 8:50 AM

**To:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Cc:** Communications <Communications@justice.tas.gov.au>; Lee, Jennifer <Jennifer.Lee@justice.tas.gov.au>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

Hi,

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Here's what I've had confirmed from two entirely separate sources:



Between the afternoon of the 19th July and morning of 24th July the Acacia and Bluegum units in the Southern Remand Centre were locked down due to operational reasons. This affected approximately 150 people.

My understanding is it all started from a package being thrown over the fence. I've also been told inmates were strip searched.

I'm unsure why the initial response from the department suggested there was only one full lockdown. Two people have kept records of the Acacia and Bluegum lockdowns. Perhaps it's a language or definition issue.

If the TPS still wants to deny the lockdowns occurred, we will need that on the record.

My deadline is 12pm today. We will be publishing the story then, with or without a response.

I can be reached on 0417 956 893.

Thanks,  
Lucy

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**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 4:59 pm

**To:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Cc:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Re: Southern Remand Centre lockdown

215.

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

**On background**

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards

Angela

---

**From:** Lucy Macdonald <[Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au](mailto:Macdonald.Lucy@abc.net.au)>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 12:55 pm

**To:** Communications <[Communications@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:Communications@justice.tas.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Southern Remand Centre lockdown

216.

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

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My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,

Lucy

ABC



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

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## Department of Justice

## Media Statement

**23/202**

Date	28 August 2023
Request received from	Lucy MacDonald ABC News
Response provided by	Angela Davies

**Issue – SRC Lockdowns**

Hello,

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23. Can you confirm this is the case? I understand it related to an unidentified package.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

How many people are in the Southern Remand Centre at the moment?

What is the reason for the ongoing lockdowns?

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

My deadline is end of day.

Thanks,  
Lucy



Lucy MacDonald  
Journalist  
ABC News | Hobart  
P: 0417 956 893

**Plus questions sent to Minister's Office:**

Hey James,

## Media Statement

I've spoken to the mother of a 19-year-old inmate at the Southern Remand Centre. She says her son and other remandees have been regularly locked down due to staffing shortages.

Last month, she claims, the entire centre was locked down for almost five full days. She said that was from Wed afternoon 19/7/23 until Monday 24/7/23.

Her son also told her that in the past four days he has only had one morning (three hours) out of his cell.

These people are on remand, and may not even be found guilty, shouldn't every effort be made to ensure they are not locked down?

The woman made a complaint to the ombudsman but was told that the office didn't have the power to accept the complaint because the complaint had to be from the aggrieved person. She argues her son and other inmates don't always feel comfortable to make complaints to authority figures and that family members should be able to make complaints. The Tasmanian Prison Service said something very similar. **Would the government consider amending the Ombudsman Act to allow family members to complain?**

### Response:

Hi Lucy

The following can be attributed to a Department of Justice spokesperson:

Restrictions of this nature are an essential operational tool, utilised to ensure a safe and secure correctional environment for inmates, staff and visitors.

In these instances, essential services and inmate supports, including personal visits, are still maintained where it is safe to do so.

The Government will not be amending the Ombudsman Act in the manner put forward.

### On background

Lockdowns occur for many reasons including managing inmate behaviour, security protocols and as a result of staffing shortages.

Each remandee in the new Southern Remand Centre has a phone in their room, so they are still able to have phone contact with family, lawyers and others during this time.

In addition to the roles of the Ombudsman and Custodial Inspector, the Tasmania Prison Service Performance and Compliance Unit investigate and respond to all community complaints.

In relation to the date range of the alleged lockdowns between 19/7 – 24/7 there was a full lockdown on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July, but there were no other lockdowns at all during this period.

Kind regards  
Angela

### Follow up Query:

## Media Statement

Hi Angela,

Thanks for the response. I just spoke to the mother again. She is adamant her son was in lockdown with other members of the Southern remand centre from 19/7 until 24/7.

He was calling her during that time.

Was it perhaps a partial lockdown of the Southern Remand Centre?

I just tried to give you a call. My number is 0417 956 893. Thanks

### **Follow up Response:**

Hi Lucy,

Please see below an updated response from the Tasmania Prison Service on this one.

- Restrictions of this nature are occasionally used as an essential operational tool to ensure a safe and secure custodial environment.
- In cases where contraband is suspected of being introduced into a custodial environment, it results in a period where these measures are necessary to allow searches of the grounds, rooms and inmates/remandees to ensure that all items are able to be recovered.
- These actions are not taken lightly, and the impacts are regrettable, but are taken to ensure the safety of staff and inmates/remandees.

I'll give you a call with some background in a moment.

Thanks for your patience with this one

Jennifer

### **Background provided via phone:**

- Lockdowns occurred due to contraband being introduced into the SRC, but due to security matters the TPS does not provide any detail about incidents of contraband in prisons.
- The SRC was in lockdown for approximately 5 days during the period in question.
- We apologise for the incorrect information that was provided last night, which was due to a TPS staff member referring to the incorrect document.

**From:** [Wise, Rod](#)  
**To:** [Mignot, Amber \(DPaC\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Huigsloot, Katherine \(DPaC\)](#); [Thomas, Ian](#); [Webster, Ginna](#)  
**Subject:** SRC Lockdowns  
**Date:** Tuesday, 29 August 2023 6:23:49 PM

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Amber –

With regard to the lockdowns at the Southern Remand Centre, this is what understand occurred:

- There was an incident on 19 July in which three men can be seen on CCTV throwing five packages over the wall of the SRC
- One package was dropped by a prisoner when challenged (he had been acting suspiciously) – alerting staff to the incident and the fact that there were unrecovered packages
- It was perhaps 15 minutes before the inmates were all locked away, by which time the contraband was potentially very well hidden
- Searches commenced soon thereafter. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Virtually all staff from the whole of the SRC were deployed into just one of the two units to do the searching
- [REDACTED] The staff used CCTV to track which prisoners may have passed items to other prisoners, but with little success
- Most inmates were confined to their cells for the five days, other than:
  - about 10 inmate workers who were involved in food distribution, laundry etc
  - all prisoners got to attend court as scheduled, either in person or via videolink
  - professional phone calls were facilitated
  - visits – both in person and via videolink – were facilitated
- Additionally, all meals and medication were distributed, and urgent medical attention was provided where necessary
- And, of course, the prisoners have phones in their cells so could maintain contact with family and friends.

The issue has raised a number of concerns, that the TPS is working its way through. These include:

- senior staff having a lack of visibility of the lockdowns
- some reporting issues – the lockdowns were reported in one area, but not another – leading to us initially provide some incorrect information to the ABC because we relied on the data source where they weren't recorded
- opportunities for problem solving, other options being explored etc – and which might have shortened the lockdowns - being missed.

The contraband was not recovered.

Since then, there has been a further incident of items being thrown over the wall – this was captured on CCTV, prisoners were quickly moved in from the yard, and the packages were retrieved before prisoners could access them.

Let me know if you need more – or clarification of any of the above.

Rod