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Shadow Minister for Police and Corrective Services, Shadow Minister for Fire and Emergency Services  
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## **Media Release – \$32,000 bed price tag an insult to victims**

An \$8 million spend in Queensland's prisons will provide beds for just 250 extra prisoners meaning each extra bed comes with a hefty price tag according to Shadow Minister for Police & Corrective Services, Dale Last MP.

When questioned about the bunk bed project by Mr Last, Queensland Corrective Services Commissioner, Paul Stewart, advised "the intention is to build a further 500"<sup>1</sup>.

"I am sure the average family would be disgusted to know that building a bed for a high security prisoner in Queensland costs more than purchasing a new car," Mr Last said. "Imagine how the victims of these offenders feel about this."

"When you install a bunk bed in a single-bed cell you really only add one bed, so the real addition of beds is 250 at the most. The fact that the 500 figure is an intention means it's quite likely we won't actually reach that target."

Mr Last said years of neglect by the state Labor government had resulted in Corrective Services staff paying an extremely high price.

"Quite simply, the government has not kept up with demand and the buck stops with Minister Ryan," he said. "The people paying the cost for Minister Ryan's failure are the brave men and women who work in our prisons."

"Assaults on staff are up almost 20% compared to last year and the main cause of this is overcrowding. Prisons are dangerous places and Minister Ryan's continual failings are making them more even more dangerous."

"Minister Ryan has failed victims of serious offenders and he's failed the staff of our prisons. For a Minister with key responsibility for law enforcement and safety to treat victims and prison staff with such contempt is an absolute disgrace."

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