



## ABORIGINAL ELDERS VISITING PROGRAM



The aim of the Aboriginal Elders Visiting Program (AEVP) within the Department for Correctional Services (DCS) is to increase the engagement of local Aboriginal Elders in the provision of social and cultural rehabilitative support to Aboriginal prisoners.

The establishment of the AEVP supports Recommendation 172 of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody (RCIADIC), ***that Aboriginal prisoners be entitled to receive periodic visits from representatives of Aboriginal organisations, including Aboriginal legal services.***

Elders are an important cultural link for Aboriginal prisoners and offenders, advising on cultural and community issues that may impact on an inmate's behaviour or ability to address their offending. The Elders are rostered on to visit the various prisons on a monthly basis.

The AEVP aims to maintain the prisoner's connection to community and advise offenders on the potential difficulties that they are likely to face upon their release from custody.

The program aims to maintain the prisoner's connection to family and advocate pro-social behaviour.

The AEVP is an initiative of the Aboriginal Services Unit within DCS.

**If you should have any queries or would like additional information on the AEVP contact the Aboriginal Services Unit on (08) 8226 4223.**