

# PROBLEM

PRISONER POPULATION GROWTH FROM 2006

**47.3%** NATIONAL AVERAGE  
**86.5%** SA AVERAGE

South Australia's prison population is the second highest growth rate in the nation.

COST OF PRISONER POPULATION GROWTH IN SA

**\$133.8M** 2006 **\$314M** 2016

Increase in prisoner population requires increases in funding. \$246.1M of 2016 budget spent in custodial costs.

REPEAT OFFENDERS IN SA

**73%**

Current prisoner population in prison previously.

# STRATEGY

*As recommended by independent panel.*

## SUCCESSFUL RETURN TO COMMUNITY

with individualised case management plans for all offenders from entry to the corrections system to six months post-release, where appropriate.

## EMPLOYMENT AND INDUSTRY

where partnerships are developed between DCS and the South Australian business sector to improve the employment outcomes for prisoners and offenders.

## PRIORITISING TARGET COHORTS

to ensure programs are targeted to groups to achieve the best results, which include women offenders, prisoners on short sentences, individuals on remand, and offenders in community corrections.

## STRATEGY FOR ABORIGINAL OFFENDERS

to ensure targeted and culturally appropriate services and programs. All of the Panel's recommendations must consider the specific and cultural needs of Aboriginal offenders when being implemented.

## DCS AGENCY AND STAFF RESPONSE

that allows for change within the current system to ensure that the target is supported by DCS' culture, resources, capabilities and structures.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

with other government agencies and public and private sector partners that ensure the successful delivery of services and programs.

# RESPONSE



**10 BY 20**

REDUCING REOFFENDING 10% BY 2020



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**10 BY 20**

REDUCING REOFFENDING 10% BY 2020



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Upon becoming Minister for Correctional Services in early 2016, three statistics stood out as key indicators of the substantial challenge facing our prison system.

The first, was the fact that the prison population is growing at 6.01% per year. The second, is that over 75% of our current prison population have been in prison at least once before. And finally, that the rate of reoffending is 46%.

Reoffending has substantial costs for our community. It means more crime, more victims and more expense to the taxpayer through costly court proceedings and incarceration. However, a reduction in reoffending means a safer community and frees up Government resources to invest in more productive community services, like schools and hospitals.

For these reasons, the rate of reoffending must be a key performance indicator of our criminal justice system. In August last year, the State Government set a bold target to reduce the rate of reoffending by 10% by 2020, and following a near-12 month review of the State's correctional system, we are now driving a fundamental shift in corrections policy.

This document is a blueprint for achieving the reoffending reduction target. The strategy has been informed by the work of the independent panel, Chaired by Mr Nyunggai Warren Mundine, and accepts all six themes and 36 recommendations put forward by the panel.

Almost over \$40 million, including \$28 million in new funding, is being invested in reducing the rate of reoffending by 10% by 2020 which underpins a whole-of-system change in offender management.

If the target is realised, SA will become a national leader. Our new approach is built upon factors that prevent reoffending – supportive accommodation, employment and community support.

The reality is that the majority of people in prison will be released, which means that successful transition from prison back into the community is paramount.

While the Government will ensure that dangerous criminals that need to be locked up will be, focusing on rehabilitation will result in less crimes being committed, fewer victims and the saving of taxpayer dollars.

This fundamental policy shift will not only mean fewer victims of crime but will also provide real opportunity for offenders to turn their lives around.

The Department for Correctional Services and I will now work swiftly to implement this strategy and realise our target.

Hon Peter Malinauskas MLC  
Minister for Correctional Services



## NEW FOUNDATIONS

will support offenders who are at risk of exiting prison into homelessness, to obtain suitable housing. The program will include targeted supports and services to ensure offender reintegrate well to community life.

NEW FUNDING **\$18.9M**

OVER FOUR YEARS 2017/18 BUDGET



## WORK READY, RELEASE READY

will provide job readiness training and post-release employment support to ensure more prisoners are 'work ready' on release. Offenders will be provided with relevant education and training and those requiring additional assistance post-release will be linked to a job network provider.

NEW FUNDING **\$9.203M**

OVER FOUR YEARS 2017/18 BUDGET



## TAILORED REHABILITATION FOR ABORIGINAL OFFENDERS

will be particularly focussed on the needs of Aboriginal offenders from remote communities. The program aims to address the disproportionately high rates of Aboriginal incarceration and reoffending.

CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT



## REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

will be expanded and include a focus on family violence, sex offending, violent offenders and drug and alcohol dependency.

APPROVED FUNDING **\$10.035M**

UNDERWAY - EXTENDED TO 2020/21



## LEGISLATIVE AMENDMENTS

will support a reduction in reoffending through a greater emphasis on individual case management, access to rehabilitation and vocational training for people on remand, and enhancements to prison security.

TO BE INTRODUCED

“ South Australia's prison population has had a decade of sustained growth. If we can reduce the rate of reoffending in South Australia, we will create a safer community with fewer victims and less crime. ”

**It's time to take a smarter path and stop the revolving door of our prisons.**

Hon Peter Malinauskas MLC  
Minister for Correctional Services