



Minister's Message

I am proud to build on the legacy of my predecessor, and now Premier of South Australia, The Hon Peter Malinauskas MP, to further

reduce South Australia's reoffending rate.

In 2016, the State Government embarked on a bold initiative to reduce the rate of reoffending 10% by 2020. Followed by a review of the State's correctional system by an independent panel, the State has been driving a fundamental shift in corrections policy that continues to this day.

As Minister for Correctional Services, I have had the opportunity to immerse myself in the amazing work the Department and its partners have undertaken with initiatives to reduce reoffending 10% by 2020.

I want to congratulate everyone involved in the initiatives that have been put in place to reduce reoffending. Through the efforts of DCS staff and our community partners, South Australia now has the lowest rate of reoffending in the nation at 39.3%*.

While the achievements to date are commendable, I believe there is more we can do. This government and DCS are committed to reducing the rate of reoffending even further, and I am excited to announce a new strategy that aims to further reduce reoffending 20% by 2026.

By building on our successes, and working together, I am confident we can achieve this new target and help make the community a safer place in which we all can live.

The Hon Joe Szakacs MP
Minister for Police, Emergency Services and Correctional Services



Chief Executive's Message

I am pleased to say that the 10by20 target to reduce reoffending 10% by 2020, which

was originally committed to in 2016, has not only been achieved, but exceeded.

This is a great credit to every staff member of the Department for Correctional Services and to our valued partners too, who have worked tirelessly since the target was introduced.

Together, we have helped to build a safer community by providing opportunities for people to turn their life around through best practice rehabilitation programs and reintegration.

This document provides a snapshot of the key initiatives that have proven effective to achieve the 10by20 target and outlines our strategic focus going forward.

A significant aspect of the success of 10by20 has been the investment in rehabilitation programs proven to achieve results at scale. Crucial to the strategy has been utilising evidence-based programs to ensure best practice, and to monitor continuous quality and improvement by conducting formal evaluations.

I look forward to working with you to help drive down recidivism even further.

David Brown
Chief Executive, Department for Correctional Services



20BY26

REDUCING REOFFENDING 20% BY 2026

The final measure is scheduled to be published by the Productivity Commission in January 2029.



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WHAT WE'VE ACHIEVED SO FAR

In 2016, **46%** of all sentenced prisoners returned to South Australia's correctional services within two years of release. While the National prisoner population had grown by **47.3%**, South Australia's prisoner population had grown **86.5%** between 2006 and 2016 – the second highest prisoner growth rate in the nation. Something had to be done.

In response to this emerging crisis, the South Australian Government launched *Reducing Reoffending: 10% by 2020*, with a bold vision for South Australia to lead the nation in rehabilitation for people in prison.

LEADING THE NATION:

South Australia has the lowest recidivism rate in the nation.

53.1%
NATIONAL
RECIDIVISM
AVERAGE

39.3%
SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S
RECIDIVISM RATE

15%
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN
REDUCTION IN RECIDIVISM
AGAINST THE BASELINE

EXCEEDS
THE
10BY20
TARGET*

* Based on RoGS recidivism measure of returns to corrective services within two years of discharge from prison – measured as at 30 June 2022.

Through 10by20 the SA Government has invested in:

- Programs that achieve results at scale
- Evidence based programs with formal evaluations
- Expanding on what works – targeting prisoners who are at risk of reoffending but motivated to change

10% BY 2020: HOW DID WE ACHIEVE THIS?

HOME DETENTION INTEGRATED SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM (HISSP)

- Expanded and enhanced community-based sentencing options for Electronic Monitoring and Intensive Support Services for people on Home Detention.

WORK READY, RELEASE READY (WRRR) PROGRAM

- Linking people to a job before release from custody, and provides intensive community support for 12 months post-release to maintain employment.

CLOSING THE GAP

- Lemongrass Place pilot supporting Aboriginal men to transition from custody to Country.
- Road to Redemption – specialist employment training for Aboriginal people in community.
- Nation-leading rehabilitation programs for Aboriginal people:
 - Violence Prevention Program – Aboriginal Men.
 - Our Way My Choice.
 - Aboriginal Men's Family Violence Program.
- Aboriginal Strategic Framework:
 - Delivering Programs responsive to the unique cultural and gendered needs of Aboriginal people.
 - Building a culturally competent and responsive workforce.
 - Increasing Aboriginal economic participation and strengthening partnerships.
 - Culturally responsive drug and alcohol programs.

QUALITY CASE MANAGEMENT

- Multi-disciplinary teams delivering best practice services across custody and community.

REHABILITATION PROGRAMS

- Doubled our effort to deliver intensive offence-focused programs.

WOMEN'S ACTION PLAN

- Gender, culture and relationships matter. Environments and services are informed by best practice and responsive to the reality of women's lives and needs.

PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK 2021-2025

- Established a whole-of-Department approach for engaging with our partners and stakeholders.

REDUCING REOFFENDING 20% BY 2026

Building on the successes of 10by20 and the National Agreement on Closing the Gap to reduce the rate of Aboriginal adults incarcerated, the SA Government is committing to a new target of reducing reoffending 20% by 2026. **There is more to be done.**

