

JUSTICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES

This budget demonstrates a promising commitment to diverting people from prison, with \$42.9M in prison diversion invested over 4 years, \$10 M this year. However, when we compare it to the prison expansion budget of \$187.4M over the next four years, with \$110M this year alone, we see a government that is still yet to truly commit to a broader justice reinvestment approach. The vast majority of funds are again being invested in the wrong end of the system, and there is no real significant support for early intervention & prevention in the justice system. A smart justice approach focuses on building healthier families, and creating safe communities before vulnerable individuals end up in the justice system.

There was some positive investment into prevention, mainly in the AOD and FDV spaces. In terms of youth diversion, mainly there was funding for PCYCs, and with a focus on the Kimberley. However, considering the appalling overrepresentation of Aboriginal youth in our justice system, there needs to be significant investment in ACCOs and community co-designed place-based solutions if we really want effective reductions in incarceration.

There was strong emphasis on working towards reducing Aboriginal overrepresentation in custody, however there were few tangible spends in the justice area specifically designed for or to be run by Aboriginal people, namely, introduction of an Aboriginal Affairs Unit in Police, the Kimberley Juvenile Justice Strategy Co-Design, and ongoing funds for Aboriginal Community Connectors (formerly patrols).

Notably, the Budget claimed Target 120 had commenced service delivery in five locations in 2018-19 and a further three are scheduled for implementation in 2019-20. In early April, the Hon Sue Ellery stated in response to a question that only 2 sites were operational (Armadale and Bunbury). Collaboration began in Mirrabooka, but is yet to deliver services to young people. We are unable to determine the other sites where service delivery is occurring. Additionally, the Justice Pipeline Model is only mentioned in Treasury Papers. Allocation for services for both JPM and T120 has been moved into future budgets.

INVESTMENT IN PRISON EXPANSION/ BUILDING NEW PRISONS

- \$186M for Casuarina Prison expansion - 344 additional beds, upgrade services and support facilities
- \$1.4M site selection and planning for new regional prison in Broome
- Greenough Regional Prison Female Unit Upgrade - The Government will invest \$12.3 million over 2019-20 to 2021-22 to fortify & enhance the female precinct for women prisoners' safety and wellbeing

INVESTMENT AND CORRESPONDING LEGISLATIVE REFORM TO DIVERT PEOPLE FROM PRISON

- \$1.04M for Bail Support Program (additional \$800K to Legal Aid to run this year), and \$6.6M over 4 years
- \$430K for Fines Diversion Trial, \$7.8M over four years

- \$4.7M for improved access to rehabilitation programs for offenders, \$28.5M in total over 4 years
- \$3M this year for electronic monitoring expansion, \$46.7M over four years (which *may* divert some people)
- Legislative reforms to bail legislation, amendments to fines enforcement legislation, and the provision of funding towards the operation of a Custody Notification Service
- Criminal Law (Mental Impairment) Bill to include community-based options, limitation periods for custody orders, and empower Mentally Impaired Accused Review Board to make decisions about leave and release

YOUTH JUSTICE

- \$900K for Co-Design of Kimberley Youth Justice Strategy with Aboriginal people over 3 years
- \$1.3M to support the West Kimberley Youth and Resilience Hub Project
- \$7M for PCYCs to develop sustainability mode, \$3M for Kununurra and Carnarvon PCYCs
- T120: Stated 5 sites continuing service delivery, and 3 to begin next year - No budget lines

INVESTMENTS IN PREVENTION

- \$4.8M for Enhanced Drivers Education and Training program (Remote and Regional)
- \$6.5M to continue Aboriginal Community Connector Programs in 14 communities (formerly called Aboriginal Community Patrols), but only 1 year of funding in Budget
- Community Crime Prevention Partnership Fund continues, with \$1.25M/ year allocated
- Aboriginal Job Creation: \$3.6M to support Aboriginal Tourism, \$900K to train Aboriginal Workers Strong Spirit Strong Mind Program
- Increasing Remote Housing: North West Aboriginal housing fund (linked to employment outcomes), building 50 new houses in Kimberley, 40 in South Hedland, as transitional housing for Aboriginal families
- Investments in FDV: \$49M on FDV programs, creation of two new One Stop FDV Support Hubs in Mirrabooka and Kalgoorlie, \$11M for Kimberley Family Violence Service
- Investments in AOD: \$42.5M for Methamphetamine Action Plan initiatives aimed at reducing illicit drug use and related harm in the community, \$20.1M for North West Drug and Alcohol Support Program, \$9.2M for AOD youth service in Kimberley, creation 10 bed crisis centre in Midland, Wandoo/Casuarina rehabs
- Investments in Mental Health: \$1.05M to continue Mental Health Court Diversion Program, Review of Suicide Strategy and \$8.1M to continue current, and \$15.6M for acute 20 beds in Fremantle Hospital