



STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MARISA PATERSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JO CLAY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Peter Cain MLA:

Ref: JACSD Annual Report 2019-20, Policy Advice and Justice Programs, output class 1.1

In relation to: 'Reducing Recidivism By 25% by 2025' initiative

1. Page 29 of the JACSD annual report states that \$132m has been invested in the "Reducing Recidivism By 25% by 2025" initiative. What method is used to determine the amount of funding received by each of the programs that fall under this initiative?
 - a. What KPIs or outcomes are of consideration when making funding decisions for each program?
 - b. What effect are the programs having on the root causes of recidivism per the government's plan?
 - c. What adjustments will the government make to funding allocations to improve the effectiveness of individual programs under the initiative?

Shane Rattenbury MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

- 1) Leading up to the launch of the RR25by25 Plan, JACS engaged with the community, academics and across the ACT Government to develop a Justice Reinvestment approach focused on improving criminal justice outcomes by reducing crime and reoffending, and by diverting offenders and those at risk of becoming offenders from the criminal justice system. The programs under RR25by25 are all guided by this approach and receive funding under and in line with ordinary Government budget processes.
- 1a) Tailored performance indicators / deliverables are built into individual contractual agreements. However, the deliverables under each contract align with one or more of the seven pillars of the RR25by25 Plan:
 1. Reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody
 2. Responding to justice housing needs
 3. Supporting people with substance use disorders in the justice system
 4. Supporting people living with a mental illness or disability in the justice system
 5. Supporting detainee reintegration
 6. Developing community capacity



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 77

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7. Responding to women in the justice system.

In turn, these pillars align with the 'root causes' of our current rate of recidivism.

- 1b) The ACT Government has entered into a Reducing Recidivism Research Collaboration Agreement (Research Collaboration) with the Australian National University's Centre for Social Research and Methods. The Research Collaboration is currently working to finalise an Evaluation Framework, to guide the future commissioning, preparation, and evaluation of individual RR25by25 initiatives.

As indicated in the RR25by25 Plan, the overarching 25% reduction in recidivism rate by 2025 will be measured by the Report on Government Services (RoGS) rate at which adult detainees return to custody within two years. The Research Collaboration may propose additional measures of relevance and value.

- 1c) The Research Collaboration will provide the ACT Government with a framework to refine and improve the suite of programs to which funding is allocated. The ACT Government will also draw on the feedback and insights of stakeholders and oversight bodies including the Reducing Recidivism Executive Coordination Group, the Reducing Recidivism Implementation Group and Reducing Recidivism Advisory Group.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Signature:

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to be 'Shane Rattenbury', written over a blue circular stamp.

Date:

15/3/21

By the Attorney-General, Shane Rattenbury MLA