



Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander
Legal Service (Qld) Ltd

1. What is the Prisoner Throughcare Program about?

The aim of our Prisoner Throughcare Program is to support prisoners and youth detainees (before and after release) to address their offending behaviour and reduce the prospects of them returning to prison or detention after release. Our goal is to help our clients turn their lives around and in so doing, make for safer communities.

In 2016 the program expanded to include a number of new positions focussed on family and domestic violence prevention. These new positions were introduced to specifically target male perpetrators of domestic violence.

PRISONER THROUGH CARE PROGRAM

Safer Communities Prisoner Support

www.atsils.org.au

2. How will this goal be achieved?

Our Prisoner Throughcare Officers focus upon assisting a number of targeted clients (who are considered to be a high risk of reoffending) through intensive case-management. Our officers work closely with their clients and where available, collaborate with Correctional Facility or Youth Detention Centre staff, other stakeholders, clients' families and community members.

For those starting the Program: during your period in custody we will talk with you about your future plans. You might also be referred to other agencies – as assisting you might require a 'team' effort. We will also ask you for your views as to what you think will most assist you in terms of addressing your offending behaviour.

Our Prisoner Throughcare Officer will continue to provide assistance to you after your release. This might include introductions and/or referrals to other agencies.

3. Is the Program voluntary?

Yes – it is a matter for each prisoner who is offered a place in the Throughcare Program as to whether or not they want to participate. Further, any client can withdraw part-way through the Program if they decide to do so. You will need to complete a Client Assessment Form to qualify – so please speak to your local Throughcare Officer if you are interested (please see contact details over the page).

4. Is the Program available to all prisoners or youth detainees?

No – due to limited resources and the targeted nature of the Program – only a limited number of prisoners or youth detainees can participate in the Program. Further, the Program is only open to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander prisoners/detainees; who are assessed as being in a higher re-offending category; and only at certain correctional and detention Institutions. We would also want to be assured that you were committed to turning your life around. Unfortunately, some who satisfy all of these requirements might still not qualify for the Program due to limited resources.

5. How long would the Program go for if I am accepted?

The length of each client's case-managed Program will vary depending upon individual client needs. The average Program is likely to run for approximately 6 months in total (both before and after release). Some will run longer, some shorter.

6. If I'm not in the Program – can I still get help from the ATSILS' Prisoner Throughcare Officer?

Possibly – depending upon the subject matter and provided the assistance relates to a quick or simple request. The thing to do would be to ask and find out. Please do not take offence if a particular request for help is refused. Our Throughcare Officers need to spend most of their time on case-managed clients if the Program is to be a success.

7. Is the ATSILS case-management Throughcare Program part of the Correctional Institution's or Detention Centre's case-management plan?

No – any ATSILS' case-management is separate from anything the Institution or Centre might be running. This Program is between us and our clients. However, we will also do our best to ensure that our Program compliments any Program or Plan run by the Institution or Centre itself. We always adopt a cooperative approach with the Centre or Institution – the goal is to assist our clients and communities by addressing offending behaviour. Because of this, we would expect a cooperative approach from the correctional or detention systems in return. The same would apply to "Probation" Officers or Youth Justice or Child Safety Officers after your release.

8. Which Institutions or Centres have an ATSILS' Prisoner Throughcare Officer assigned to them?

- Borallon Correctional Centre
- Brisbane Correctional Centre
- Brisbane Youth Detention Centre
- Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre
- Capricornia Correctional Centre - Rockhampton
- Cleveland Youth Detention Centre - Townsville
- Lotus Glen Correctional Centre – Mareeba
- Maryborough Correctional Centre - Maryborough
- SEQ Correctional Centre - Gatton
- Townsville Correctional Centre
- Townsville Women's Correctional centre
- Wacol Precinct
- Wolston Correctional



9. How do I contact my nearest Prisoner Throughcare Officer?

Prisoner Throughcare Officer's Name:

Office Location:

Phone Number: (07)



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PRISONER THROUGH CARE

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