

FACT SHEET

Prisoner Throughcare Program

Please Note: *If you require help reading this Fact Sheet – please speak to one of our Throughcare staff – or where available – one of the Indigenous Liaison Officers.*

What is ATSILS' Prisoner Throughcare Program all about

The goal of the Throughcare Program is to support prisoners and youth detainees (both before and after release from prison/detention) in addressing their offending behaviour – and therefore reduce the prospects of them returning to prison/detention after their release. The goal is to assist both our clients as well as our communities (through reduced re-offending).

How will this goal be achieved

The focus will be upon our Prisoner Throughcare Officers assisting a number of targeted clients who are considered to be a high risk of reoffending through intensive case-management – working collaboratively where appropriate (and possible) with Correctional Facility or Youth Detention Centre staff; other stakeholders; client family and community members – as well as with the clients themselves.

For those on the Program: during your period in custody we will talk with you about your future plans. You might also be referred to other agencies while still in custody or upon your release. You can assist by telling us what help you feel you will require on your release to help address offending behaviour.

When you are released, our Throughcare Officer will continue to provide assistance. This might involve introductions and or referrals to other agencies.

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).

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 be 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. Unfortunately, some who satisfy all of these requirements might still not qualify for the Program due to limited resources.

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 approx. 6 months in total per client (both before and after release). Some will run longer, some shorter.

If I'm not in the Program – can I still get help from the ATSILS' 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 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 their case-managed clients if the Program is to be a success.

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/Centre might be running. Our Program is between us and our client. However, we will also do our best to ensure that our Program compliments any Program or Plan run by the Institution/Centre itself. We will adopt a cooperative approach with the Centre/Institution – the goal is to assist our clients (and our communities) by addressing offending behaviour. Because of this, we would expect a cooperative approach from the correctional/detention systems in return. The same would apply to "Probation" Officers or Youth Justice or Child Safety Officers after your release.

Which Institutions/Centres have an ATSILS' Throughcare Officer assigned to them

- Gatton Correctional Centre
- Wolston Correctional Centre
- Wacol Precinct (DP(SO)A)
- Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre
- Brisbane Youth Detention Centre
- Cleveland Youth Detention Centre – Townsville
- Townsville Women's Correctional Centre
- Townsville Correctional Centre (17 – 18 year olds only)
- Lotus Glen Correctional Centre - Mareeba

How do I contact my nearest Throughcare Officer?

Throughcare Officer's Name: _____

Office Location: _____

Phone Number: _____

We also acknowledge with appreciation funding from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department which supports this Program.

This Factsheet is not intended to provide legal advice and has been provided for the purpose of providing information only. Whilst all reasonable care has been taken in the preparation of this information, no liability is assumed for any errors or omissions.

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