ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

Open Access release outcome decision – Full access granted

Document Category: Ministerial Briefs

Title of document: Minister for Corrections – Quarter 1 2021 briefs

Description of the information: Question Time Briefs provided to the Minister for Corrections between 1 January and 31 March 2021.

The original record of this document did not contain information, the release of which would be contrary to the public interest. As such, the information contained in this document has been released in full for the reasons outlined below.

Grounds for decision to release

As per the public interest test set out in section 17 of the FOI Act, I have assessed the information contained in the ministerial briefs as being suitable for full release.

I have included below the relevant factors considered in making this decision.

2.1 Factors favouring disclosure in the public interest

(a) Disclosure of the information could reasonably be expected to do any of the following:

(i) promote open discussion of public affairs and enhance the government's accountability;

(ii) contribute to positive and informed debate on important issues or matters of public interest;

(iv) ensure effective oversight of expenditure of public funds;

(viii) reveal the reason for a government decision and any background or contextual information that informed the decision.

I consider that the release of the ministerial briefs may be expected to help inform ongoing discussions and debate on matters of continued public importance. The disclosure of this information also helps to promote government accountability and transparency.

Review rights

My decision to release or withhold open access information is a reviewable decision as identified in Schedule 3 of the FOI Act. You can seek an Ombudsman review of this outcome under section 73 of the Act within 20 working days from the day that my decision is published on the Justice and Community Safety Directorate website, or a longer period allowed by the Ombudsman.

If you wish to request a review of my decision, you may write to the ACT Ombudsman at:

ACT Ombudsman
Attention: ACT Strategy and FOI Section
GPO Box 442
CANBERRA ACT 2601
Via email: actfoi@ombudsman.gov.au

Further assistance

If you have any queries regarding this Open Access release, please contact JACSFOI@act.gov.au or phone (02) 6207 2167.

Authorised by

L. Callow

Lauren Callow
Information Officer
9 April 2026

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

OPEN ACCESS Q1 2021 SCHEDULE
PORTFOLIO: MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS

No.	Folio	Description	Date	Status	Reason for non-release or deferral
Question Time Briefs - Sitting Days 9-11 February 2021					
1	1-2	Question Time Briefs Index - 9-11 February 2021	February		
2	3-5	Half Yearly Statement of Performance	February		
3	6-7	Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee	February		
4	8-9	Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC	February		
5	10	Blueprint for Change	February		
6	11-13	Female Detainees at the AMC	February		
7	14-16	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Incarceration Rates	February		
8	17-18	Building Communities Not Prisons Programs	February		
9	19-22	10 November Incident	February		
10	23-28	AMC Operations	February		
11	29-32	Detainee Numbers and Accommodation Pressures	February		
12	33-34	ACTCS Policies	February		
13	35-36	Implementation of Healthy Prisons Report Recommendations	February		
14	37-39	Court Transport Unit Report Progress	February		
15	40-41	AMC Health Services	February		
16	42-43	Official Visitor Reports	February		
17	44-48	Inspector	February		
18	49-51	Justice Housing	February		
19	52-54	ROGS Release	February		
20	55-62	COVID-19 at the AMC	February		
21	63-67	ACTCS Reform	February		
22	68-70	Reintegration Centre	February		
23	71-72	AMC Transfers	February		
24	73-75	ACTCS Key Data	February		
25	76-79	ACTCS Staff Support and Wellbeing Initiatives	February		
2020-21 Budget Day - Sitting Day 9 February 2021					
26	80	Budget Day Index - 9 February 2021	February		
27	81-93	2020-21 Budget Summary (including summary of JACS Initiatives)	February		
28	94-95	2020-21 Budget Initiatives Summary - MFC	February		
29	96	Contraband detection and intelligence solution	February		
30	97	Better support when it matters - Integrating the Winnunga Model of Care and Enhancing Health Services in the Alexander Maconochie Centre	February		
31	98	AMC Reintegration Centre - Soil rectification contingency	February		
32	99-103	Rollovers - MFC	February		
33	104	2020-21 Budget Staffing FTE by Ministerial Portfolio – MFC	February		
34	105-116	2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Controlled	February		
35	117-123	2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Territorial	February		
36	124-125	2020-21 Strategic and Accountability Indicators - Output 2 - Corrective Services	February		

No.	Folio	Description	Date	Status	Reason for non-release or deferral
Question Time Briefs - Sitting Days 30-31 March 2021					
37	126-127	Question Time Briefs Index - 30-31 March 2021	March		
38	128-130	Half Yearly Statement of Performance	March		
39	131-132	Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee	March		
40	133-135	Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC	March		
41	136	Blueprint for Change	March		
42	137	ACTCS Commissioner position	March		
43	138-139	Female Detainees at the AMC	March		
44	140-141	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Incarceration Rates	March		
45	142-143	Building Communities Not Prisons Programs	March		
46	144-147	10 November Incident (inc ICS Report into the incident)	March		
47	148-152	AMC Operations	March		
48	153-155	Detainee Numbers and Accommodation Pressures	March		
49	156-157	ACTCS Policies	March		
50	158-159	Implementation of Healthy Prisons Report Recommendations	March		
51	160-162	Court Transport Unit Report Progress	March		
52	163-164	AMC Health Services	March		
53	165-166	Official Visitor Reports	March		
54	167-171	Inspector	March		
55	172-174	Justice Housing	March		
56	175-177	ROGS Release	March		
57	178-181	COVID-19 at the AMC	March		
58	182-184	ACTCS Reform	March		
59	185-188	Reintegration Centre	March		
60	189-190	AMC Transfers	March		
61	191-193	ACTCS Key Data	March		
62	194-196	ACTCS Staff Support and Wellbeing Initiatives	March		

MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS

QUESTION TIME BRIEFS

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1.	Half Yearly Statement of Performance
2.	Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee
3.	Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC
4.	Blueprint for Change
5.	Female Detainees at the AMC
6.	ATSI Incarceration Rates
7.	Building Communities Not Prisons Programs
8.	10 November Incident
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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-051

Portfolio/s: Police and Emergency Services
Corrections

Half Yearly Statement of Performance

Accountability Indicators

Output 4.1: Emergency Services

Table 23: Accountability Indicators Output 4.1

	2020-21 Targets	2020-21 YTD Targets	2020-21 YTD Result	Variance (%)
Prevention and Preparedness				
a. Desktop audit of ACT Government Directorate Bushfire Operational Plans activities [a]	n/a	n/a	n/a	
b. Field assessment of Access Management Upgrades and Hazard Reduction burns conducted in accordance with Bushfire Operational Plans of ACT Government Directorates [1]	100%	100%	n/a	
c. Percentage of ESA staff who have completed accredited training in AIIMS [b]	70%	70%	76%	9
Response and Recovery				
d. Structure Fire incidents responded to within target [c]	90%	90%	93%	3
e. Road Rescue incidents responded to within target [d]	90%	90%	93%	3
f. Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 50th percentile (minutes) [e]	8	8	8.75	9
g. Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 90th percentile (minutes) [e]	15	15	14.26	(5)
h. Percentage of Patient Transport Service 'fixed booking' attended by booked time[2];	65%	65%	75%	15
i. Total cost per head of population [f]	$394.86	$390.06	$391.39	(1)
Total Cost ($'000)	173,994	88,135	84,364	(4)
Controlled Recurrent Payments ($'000)	146,193	72,354	72,354	-

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators:

a. This indicator is discontinued in 2020-21 as it is not reflective of the actual performance of the Rural Fire Services (RFS) but rather performing audits of ACT Government directorates' commitments under the Bushfire Operational Plans.

b. AIIMS – Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System. This accountability indicator captures training provided to Emergency Services Agency (ESA) staff only on the AIIMS system.

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TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-051	

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c. Target refers to the response to structure fires within 10 minutes.
d. Target refers to the response to road rescues within 13 minutes.
e. Priority 1 records that are incomplete due to operator or system errors, or where incidents are outside the ACT, or where the priority rating has been changed, are excluded.
f. The 2020-21 original target is based on an estimated population of 440,643 estimated according to the most recent population projections for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) by ACT Treasury (ACT Population Projects 2018-2058: Table 1 - Summary, 2017-2058).

Note(s):

1. ACT Rural Fire Service (RFS) have not been notified of any access management upgrades or hazard reduction burns completed in accordance with an approved Bushfire Operational Plans in the first half of 2020-21 financial year. Therefore, no field assessments have been conducted and the result of this indicator is Not Applicable.
2. The higher than target outcome is a result of improved booking procedures, with a focus on avoiding conflicts in booking time.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Accountability Indicator

Output 2.1: Corrective Services

Table 21: Accountability Indicators Output 2.1

	2020-21 Targets	2020-21 YTD Targets	2020-21 YTD Result	Variance (%)
a. Completion rates of Community Corrections Orders:				
- The proportion of Community Corrections supervision orders successfully completed within the counting period	68%	68%	73%	7
- The proportion of Community Corrections reparation orders successfully completed within the counting period [1]	60%	60%	38%	(37)
b. Average cost per detainee per day for all detainees [a]	$354	$354	$359	1
c. Average cost per day for community based offenders [2]	$39	$39	$44	13
Total Cost ($'000) [3]	92,831	49,928	45,164	(10)
Controlled Recurrent Payments ($'000)	84,377	44,312	44,312	-

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators:

a. The 2020-21 target for this indicator was revised up from $310 to $354. The increase to this target reflects the projected population for 2020-21; the actual results for the first two quarters and the projected result for the last two quarters of 2020-21.

Note(s):

1. Reduced successful completion of Community Services Work orders (reparation orders) during this period reflects an increase of offenders who have not completed their community service hours within the court ordered period.
2. The average daily cost per offender has increased due to a decrease in offender numbers in the same period from 1278 in 2019-20 to 1073 in 2020-21.
3. There have been delays in the full implementation of the Justice Housing Program and general repairs and maintenance orders.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-047

Portfolio/s: Corrections

Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee

Talking points:

- The alleged incident of 11 January 2021 will be investigated by the ACT Human Rights Commission (HRC), which operates with independence from Government.
- I will await the outcome of the investigation and any findings that may arise.
- The allegations made by the female Indigenous detainee relating to the manner in which the strip search took place have been reviewed by ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) and can not be substantiated.

Key Information

- On 11 January 2021, an Indigenous Liasion Officer (ILO) attended the SCC accommodation unit to advise the detainee that her Detainee Leave Application had been denied due to the difficulty of arranging with short notice, the distance and staffing concerns.
- The detainee became agitated and threatened self-harm, and was subsequently deemed "At Risk". In accordance with the *Management of At-Risk Detainees Policy 2019* (the Policy), the detainee was assessed by Forensic Mental Health Services and was relocated to the Crisis Support Unit (CSU) on S2x15 observations.
- As outlined in the Policy, all detainees are required to be searched on arrival to the CSU. The detainee refused to participate in a mandatory search.
- A Custodial Officer Grade 2 (CO2) observed the detainee with her hands in her crotch area and was of the belief that the detainee may be attempting to secrete a razor or another item that could be used to self harm.
- Prior to the planned Use of Force occurring, the Operations Area Manager contacted Justice Health Services to provide notification and to confirm that the use of force could safely proceed in recognition of the health status of the detainee.
- Four female officers wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) conducted a Use of Force to enable a strip search in line with the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.
- At one stage the detainee stated she could not breathe and a 'Code Pink' was called in order to have medical staff attend the area to assess the detainee.

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Cleared for public release by:	Deputy Director-General	Ext: 50567
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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- Handcuffs were ultimately applied and the detainee became compliant. The detainee was moved to the bathroom where a compliant strip search was conducted by two (2) female officers with no other person present.
- The detainee was assessed by health staff and transported to the Canberra Hospital for further assessment, however was not admitted. The detainee returned to the AMC on 12 January 2021.
- During the incident, staff involved received various scratches, minor lacerations and bruising, with one staff member being bitten. The alleged assault on the custodial officer has been referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP). On 12 January 2021, welfare checks were conducted on staff involved in the incident.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

MIN:2020/000088-041

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC

Talking points:

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) take any allegations of racism at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) seriously and are committed to investigating and addressing any allegations of racism.
- In 2020, ACTCS settled a complaint that alleged one incident of racism in 2018. Since then, there have been no further substantiated allegations of racism at the AMC. There is no evidence to support that there is systemic racism at the AMC.
- ACTCS Corrections Officers participate in the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness* training which focuses on Indigenous history and the impact it has on contemporary indigenous issues. It also highlights how everyday interactions are affected by history and identifies issues or barriers that exist in working with Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander colleagues and communities.
- Racism is addressed as part of the *Respect, Equity and Diversity (RED) Training* and *the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness* training. The *RED Training* addresses racism in the working environment.

Key Information

Custodial Recruit Training program

- ACT Corrections Officers participate in the Custodial Recruit Training program, and a Certificate III Correctional Practice and Certificate IV Correctional Practice are also offered, which include the following components relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness and understanding.
- **Custodial Recruit Training**
    - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness
    - Indigenous Liaison Officer and Royal Commission into Aboriginal Death in Custody session
    - Diversity
    - Respect Equity Diversity (RED) Training.
- **Certificate III Correctional Practice**
    - Work effectively with diversity
    - Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders
    - Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders.

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TRIM Ref:	2020/000088-041	

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- **Certificate IV Correctional Practice**
    - Work effectively with culturally diverse offenders and colleagues.

Initiatives

- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services Committee was established to oversee the delivery of initiatives in ACTCS arising from the Justice and Community Safety Directorate Reconciliation Action Plan. It has membership from across ACTCS and is chaired by the Commissioner, ACTCS. The Committee is a relatively new initiative focused on enhancing services for detainees, overseeing commitments such as the Reconciliation Action Plan and ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028, and also the work of the Indigenous Staff Network.
- The Cultural Engagement Officer works with staff across ACTCS Community Operations to ensure culturally appropriate engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and stakeholders.
- In the Healthy Prison Review, the Inspector of Correctional Services commended the commitment and dedication of the ACTCS Indigenous Services Team, which are responsible for maintaining the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cohort of detainees through cultural support, welfare requests and Indigenous-specific programs.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees are allocated an Indigenous Liaison Officer within five business days of admission.
- A holistic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander model of care and health service was introduced into the AMC. Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Service (Winnunga) delivers this service to assist in maintaining and improving the overall health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees, by providing a culturally safe service within the AMC, which is an Australian first.

Oversight

- The ACT has four entities that provide independent oversight in relation to correctional centres: The Inspector of Correctional Services, the ACT Human Rights Commission, the ACT Ombudsman and Corrections Official Visitors. Together, ACTCS and these entities continuously improve the experiences of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee population.
- It is a legislative requirement that an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person be appointed as official visitor for the purposes of the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.
- ACTCS is committed to ensuring that detainees can make requests or complaints to staff and external complaint bodies about all aspects of their custody. In accordance with the *Corrections Management (Detainee Requests and Complaints) Policy 2019* detainees are informed about the ways to make a complaint and are not prevented from doing so.
- Detainees can make complaints directly to the oversight agencies, independent from the ACTCS complaints process. Complaints can be referred to and from the oversight agencies, which allows for greater accountability and transparency.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-044

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: AMC STAFF BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

Talking points:

Oversight Committee

- A new oversight committee will bring ACT Correctice Services (ACTCS) staff, the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) and oversight bodies together to collaborate on finding solutions to staff-related challenges at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- An AMC Staff Blueprint for Change will be developed and an urgent priority for the Committee will be to focus on training capabilities for staff and rostering levels.
- The Committee provides an opportunity to improve staff development and wellbeing by recognising the impact of staffing pressures and, moving forward, to enhance internal processes for the development and implementation of policies and procedures in consultation with staff.
- Work is underway to appoint an Independent Chair for the Committee, with representation from oversight bodies as well as the ACTCS Executive and a Justice and Community Safety Directorate Executive.
- The Committee will include a representative for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- The Committee will also oversee the implementation of accepted recommendations from recent and upcoming reports and inquiries, including recommendations from the Healthy Prison Review and the Court Transport Unit Review.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-045

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: Female detainees at the AMC

Talking points:

- As at 20 January 2021, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) had 32 women in custody; 18 remanded and 14 sentenced.
- The same level of access to programs, education, healthcare, mental health services and recreation is offered to detainees irrespective of sex or gender.
- Moreover, ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) recognise the importance of considering the differing needs of all sexes and genders when providing accommodation, programs and services to people in the criminal justice system.
- ACTCS has drafted the Women Offender's Framework which aims to address the specific needs of women in custody. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – ACTCS Reform.**
- It is acknowledged that the current accommodation for female detainees at the AMC is not ideal.

Key Information

<u>Incarceration Rates</u>

- The Australian Capital Territory (ACT) female imprisonment rate has increased from 13.6 per 100,000 of the female adult population on 30 June 2015 to 19.5 per 100,000 of the female adult population on 30 June 2019.
- On 18 October 2018, female detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 51 detainees.
- The average daily number of detained females in the:
    - 2019/20 financial year was 32;
    - 2018/19 financial year was 40;
    - 2017/18 financial year was 38;
    - 2016/17 financial year was 33;
    - 2015/16 financial year was 23; and
    - 2014/15 financial year was 19.
- Female Sentence Management Officers are available to women for daily support, ongoing issues, referrals and welfare concerns. The AMC also provides a coordinator for women's and children's services for female detainees.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Women's accommodation

- Following a feasibility study to enable the identification, prioritisation and delivery of future correctional requirements received in March 2018, the ACT Government committed to building a new 80 bed minimum security Reintegration Centre, which is scheduled to open in July 2022. The Reintegration Centre will house male detainees only.
- It has been determined that the most suitable and cost-effective option for women detainees is to remain in their current accommodation unit, SCC, and for an AMC 'Women's Precinct' to be established.
- The Women's Precinct would compromise the SCC and minimum-security cottage accommodation, with a BBQ area and a new building for programs and education. A high security perimeter fence would surround the Women's Precinct to remove line of sight of male detainees. The number of beds for women detainees would increase from 57 to 77, with the addition of 20 cottage beds.
- This decision has not been formally announced but has been conveyed to the members of the Women's Reference Group by the former Minister for Corrections.
- Work to establish the Women's Precinct is contingent on the completion of the Reintegration Centre.

Women's Reference Group

- The Women's Reference Group (the Group) was established to identify opportunities to positively support women within the AMC through enhanced engagement with the community sector. It is not intended as a governance group but as an opportunity to identify and explore options for the short term to improve the lives of women offenders. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – ACTCS Reform.**
- The Group meets bi-monthly to:
    - Identify key service gaps in relation to meeting the needs of women offenders;
    - To discuss practical and quick solutions to these service gaps;
    - To consider options to actively engage women detainees in meaningful constructive activity within the AMC; and
    - To identify opportunity to assist in supporting rehabilitation efforts for women offenders in the AMC and upon return to community.
- The Group consists of women representatives from ACT Corrective Services, oversight agencies, and various (community) organisations involved in the criminal justice system.

Women's Programs

- ACTCS recognises the complex higher needs of women offenders with higher levels of complex trauma, family and sexual violence and disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Women detainees can access a wide range of programs, including programs focused on their criminogenic behaviours. The women's area is also serviced by diverse community organisations delivering and providing health and wellbeing activities to women. Examples of programs and services available include:
    - Cognitive Self Change

- Anger Management
- Stress Less
- First Steps Drug and Alcohol
- Harm Minimisation and ADAPT
- Introduction to Stress Management and Wellness
- Peer Mentor training program
- Yoga Mindful Movement program
- Beryl Women Domestic Violence Awareness Program
- Alcoholics Anonymous
- Shine for Kids
- Women's Centre for Health Matters
- Coming Home delivered by Toora Women Inc
- Women's Health Services Counselling
- Work Ready Program
- Return to Work Grants
- Hepatitis C Health Awareness Program
- Hairdressing
- Mother and baby bonding and visiting time
- Yarning Cirlce (for Indigenous women)
- Culture Inside (for Indigenous women)
- Elders Visitation program
- Chaplaincy

Background information

Women's Reference Group

- On 18 December 2019, the former Minister for Corrections and Justice Health held a roundtable forum at the AMC with a number of stakeholders to discuss women's concerns regarding the female detainee population.
- Immediate outcomes of the forum included:
    - Seeking training for AMC management and staff to raise awareness around Trauma Informed practice;
    - Establishing a Women's reference group to consider how we can enhance service provision in the AMC and, importantly, post release;
    - Undertaking further immediate landscaping of the grassed area to the rear of the SCC and considering of extension of dedicated outdoors areas for women to access;
    - Considering alternative movement routes between SCC and amenities such as admission and visits;
    - Confirming that all female detainees do have a Sentence Management Officer and are aware of them; and
    - Engaging with relevant stakeholders inviting them to be part of the development of the *Women Offenders Framework*.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-046

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander incarceration rates

Talking points:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to be significantly over-represented in the criminal justice system, as both victims and offenders, principally due to historical social disadvantage, social exclusion, and systemic racism.
- The ACT has experienced a steady increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees from 2014 onwards, with a small decrease in the 2019/20 financial year. The average number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees by financial year was:
    - 2019/20 – 107
    - 2018/19 – 110
    - 2017/18 – 103
    - 2016/17 – 92
    - 2015/16 – 92
    - 2014/15 – 68.
- As at 25 January 2021, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander male detainees accounted for:
    - 21.1 per cent of the total AMC detainee population – 85 detainees out of a total of 402.
    - 23 per cent of the total AMC male population – 85 detainees out of 370.
- As at 25 January 2021, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander female detainees accounted for:
    - 3.2 per cent of the total AMC detainee population – 13 detainees out of a total of 402.
    - 40.6 per cent of the total AMC female population – 13 detainees out of 32.

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- On 12 January 2019, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 126.
- In 2019-20, the recidivism rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ex-detainees returning to corrective services was:
    - 72.5 per cent for **male** ex-detainees; and
    - 79.4 per cent for **female** ex-detainees.
- Given the comparatively small numbers of offenders in the ACT, relatively small fluctuations in the number returning to corrective services can significantly affect the rate from year to year. Further, given the size of this population, any variations to the risk profile of offenders released in a given year may significantly affect the rate of recidivism for that cohort.
- While the decision to place someone in custody lies with the judiciary, ACTCS is committed to addressing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- In 2021, ACTCS will develop an *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Framework* (the Framework) that provides best practice principles to assist staff in operational roles in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples throughout the justice system, and mechanisms to improve social outcomes both during and after incarceration.
- The Framework will guide frontline staff on the effective management and rehabilitation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders and support the development and implantation of Indigenous Programs and services.

Key Information

- The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028 Justice Action Plan was implemented in 2019. The Agreement has four core focus areas including children and young people, cultural integrity, inclusive community and community leadership accompanied by six significant focus areas (justice housing, health and wellbeing, economic participating, life- long learning and connecting with the community).
- ACTCS employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sentence Management Officers in identified and non-identified positions, allowing for culturally appropriate sentence management practices.
- In 2021, ACTCS is developing and implementing a model of Integrated Offender Management that will embed early release planning and the *ACTCS Reintegration*

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Framework across custodial and community operations through a holistic end to end sentence management process for offenders. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Reform.**

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-047

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: BUILDING COMMUNITIES NOT PRISONS PROGRAMS

Talking points:

- The *Building Communities not Prisons* (BCNP) Framework was developed in 2018 and aims to urgently address and reverse the rising number of people sent to custody at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) by strengthening service responses and providing strength-based support and inclusive pathways that lead to better justice outcomes.
- Underpinning this framework is the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Justice Reinvestment approach, which represents a commitment to developing initiatives that improve criminal justice outcomes by reducing crime and diverting offenders, and those at risk of becoming offenders, from the justice system.
- BCNP initiatives focus on areas such as housing, alcohol and other drug services, mental health and disability, as well as family and other group services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Initiatives are intersecting and guided by the principles of trauma-informed practice, gender-informed practice, evidence-informed practice, cultural integrity, restorative practices, and human rights.
- In order to expand the BCNP program, the *Reducing Recidivism by 25% by 2025* plan was developed, which includes a range of initiatives across the government and community sector.
- The following BCNP initiatives are within the responsibility of ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS):
    - ACTCS Rehabilitation Framework
    - ACTCS Disability Framework
    - Throughcare Support
    - Parole Time Credit Scheme
    - Justice Housing Program. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Justice Housing Program**

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- Reintegration Centre. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Reintegration Centre.**

Key Information

ACTCS Rehabilitation Framework

- Implementation of the AMC offender treatment and rehabilitation plan to contribute to the goal to reduce recidivism by 25% by 2025. It covers the Strengthen Program in ACTCS which will allow ACTCS to assess and deliver (through a partnership with appropriate providers) priority responses to detainees. Funding will focus on detainee's dependent on alcohol and/or drugs and requiring foundational and readiness skills to participate in programs addressing offender criminogenic risks and needs, as well as services that contribute to the wellbeing of offenders.

ACTCS Disability Framework

- The ACTCS Disability Framework will ensure that people with disability in custody or under supervision have access to supports and adjustments that enable them to be safe, participate in programs and reduce recidivism.
- This Framework is being developed under the ACT *Disability Justice Strategy 2019-29.*
- On 3 December 2020, ACTCS launched the Disability Action and Inclusion Plan. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Reform**.

Throughcare Support

- Throughcare Support is a client centred program designed to enable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients to succeed on their journey from prison to living sustainably back in the community. The programs operate in collaboration with ACTCS to provide individualised and intensive case management and trauma informed support.

Parole Time Credit Scheme

- The Parole Time Credit (PTC) Scheme gives parolees credit for time spent on parole, reducing the time spent in custody.
- As of 27 January 2020, PTC has been applied 38 times since commencement of the scheme in March 2020. The minimum amount applied was 5 days and the maximum applied was 1 year 3 months and 25 days.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-001

Portfolio/s: Corrections

10 NOVEMBER INCIDENT

Talking points:

Incident on 10 November 2020

- On 10 November 2020 at approximately 6:50pm, 27 detainees housed in the AU-North accommodation unit at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) refused to return to their cells for the night lock-in.
- The detainees were able to move between the AU-North unit and adjacent external yard and proceeded to start a fire in the external yard using bedding and furniture from within the unit, as well as wooden doors removed from programs rooms within AU-North.
- In order to ensure their safety, corrections officers withdrew from the unit and secured the remainder of the AMC accounting for all other detainees and staff on duty.
- Several detainees armed themselves with makeshift weapons
- ACT Fire and Rescue (ACT F&R), ACT Ambulance Service and ACT Policing (ACTP) attended the AMC in response to the incident.
- ACTCS officers in full tactical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), provided an escort for ACT F&R to safely extinguish the fire in the external yard. Detainees proceeded to light another fire to mattresses at the door between the external yard and the common space within the larger accommodation unit.
- Detainees started two additional fires within cells in AU-North, resulting in further smoke contamination and significant property damage.
- At approximately 9:30pm, the detainees informed ACTCS negotiators that they wished to surrender. Planning commenced for a safe surrender and a small response team entered the unit to check that the door to the external yard was secure before escorting ACT F&R to extinguish the two cells fires.
- The disturbance was resolved peacefully and no injuries were sustained by detainees or staff members.

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- The detainees involved were temporarily accommodated in cells, including three to a cell, for less than 12 hours following their surrender for appropriate placement assessments to be conducted.
- All 27 detainees were separated and relocated to new accommodation units appropriate to their security classification. Health checks were conducted by Justice Health Services and Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services prior to their relocation, and detainees were issued with a fresh set of clothes.
- The AMC remained in lock-down on 11 Wednesday 2020, with minimum entitlements under the *Corrections Management Act 2007* provided to detainees, including medication distribution, court and medical escorts, meals, and one-hour time out of cells per day.
- On 12 November 2020, the lock-down at the AMC ceased, and multiple regimes returned throughout the centre.
- ACTCS immediately notified the ACT Insurance Authority (ACTIA) of the damage and have received in-principle support for the claim from ACTIA.
- The ACTCS Director, Facilities Management met with Major Projects Canberra on 12 November 2020 to commence planning for the repairs. Major Project Canberra will manage the repairs, and the unit will remain offline until all work has been completed.
- On 22 November 2020, ACTCS and Major Projects Canberra received a Rough Order Magnitude cost estimate for the repairs from Rider Levett Bucknall. The cost, which excludes GST, ACTCS staffings costs and invasive testing, was estimated to be approximately $4,031,000.
- ACTCS has estimated that the staffing costs may total $1,700,000 based on the assumption that this project could be completed within 12 months with the construction site open six days per week. This figure is based on 10.8 full time equivalent (FTE) ACTCS staff engaged on the project, including:
    - 5.6 FTE Correctional Officers Class 1 to provide escort duties;
    - 2 FTE General Service Officers Level 8;
    - 2 FTE Correctional Officers Class 3;
    - 1 FTE Senior Officer Grade B Project Manager;
    - .02 FTE Senior Officer Grade B Facilities Manager.The current projected total estimated cost is approximately $5,731,000. These

costs may increase depending on a range of factors, including identification of additional damage once work commences.

- The disturbance has been referred to ACTP for investigation.
- The Inspector of Correctional Services was notified of the incident on 10 November 2020 in accordance with the *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017*.
- ACTCS will conduct an internal review into the incident to consider the circumstances leading up to and during the incident, as well as to identify any lessons learned and improvements to prevent and manage any future disturbances.

Incidents on 11 November 2020

- There were two fires in the Management Unit at the AMC on the afternoon of 11 November 2020.
- The first occurred when a detainee involved in the incident on 10 November 2020 set fire to an item in his cell. ACTCS officers extinguished the fire.
- The second occurred when a detainee, who was not involved in the incident, lit a fire in his cell. This detainee has a history of fire lighting and receives intensive therapeutic support and intervention by ACTCS and health services. ACT F&R attended and extinguished the fire.

Incident on 14 November 2020

- On 14 November 2020 at approximately 11:07pm, detainees started a fire in the Sentenced Cottage 2 (SC2) foyer. ACTCS officers extinguished the fire.
- Damage occurred to the flooring material of the stairs on the ground floor, as well as to the roof space and cabling in the ceiling. The cause of the fire is being investigated by ACTCS.
- The ACT Insurance Agency have assessed the claim at under $200,000, meaning the works can be completed in house with the addition of external contractors where required.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

As at 22 January 2021 the works in SC2 are ongoing. The works are being completed by AMC Facilities Management, external contractors and approved detainee workers. Key Information

- The AMC is a maximum-to-minimum security correctional centre surrounded by a maximum-security perimeter and is designed to accommodate all levels of security classification.
- The campus style of the AMC presents a risk within the limited amount of maximum-security accommodation available to male detainees and the requirement to house medium security detainees within minimum security cottages.
- In order to appropriately relocate the detainees that were involved in the incident on 10 November 2020, a number of detainees from other accommodation units were required to be relocated before the perpetrators could be moved from the external yard.
- All uniformed corrections officers are trained in the use of force, which includes the use of approved tactical PPE and tools, and in the use of force application of restraints on detainees. All recruits complete a five-day training course in the use of force and restraints.
- ACTCS introduced an enhanced use of force and restraints training package in 2018. A two-day refresher in the new package was rolled out to officers who had previously completed the recruit training course. To date, 204 officers have completed the refresher course.
- A one-day refresher training in the use of force and restraints is included in the *Corrections Officers Enterprise Agreement 2018-22*. Due to COVID-19 restrictions on physical distance and touch contact this training was paused but recommenced in October 2020.
- The following tactical controlled items are available to corrections officer to respond to disturbances:
    - Batons
    - PPE body armour
    - Shields
    - Mechanical restraints.

Background Information

- The disturbance on 10 November 2020, and subsequent fires on 11 and 14 November 2020 have attracted significant media attention.
- The mother of a detainee at the AMC contacted the Canberra Times regarding allegations of the conditions following the incident on 10 November 2020. The Canberra Times news article is available at: https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7014800/life-inside-jail-since-riot-three-to-a-cell-and-long-hours-in-lockdown/?utm_source=Canberra+Times&utm_campaign=eccbb8c9ad-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_11_17_03_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a4b15bbe48-eccbb8c9ad-70377658.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-006

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: AMC OPERATIONS

Talking points:

Safety of detainees

- The safety and security of all detainees is a priority for ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS).
- ACTCS is continuously seeking to improve processes to enhance safety, security and good order at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- In 2017-18, a centralised intelligence unit was established across both Community and Custodial Corrections to work with ACTCS staff and ACT Policing (ACTP) to provide assistance with investigations and intercept and mitigate acts prior to their perpetration. The centralised unit also enables ACTCS to utilise proactive and intelligence-led strategies to detect and intercept contraband.
- In late 2020, an additional AFP resource (two (2) in total) was embedded into the Intelligence and Integrity Unit (IIU) to work with ACTCS.
- The centralised IIU also participates in identifying and monitoring emerging security issues such as Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs and countering violent extremism.
- ACTCS continues to strengthen the close working relationship with ACTP, and held a joint day of action on 1 December 2019 to target the introduction of contraband to the AMC through social visits.

Safety of staff

- On 8 September 2020, the updated Use of Force and Restraint Policy was notified to align with the new Use of Force training program that was established in 2019. ACTCS is committed to ensuring that force and restraint is only used as a last resort where strictly necessary and with only the minimum amount of force that is reasonable and proporitionate to the circumstances.

- Since 2018, there has been a strong focus on Use of Force training within ACTCS. Use of Force training is mandatory for all corrections officers and includes an annual refresher training day. The roll out has been delayed since COVID-19 and recommenced in October 2020.
- ACTCS are in the process of reintroducing the use of chemical agents and training for the Deployment of Chemical Aids will commence on Friday 12 February. This training will also form part of the 10 week Custodial Recruit Training program and the use of chemical aids will be added to the Use of Force refresher training.
- Within correctional facilities, there is an inherent potential for conflict among some detainees. However, ACTCS staff work hard to de-escalate and prevent any serious incidents that may arise at the AMC. There is often pre-existing tension in the relationships between detainees at the AMC, resulting from interactions and associations both in custody and in the community.

Response to serious assaults

- ACTCS continues to refer all serious assault allegations to ACTP for investigation. Since the changes implemented in the wake of the Moss Review, a number of assault cases have progressed to prosecution.
- The *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) between ACTCS and ACTP developed in response to recommendations 2 and 3 of the Moss Report is currently under review and consultations between ACTCS and ACTP have commenced.
- In May 2018, the ACT Government announced the appointment of Mr Neil McAllister as the Inspector of Correctional Services (the Inspector) in response to recommendation 8 of the Moss Review. The purpose of establishing an external and independent Inspectorate of Correctional Services was to strengthen and improve existing oversight arrangements.
- The Inspector has provided reports on his examination of seven (7) critical incidents that occurred at the AMC, and the Government has responded to the recommendations and findings of all completed reports. Refer to **QTB – ACTCS – Inspector** for more information.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Contraband

- ACTCS employs a range of physical and static security measures to prevent the introduction of contraband into the AMC. This includes physical barriers, CCTV surveillance, intelligence-led interventions, patrols by Corrections Officers and Passive Alert Detector (PAD) dog searches.
- ACTCS utilises a number of measures to search visitors, staff, contractors, and their belongings, when entering the AMC. These include:
    - metal detectors;
    - x-ray baggage scanner to scan property; and
    - physical searches of all vehicles entering and exiting the AMC, including use of mirrors to search under vehicles and random PAD dog searches (except in case of an emergency, for example, ambulances).
- In the 2019-20 financial year, ACTCS conducted 8,644 searches for contraband, 632 of which located contraband.
- In 2019-20, ACTCS intercepted visitors attempting to introduce contraband into the AMC on 20 occasions.
- Security consists of custodial officers who are tasked to carry out specific duties such as searches, urinalysis, perimeter checks, gate management and K9 management.
- On 8 August 2019, the AMC formally welcomed two new PAD dogs: a two year old New Zealand Huntaway named Doug, and an 18 month old Australian Kelpie named Luka. This has increased the K9 units capacity to intercept illicit substances before they enter the AMC, as well as within the Centre. A further K9 resource is currently under recruitment to bring the total to three (3).

Operational Results

- Between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020, ACTCS conducted 6,722 searches of cellular accommodation, cottage rooms and other common areas and a total of 541 contraband items were seized as a result. In addition to these searches:

- 286 searches of staff and contractors. These searches resulted in 8 contraband items being located which were required to be stored outside of the AMC; and
- 391 targeted searches of detainees. A targeted search is prompted by intelligence information or information provided by staff.

- The number and contraband types discovered during searches of detainees and detainee areas between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020 included:
  - Mobile telephones – 36;
  - Phone accessories (sim cards, chargers etc.) – 56;
  - USBs - 23;
  - Syringes (includes other injecting items) – 42;
  - Drugs – 120 (71 of which were unauthorised medications);
  - Drones – 0; and
  - Home made edged weapons – 38.

Key information

Additional Funding

- ACTCS secured an additional $8.8 million over 3.5 years in the 2017-18 Mid-Year Budget to fund improvements in security operations at the AMC, and across ACTCS generally.
- Recommendation 1 of the Moss Review called for improved Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) quality and coverage at the AMC. The AMC has increased its use of CCTV to 525 cameras to monitor the movement and behaviour of detainees to ensure safety, security and good order at the AMC. The quality of the images that are captured by the CCTV system has also been improved to better support evidentiary outcomes.
- CCTV is an important evidentiary tool to support successful investigation of assaults in the AMC so that offenders can be held accountable. The improved quality of the images captured by the CCTV cameras has assisted ACT Policing with investigation of assaults and incidents at the AMC.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Contraband

- An updated Contraband (Prohibited Items) Declaration for the AMC was published on 15 October 2019. The declaration incorporates items that utilise new technologies, such as watches with mobile phone, USB or internet capabilities.
- Contraband searches at the AMC include searches of both people and locations. Between 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020:
    - 6,722 were routine (required by policy or procedure);
    - 391 were targeted; and
    - 8,680 were PAD dog searches.
- Medication has always comprised a high number and proportion of items seized as part of ACTCS contraband search and seizure processes. Medication discovered in the possession of a detainee to whom it was not lawfully prescribed is considered to be contraband.
- The medication classification relates to items that may have been prescribed to detainees and subsequently stockpiled, diverted or simply kept past an expected time of use. Medications can range from drugs that would be available over the counter in the community (such as paracetamol) through to pharmacy or prescription medications.
- Improvised weapons have been seized that were created from a range of products available to detainees, including everyday household items. A reasonable and appropriate balance must be maintained between affording detainees the decency to utilise basic goods such as regular toothbrushes compared to silicon alternatives, and addressing safety and security risks where items have been misused.
- The AMC perimeter is approximately 1.3 kilometres in length and custodial officers check the grounds every morning to ensure no contraband has been dropped onto the premises overnight.
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all social visits to the AMC were suspended from close of business on Sunday 22 March 2020 to ensure the health and safety of detainees and visitors. On Wednesday 9 September 2020, limited face-to-face social visits resumed at the AMC.

Emergency Lockdown – November 2019

- On 4 November 2019 during a perimeter check, a significant hole was located within the external perimeter fence at the AMC.
- An emergency roll check was immediately conducted, and all detainees accounted for.
- An unidentified community member threw a parcel over the fence into the grounds of the AMC on 3 November 2019. The unidentified person later returned, proceeded to make a hole in the fence, and threw the parcel further onto the prison grounds.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- To ensure the safety of the AMC, a Declaration of Emergency was issued by the Commissioner of ACTCS on 6 November 2019 under section 26 of the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.
- The Declaration of Emergency resulted in a complete lock-down of the AMC, during which ACTCS officers searched all units, buildings and grounds of the Centre with assistance from Corrective Services New South Wales K9 teams.
- The declaration was revoked on 11 November 2019. While various items of contraband were seized, no significant weapons were located.
- The incident was referred to ACT Policing for investigation and the Inspector of Correctional Services office was also advised.
- ACTCS initiated an Internal Management Review to establish facts and to determine appropriate responses.

Background Information

- On 15 April 2019, the Canberra Times reported that the rising numbers of makeshift weapons, and the constant accommodation pressures experienced, at the AMC places Corrections Officers at risk.
- On 20 October 2018, ABC Radio Canberra reported that there had been a 14 per cent increase in the number of times contraband had been found at the AMC in the 2017-18 financial year. It was further reported that the rise in contraband finds were the result of increased searches of detainees and visitors.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-010

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: DETAINEE NUMBERS AND ACCOMMODATION PRESSURES

Talking points:

Detainee numbers

- As at 20 January 2021, the detainee population at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) was 402.
- During the 2019-20 financial year, the average daily number of detainees at the AMC was 444.
- On 20 June 2018, detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 507.
- The AMC is the only adult correctional facility within the ACT and accommodates multiple cohorts including women, men, mainstream (general population) and protection (where there is specific information to suggest that there is a credible risk to the safety of the detainee).
- The original design of scattered accommodation placement at the AMC is no longer fit for purpose. Currently, mainstream and protection male detainees are housed in the same vicinity. These two cohorts of detainees are required to be physically separated to ensure safety, security, and good order.
- The current housing of detainees does not meet the legislative requirement of separating sentenced and remanded detainees.

Women detainee numbers

- As at 20 January 2021, the AMC had 32 women in custody: 18 remanded and 14 sentenced. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Female Detainees at the AMC.**

Management of Women Detainees

- The same level of access to programs, education, healthcare, mental health services and recreation is offered to detainees irrespective of sex or gender. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Female Detainees at the AMC**.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee numbers

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to be significantly over-represented in the criminal justice system, as both victims and offenders, principally due to historical social disadvantage, social exclusion, and systemic racism. The rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people held in the AMC as a proportion of the total detainee population is a major concern to the ACT Government. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – ATSI Incarceration Rates.**

Recidivism

- The ACT Government is committed to reduce recidivism by 25 per cent by 2025. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Building Communities not Prisons.**
- The Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Justice Partnership Agreement commit to reducing over-representation by reducing recidivism and increasing access to diversionary programs, improving services, and focusing on data collection and reporting.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees can access programs, services, and education available to the general AMC population, as well as programs and services specifically targeted towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through the Indigenous Services Unit.

Accommodation pressures

- The AMC has experienced accommodation pressures for several years as a result of an upward trend in detainee numbers, and the relative size of the mainstream and protection cohorts.
- Detainee numbers have fluctuated over the past three months, with the average population at the AMC as follows:
    - 438 in October 2020;
    - 431 in November 2020; and
    - 403 in December 2020.
- As at Wednesday 29 July 2020, the AMC operational bed capacity increased from 511 to 516, due to 5 additional beds being commissioned in the Transitional Release Centre (TRC). This increased the bed capacity in the TRC to 20.

- Following the disturbance in Accommodation Unit North on 10 November 2020 and a fire incident in Sentenced Cottage 2 on 14 November, these accommodation units are temporarily uninhabitable as a result of damage. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – 10 November Incident.**
- In 2017, women detainees were relocated to the Special Care Centre (SCC) due to the rapid increase in the number of women detainees at the AMC. This relocation was not ideal but, in the circumstances, was found to be the most timely and suitable accommodation option. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Female Detainees at the AMC.**

Key Information

Feasibility Study

- A feasibility study for the future expansion of the AMC was funded by Government in the 2017/18 mid-year budget. The objective of the feasibility study was to identify, prioritise and inform future correctional requirements in a staged and cost-effective manner.
- The feasibility study involved an infrastructure-based assessment to address male and female accommodation issues at the AMC.
- An Executive Summary of the Feasibility Study was publicly released on the JACS website in March 2019.
- ACTCS continues to consider safe and secure options to best manage the increasing numbers of detainees in the AMC within a human rights context, with the view of *Building Communities, Not Prisons* (BCNP). BCNP is a strategy aimed at reducing reoffending and improving community safety. **Refer to QTB – ACTCS – Building Communities not Prisons Programs.**

Extended Throughcare

- The University of New South Wales evaluation of the Throughcare program found positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women engaged in the program but highlighted an area for improvement in engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.
- On 1 April 2018, the Extended Throughcare Program made amendments to the program eligibility criteria. The changes allowed ACTCS to lower the eligibility point for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and extending the program to male and female remand and sentenced detainees. The Extended Throughcare Program can now be accessed by:
    - All women who have served greater than 30 days;
    - Men who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and have served greater than 91 days (three months) in custody; and

- Men who do not identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and have served greater than 182 days (six months) in custody.

Background Information

Detainee numbers

- Since 2012 the ACT has experienced an upward trend in detainee numbers, with the exception of 2019-20 which was an anomaly in detainee population figures. However, the overall trend in the ACT has been mirrored at a national level. Since 30 June 2017, the adult prisoner population has increased across all States and Territories except for South Australia, which recorded a small decrease.

Accommodation pressures

- During 2013, the actual number of ACT detainees increased significantly, from less than 240 in January 2013, to more than 340 in October 2013. The average daily number of detainees in:
    - 2014/15 financial year was 342, with a high of 411 in November 2015;
    - 2015/16 financial year was 402, with a high of 446 in November 2016;
    - 2016/17 financial year was 445, with a high of 473 on 20 May 2017;
    - 2017/18 financial year was 474, with a high of 507 on 20 June 2018;
    - 2018/19 financial year was 484, with a high of 501 on 11 July 2018; and
    - 2019/20 financial year was 444, with a high of 466 on 1 June 2020.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-003

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES POLICIES

Talking points:

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) has undertaken significant policy reform since 2018 across all areas of operations.
- Between October 2018-and January 2021, a Policy Project was undertaken to review and update all ACTCS custodial operations and corporate policies and operating procedures. This project is ongoing and due for completion by mid-2021.
- Since this Project commenced, 71 policies have been replaced by updated policies that align with legislative requirements and current practice, and that set the foundations for best practice. Preparations for the implementation of a further seven policies are currently underway.
- 33 operating procedures have also been replaced, with more in development, including a Security Framework to ensure humane but robust security is maintained in correctional facilities.
- Key policies developed as part of this Project include:
    - *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy Statement* - commits the ACTCS workforce to deliver on responding to the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT criminal justice system.
    - *Detainee Delegates Policy* – formalising the process of delegates meetings at the Alexander Maconochie Centre as a forum for positive dialogue between detainees and senior custodial management.
    - *Remand Detainees Policy* – ensuring that detainees on remand are subject to fewer restrictions than sentenced detainees as far as practicable.
    - *Placement and Shared Cell* – enhancing the risk assessment and records keeping processes for decisions on accommodation placements and to ensure safety, security and good order at the AMC.

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- *Staff Peer Support Policy* – Supporting the commitment of ACTCS to prioritising staff health and wellbeing.

- As part of undertaking policy reform, ACTCS has engaged in consultation with the Human Rights Commission and the ACT Ombudsman in line with recommendation 28 of the Inspector of Correctional Services *Healthy Prison Review of the AMC.*
- ACTCS has also commenced consultation with the union to inform current policy development and is in the process of formalising their ongoing engagement into the future.
- ACTCS has also developed an *Open Access Policy 2020* to ensure that policies and procedures are widely accessible on the ACT Government Open Access Register.

Key Information

- Policies due to be released in coming months include:
  - *Incentives and Earned Privileges Policy* (see QTB **ACTCS – ACTCS Reform**)
  - *Discipline Policy* – a new, thorough, process for disciplinary proceedings in correctional centres, including hearings to determine a fair outcome.
  - *Visits* – enhanced processes to ensure safety, security and good order during visits at the AMC.
  - *Searching* – ensuring best practice searching procedures for staff, detainees and visitors to correctional centres.
  - *Drug and Alcohol Testing* – introducing a voluntary program of self-testing to support detainees wishing to address their illicit substance use.
- The ACTCS *Policy Framework Policy* establishes a process for the regular review and updating of policies and operating procedures to ensure currency and legislative compliance.

Background Information

- Historically, ACTCS did not have a process to ensure the regular review and monitoring of policy documents. This has been addressed as part of the comprehensive review undertaken since 2018.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-011

Portfolio/s: Corrections

IMPLEMENTION OF HEALTHY PRISONS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Talking points:

- On 26 November 2019, the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services tabled the first Healthy Prison Review (the Review) of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) in the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- The Review made 51 findings and 73 recommendations, which cover a broad range of often complex issues.
- The ACT Government has carefully considered all findings and recommendations made in the Review and tabled its Response in the Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020 outlining that it:
    - Agreed to 61 recommendations;
    - Agreed in principle to seven recommendations;
    - Noted three recommendations; and
    - Not agreed with two recommendations.
- Many findings and recommendations made in the Healthy Prison Review had already been identified by ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) and a range of actions were already in progress to address the issues raised.
- As of 27 January 2020:
    - 44% of recommendations have been completed, including:
        - a review of the Peer Mentor Program to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees are supported appropriately;
        - a review and increase of the detainee self-catering allowance; and
        - notification of the ACTCS *Placement and Shared Cell Policy 2020*.
- Although there has been an operational impact on actioning the recommendations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ACTCS remains committed to implementing this important work.
- As agreed, ACTCS is preparing a formal proposal to rebase the due dates for outstanding recommendations to account for delays due to the significant impact of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The new due dates will balance the considerations of ongoing COVID-19 impacts, change fatigue amongst staff, and the need to maintain momentum on achieving important reforms.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Key Information

- The *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* was passed by the ACT Government in response to the Moss Review, with the purpose to promote the continuous improvement of correctional centres and correctional services.
- The purpose of the Healthy Prison Review was to conduct a whole-of-centre review of the AMC and examine whether the AMC meets the 'healthy prison test'.
- The ACT Inspector of Correctional Services and his team attended the AMC from 1 – 5 July 2019 to conduct the onsite component of the review.
- Recommendation 3, that ACTCS provide male and female peer support workers in the admissions centre to support detainees on their arrival to AMC, was not agreed to as:
    - ACTCS is of the opinion that having peer support workers in the admissions area meet with new detainees would significantly increase the amount of time new detainees spend in the admissions area.
    - There are peer support worker positions for both genders in the induction process, where more time is available for such interaction without the risk of lengthening the admission processes.
- Recommendation 39, that the ACT government fund the creation of a new administration officer position in the Indigenous Services Unit at a level comparable to other such positions in ACTCS, was not agreed to as:
    - There is sufficient administrative capacity at the AMC for the Indigenous Services Unit to access appropriate admin support.
    - Progress on the implementation of agreed recommendations is monitored closely by ACTCS (via monthly internal reports) and by the Inspector of Correctional Services (via quarterly progress reports).

Background Information

- The 'Healthy Prison Test' was devised by the World Health Organisation and is based on four pillars:
    - Safety;
    - Respect and dignity;
    - Purposeful activity; and
    - Rehabilitation and preparation for release.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-008

Portfolio/s: Corrections

COURT TRANSPORT UNIT REPORT PROGRESS

Talking points:

- The Inspector tabled his second thematic review which examined the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Court Transport Unit (CTU) in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2020.
- The Court Transport Unit transports manages and cares for hundreds of people in custody at the ACT Law Courts every year.
- The Report makes 12 findings and 22 recommendations, which the ACT Government and ACTCS take very seriously.
- While work has begun on many of the issues highlighted in the report, it is essential and reassuring that independent oversight identifies and confirms issues that need to be addressed.
- Positive comments by the Inspector about the professionalism of the CTU staff are welcomed and highlight that the CTU staff have operated extremely well throughout a period of significant change, most notably during the transition from the old court complex to the new court cells area, which was still being finalised at the time of the review through the rectification of minor works that had been identified.
- On 6 October 2020, a Director of the CTU commenced. This newly created position will provide stable leadership across the CTU and assist in addressing recommendations made in the report.
- The ACT Government Response to the report is currently being prepared and scheduled to be tabled in the Act Legislative Assembly in the February 2021 sitting period.

Key Information

- The 12 findings and 22 recommendations are centred around the following topics:
    - CTU related policies and procedures;
    - operations;
    - security and safety;
    - staff and training;

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- arrangements concerning young detainees;
- access to detainees by professionals;
- relationship between CTU and ACT Courts; and
- relationship between CTU and the Sentence Administration Board.

- Two of the recommendations in the report are addressed to the Community Services Directorate.

Background Information

- Establishing an Inspector of Correctional Services was a commitment of the Government in response to Recommendation 8 of the Moss Review. It recognised that effective independent oversight is vitally important to build and maintain public confidence in our correctional system.
- Section 18(1)(b) of the *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* (the Act) requires that the Inspector of Correctional Services (the Inspector) 'examine and review correctional services at least once every two years'.
- The Inspector first requested data for this review on 13 January 2020, and various additional requests for information were made up until mid-June 2020.
- Pursuant to section 27 of the Act, the Inspector must give a report on each examination and review conducted by the Inspector to the ACT Legislative Assembly within six (6) months of completing the examination and review.
- Section 29(1) of the Act requires the Inspector to provide the Minister for Corrections and the JACS Director-General with a draft copy of the report at least six (6) weeks prior to submitting it to the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- On 30 June 2020, the Inspector provided the draft report of the CTU Review to the former Minister for Corrections and Justice Health, the Director-General of the Justice and Community Safety (JACS) Directorate, and the ACTCS Commissioner for fact-checking.
- Section 29(2) of the Act allows the Minister for Corrections and the JACS Director-General to provide comments in relation to the draft report within the six (6) week period.
- On 10 August 2020, the JACS Director-General provided a response to the draft report outlining several issues, mostly related to the lack of evidence presented for findings and claims made in the report. In many instances, anecdotal evidence was presented as fact and formed the basis for recommendations. It was noted that there is a considerable risk in publishing reviews that rely on anecdote and opinions from a small number of staff and other stakeholders to inform recommendations rather than being evidence-based.

- The previous review of a correctional service, *The Care and Management of Remandees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre 2018*, was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly in February 2019.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-005

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: AMC HEALTH SERVICES

Talking points:

AMC Health Services

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) works closely with Canberra Health Services to ensure the health and wellbeing of detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- An Arrangement for the Delivery of Health Services to Detainees (the Arrangement) was signed by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) and ACT Health on 14 August 2017.
- The Arrangement addressed Recommendation 4 of the Moss Review, and recommendations from the *Independent Review of Mental Health Services at the Alexander Maconochie Centre* (the McGrath Review).
- In April 2018, services related to health care supports for detainees at risk of suicide or self-harm transferred to Canberra Health Services from ACTCS.

Integration of Winnunga health services into AMC

- The ACT Government committed $8.3 million to integrate the Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services (Winnunga) holistic model of care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the AMC in line with Recommendation 5 of the Moss Review.
- On 18 January 2019, the first patient's health care was transferred from Justice Health Services to Winnunga.

Improved Health Services facilities

- A newly constructed modular building for health services is in place within the secure perimeter of the AMC, and is now occupied. This will allow refurbishment of the existing Hume Health Centre throughout the 2020/21 financial year.
- These improvements were funded as part of a $4.022m capital fund over two years (2017-18 and 2018-19) to provide a temporary accommodation solution for Winnunga and renovation of the existing Hume Health Centre.

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Key Information

- Since 2017, Justice Health Services and ACTCS have worked collaboratively with Winnunga to develop and agree to a contemporary and best practice model of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services delivery at the AMC.
- On 22 June 2018, ACTCS, Justice Health and Winnunga signed a contract to enable the delivery of coordinated health care services at the AMC.
- Staff from Winnunga have been present in the AMC since July 2018, developing protocols for the integrated service delivery. A Working Group was established to work through the clinical and operational arrangements for the successful integration of health services at the AMC.
- That work informed an MOU and three schedules between the ACT Government and Winnunga for the delivery of coordinated health care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the AMC. The MOU and schedules were signed on 21 December 2018.
- $4.372m was pledged over three years (2017-18 to 2019-20) for JACS and ACT Health to fund a dedicated General Practitioner, Social and Emotional Wellbeing support staff, additional ACT Health staff and AMC staffing costs to enhance health services at the AMC. The funding was allocated as follows:
    - ACT Health staffing costs of $1.205m over two years in 2018-19 and 2019-20 for:
        - *Winnunga – via contract by ACT Health.*
            - *0.8 General Practitioner (Phase 2)*
            - *2.0 FTE ASO6 Social and Emotional wellbeing staff member*
        - *JHS staff*
            - *0.5 FTE Registered Chronic Disease Nurse*
            - *0.5 FTE ASO3*
- The associated expenses for ACT Health were offset against the Health Funding Envelope.
- JACS costs of $2.761m over three years in 2017-18 to 2019-20 for:
    - *Staffing costs of $2.548m over three years to deliver more custodial officers to boost detainee escort services, including for detainees accessing health services within the AMC;*
    - *Repairs and maintenance of $0.163m over two years; and*
    - *$0.050m in 2019-20 only for an evaluation to determine ongoing Winnunga service model.*

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-014

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: OFFICIAL VISITOR REPORTS

Talking points:

- The Official Visitors for Corrections are appointed to visit adult correctional facilities in the ACT, and receive complaints from detainees under the *Official Visitor Act 2012*.
- The Official Visitors for Corrections provides a mechanism to monitor the quality of services received by people in a correctional setting, and ensure their rights are being maintained.
- Between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020, the Official Visitors for Corrections made a total of 136 visits to the AMC, court cells and other detainee locations.
- Between 1 January and 30 June 2020, the Official Visitors made a total of 62 visits to the AMC.
- The number of Official Visitor visits increased from 86 in the 2018-19 financial year to 136 during the 2019-20 financial year.
- The number of complaints significantly increased from 347 in 2018-19 to 703 in 2019-20. However, it is important to note that the Official Visitors changed the way that they report complaints at the commencement of 2020. Official Visitors now report on the number of complaints received, rather than the number of detainees who have made a complaint.
- In 2019-20, the most common complaints to the Official Visitors were in relation to health, maintenance, visits, education and employment, association concerns, and policy (specifically search processes, i.e. strip searches).
- ACT Corrective Services has an excellent working relationship with the Official Visitors and continues to work closely to explore and resolve these issues.
- I take this opportunity to thank the Official Visitors for the good work they continue to perform in support of all detainees, and to help ensure that we continue to provide quality correctional services in the ACT.

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Key Information

- The Official Visitors (OVs) are obliged to provide a quarterly written report to the Minister as soon as practicable after the end of the quarter. The reports summarise:
    - the number and types of complaints received;
    - the action taken on the complaints received;
    - the number of times the OVs inspected a detainee's records without the detainee's consent (which can only occur in limited circumstances); and
    - the number and kind of matters that the Official Visitors referred on to an investigative entity.
- On 17 December 2017, Mr Shannon Pickles and Ms Denise Brasser were appointed as the Official Visitors for Corrections for a three-year term.
- On 7 January 2020, Ms Vicki Quinn and Ms Violet Sheridan were appointed as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Official Visitors for a three-year term.
- OVs can only inspect a detainee's records without the detainee's consent when:
    - The OV has taken reasonable steps to obtain consent;
    - The OV believes that the detainee is not able to provide consent;
    - Accessing the record is necessary and appropriate to fufill the OVs duties; and
    - The detainee has not shown that they do not consent to the record being accessed.
- A report for quarter three and quarter four 2020 has not yet been received by ACT Corrective Services.

Background Information

- The *Official Visitors Act 2012* (the Act) was enacted to improve monitoring and complaints systems for people who are being held in government institutions. The Act created a specific statutory requirement that there must be an OV who is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander to ensure such an OV is always appointed. Prior to the notification of the Act, the *Corrections Management Act 2007* managed the appointment and functions of the OV. In accordance with the *Corrections Management Act 2007,* the Act maintained that reports must be generated as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter for the Minister.
- During 2017-18, a large scale review of the OV scheme was undertaken and some of the practical feedback around difficulties in relation to recruitment, induction and training were provided.
- In September 2020, updated *Official Visitor Guidelines 2020* were published under the *Official Visitor Act 2012.* These Guidelines standardise the visits and complaint handling processes for OVs.

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JACS2021/47-001-012

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: INSPECTOR OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Talking points:

- Establishing an Inspector of Correctional Services was a commitment of the Government in response to Recommendation 8 of the Moss Review. It recognised that effective independent oversight is vitally important to maintain public confidence in our correctional system.
- The Inspector of Correctional Services (the Inspector) has provided seven Critical Incident Reviews, two thematic review of the conditions of remand detainees, and one healthy prison review to the Speaker of the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- Pursuant to section 27 of the Act, the Inspector must give a report on each review to the ACT Legislative Assembly within six months of its completion.

Remand Review

- The Care and Management of remandees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) ('Remand Review') was the Inspector's first thematic review and was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 20 February 2019.
- The Review made 39 findings.
- The Government Response to the Remand Review was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 6 June 2019.

Healthy Prison Review

- The Healthy Prison Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 26 November 2019.
- The Government Response to the Healthy Prison Review was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) is currently implementing the recommendations as outlined in the Government Response. Please refer to **QTB – ACTCS – Implementation of Healthy Prisons Report Recommendations** for further information on the Healthy Prison Review recommendations.

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- Healthy Prison inspections and reviews are based on the concept of a healthy prison which was first set out by the World Health Organisation, and are accepted internationally as the benchmark for custodial environments. They rely on four pillars:
    - Safety – prisoners, even the most vulnerable, are held safely;
    - Respect – prisoners are treated with respect for their human dignity;
    - Purposeful activity – prisoners are able and expected, to engage in activity that is likely to benefit them; and
    - Rehabilitation – prisoners are prepared for release into the community, and helped to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

Court Transport Unit Review

- The Court Transport Unit Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2020.
- A Government Response is scheduled to be tabled in the Legislative Assembly in the February 2021 sitting period.
- The review made 12 findings and 22 recommendations. Please refer to **QTB – ACTCS – Court Transport Unit Report Progress** for further information.

Critical Incidents

- The *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* (the Act) provides that the Inspector 'may review a critical incident on the inspector's own initiative'. All reviews to date were conducted at the Inspector's own initiative.
- A critical incident is defined in the Act, and includes 'an assault or use of force that results in a person being admitted to hospital'. To date, the majority of critical incident reviews undertaken concern incidents of assaults at the AMC that resulted in the hospitalisation of a detainee. Two exceptions relate to a disturbance at the AMC on 10 November 2020 and a fire incident on 14 November 2020which the Inspector is currently reviewing.

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Critical incident date	Details	Media interest
23 May 2018	The critical incident involved an Indigenous detainee who was assaulted by a non-Indigenous detainee at the AMC. The Report contains ten (10) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 27 November 2018, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 19 March 2019.	No
25 October 2018	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains seven (7) findings. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 12 February 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 14 May 2019.	No
16 December 2018	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains six (6) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 5 June 2019. The ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	No
1 January 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains seven (7) findings and three (3) recommendations for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 30 July 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	Yes This incident was the subject of media interest following the Attorney-General's response to the detainee and the tabling of the Inspector's Report. On 28 June 2019, the Chief Minister received a request for a remission of sentence for the assaulted detainee. The request was referred to the Attorney-General, who responded by letter on 31 July 2019, advising that the circumstance did not appear to provide a basis for remission and that it was not appropriate to consider the matter as the

		detainee was appealing his sentence.
15 April 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee by up to two (2) other detainees, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains five (5) findings. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 30 July 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	No
5 December 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee in a cell by another detainee, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains nine (9) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 23 July 2020.	No
13 January 2020	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee by up to two (2) other detainees, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains ten (10) findings and two (2) recommendations for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 23 July 2020.	Yes This incident was subject to media interest due to next of kin coincidentally being at the hospital and spotting the victim prior to formal hospital admission and therefore prior to next of kin notification.
4 October 2020	A detainee was allegedly assaulted by another detainee, resulting in hospital admission. The Inspector of Correctional Services is in the process of reviewing this critical incident.	Yes This incident was subject to media interest and reported on in the Canberra Times on 16 October 2020, naming the victim (Mr Fanti).
10 November 2020	There was a disturbance at the AMC with all 27 detainees located in AU North refusing to lock in. Multiple fires were lit and external support was provided by ACT F&R and AFP. Detainees surrendered after approximately 5 hours, and no injuries occurred to detainees or staff. The Inspector of Correctional Services is currently reviewing this critical incident.	Yes This incident was subject to significant media interest.
14 November 2020	There was a fire in Sentence Cottage 2 (SC2), which caused significant damage to parts of	Yes This incident was subject to media interest on as it occurred

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	this accommodation unit. No injuries to detainees or staff were reported.	soon after the disturbance of 10 November and was reported on in that context.

Background Information

- Following the Moss Review and in recognition of the unique make-up of the ACT's correctional system and increasing population pressures, the ACT Government committed to establishing an external and independent Inspectorate of Correctional Services, intended to strengthen and improve existing oversight arrangements.
- In May 2018, the ACT Government announced the appointment of Mr Neil McAllister to the role of Inspector of Correctional Services for the ACT.
- The office of the Inspector of Correctional Services is now fully operational and is committed to ensuring continuous improvement through its systemic and regular reviews of correctional services.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-013

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: JUSTICE HOUSING PROGRAM

Talking points:

- As part of the *Building Communities Not Prisons* program, several initiatives, including the Justice Housing Program (JHP) were funded by the Government through the 2018-19 Budget review and the 2019-20 Budget process.
- This initiative has established a Supported Transitional Justice Housing Program across the ACT to support efforts to reduce reoffending and overcrowding at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- The JHP is a collaboration between the Justice and Community Safety Directorate, Community Services Directorate, the social and community housing sector and support agencies, aiming to meet the diverse needs of people in the criminal justice system who are on bail or exiting custody.
- The JHP provides an accommodation option for those who otherwise would be incarcerated in the AMC due to a lack of suitable community based accommodation. An example is those who are remanded in custody instead of receiving bail in the community because they do not have a suitable address, or those applying for parole. This is intended to act as a stepping stone to longer term or permanent accommodation in public housing, community housing or the private rental market.
- The JHP service provider works with residents to source and transition into other long term accommodation. It is important to note that this support relates to a resident's accommodation and does not detract from other services with which an individual may be engaged, such as outreach or counselling services.
- The housing stock for the JHP is sourced from Housing ACT under arrangements ensuring public housing stock availability is not impacted by this initiative.
- Seven houses are currently operational. Two additional properties will be ready for occupancy by the end of January 2021.
- One property is yet to be identified by Housing ACT.

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- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) is taking the lead on service design and implementation, while property management and resident support is undertaken by community sector organisation(s), contracted by ACTCS.
- ACTCS continues to collaborate with the service providers, community stakeholders, and residents of the program to refine the service model.
- In 2020, there were 13 (1 female, 12 male) occupants in JHP properties, with a further 9 (1 female, 8 males) accepted for occupancy pending the outcome of parole hearings. Seven offenders have been exited from the program.

COVID-19 Response

- The eight houses funded for the expanded JHP are being established under one year contracts to provide bail and post-release accommodation for men, women and intersex/transgender people in order to effect a population reduction in the AMC.
- CatholicCare were successful in the separate procurement processes for occupant management and occupant support services of the JHP.
- Work will continue during this period to determine the 'beyond-COVID' operating model for the JHP.

Key Information

- The COVID 19 response within the JHP will:
  - Provide accommodation in eight additional houses sourced from Housing ACT, run by CatholicCare. These houses will be contracted for one year with a maximum of nine places (three houses) for women to expand accommodation options available for women leaving custody, to supplement the scarce provision in the housing and homelessness sector.
  - Provide reserved places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people proportional to, or exceeding, the proportion of Aboriginal people in custody at the AMC. This will be supported by an indigenous CatholicCare support worker, and referrals where requested to a community controlled organisation to support culturally appropriate 'wraparound' services to best meet the needs of the cohort.
  - Provide a bail accommodation transition support service of six beds (two houses) which cater for those who would usually be granted bail by the courts but only on the condition that they have appropriate housing. The bail hostel was funded

as part of the mid year cycle in 2018-19, and was contingent upon the use of a specific Weston Creek property. This property did not meet building code and required significant expenditure to satisfy the requirements. As such, ACTCS is working with CatholicCare to achieve the stated aims of the bail hostel initiative from within the housing provision for the JHP.

Drug and Alcohol Sentencing list

- While initially committed by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate Executives, the Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List is currently unable to access any accommodation in the JHP. Due to lack of referrals and the COVID-19 response, the two houses were re-purposed to provide bail accommodation for men.

Background Information

- In the 2019-20 budget, the initiative "Alternatives to jail through the Justice Housing Program (JHP)" received capital funding of $7.2m, $5m of recurrent funding to cover payments to a third party for managing the accommodation program, program brokerage and evaluation for 3 years and other operational costs totalling $6.441m from 2019-20 over a period of 4 years. The premise of this funding is 10 properties provided by Housing ACT.
- Funding of $6.493m over 3 years from 2018-19 was provided for the Bail Accommodation Transition Support Service (BATSS) with commitment of a building by Housing ACT to accommodate eight men, with onsite 24/7 staffing. While the use of the building did not progress, the service is operational from two houses with limited support from CatholicCare support workers in business hours.
- The BATSS and Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List accommodation were to be managed under the JHP umbrella. Drug and Alcohol Sentencing List accommodation was never funded, however people subject to a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order will be considered for suitability in the post-release accommodation.
- The JHP project transitioned to ACTCS for design and implementation from October 2019.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-016

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: REPORT ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES (ROGS) RELEASE

Talking points:

The ROGS data for 2019-20 is currently under embargo and will be published in January 2021.

Costs

- The real net operating expenditure per detainee per day has increased from $305.50 in 2018-2019 to $420.56 in 2019-2020. The total expenditure (including net operating expenditure and capital costs) per detainee per day in the ACT was $559.17, higher than the national average of $331.39. Costs indicators between jurisdictions may vary due to differences in legislation, policy, and reporting practices.

Education

- In 2019-2020 there was a slight increase in the participation of detainees in education and training from 70.8 per cent in 2018-2019 to 71.4 percent.
- The ACT has been the highest-ranking jurisdiction in terms of education and training participation since the opening of the AMC, except for 2017-18 when South Australia (SA) surpassed the ACT in its performance against this indicator. The ACT performs well above the national average of 32 per cent.

Employment

- The ACT detainee employment rate remained unchanged, with 80.7 per cent of the eligible detainee population participating in employment. The ACT performed better than the Northern Territory (NT), Queensland (QLD), and Tasmania (TAS) in this area and sits just under the national average of 81.4 per cent.

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees were employed in 2019-20 at 75.7 per cent, above the national average of 73.7 per cent. This reflects the ACT Government's commitment to support detainees to develop the skills that allow them to obtain employment and successfully return to the community.
- The ACT has made significant progress to increase opportunities for detainees to develop skills for employment after being released, including through a new Horticulture Industry program which will commence in early 2021. Detainee industries at the AMC provide practical experience and skills that can translate into employment outcomes in the community.

Recidivism

- In 2019-20, the ACT had 37.1 per cent of detainees (released in 2017-2018) returning to prison within 2 years of their release, a decrease from 42.4 per cent and lower than the national average of 46 per cent.
- The return of ex-detainees to Corrective Services (either to Prison or to Community Corrections) reduced from 71.3 per cent in 2018-19 to 63.4 per cent in 2019-20. The ACT return rate of ex-detainees to Corrective Services ranked the second highest of all jurisdictions, after the NT and above the national average of 54.9 per cent.
- In 2019-20, 18.3 per cent of offenders returned to Community Corrections within 2 years of their release, an increase from 16.9 per cent in 2018-19 and higher than the national average of 16.1 per cent.
- The return of ex-offenders to Corrective Services (including prisons) rose to 20.8 per cent in 2019-20 from 19.1 per cent in 2018-19. The ACT performed the third best after Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA), and is under than the national average of 25.7 per cent.

Time out of cells

- The time that detainees spent out of cells decreased to 9.1 hours per day on average in 2019-20 from 9.4 hours in 2018-19. The national average was 9.6 hours. The ACT had the fourth lowest time out of cells, followed by QLD, New South Wales (NSW), and TAS.

- The decrease in time out-of-cells was primarily due to the emergency lockdown of the AMC in November 2019 in response to a significant security breach.
- The ACT Government is committed to maximising time out of cells to ensure detainees can engage in purposeful activities including work, programs, education, visits and recreation to support them to successfully reintegrate into the community.

Key Information

- The ACT recorded zero escapes, deaths in custody, or serious assaults on correctional officers in 2018-19 and continued this trend in 2019-2020.
- There were fewer detainees imprisoned in the ACT in 2019-20, with a decrease of 8.3 per cent. The ACT continues to have fewer women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in custody, falling below the national average again in 2019-20.
- The ACT was at 101.1 per cent design capacity utilisation at the AMC in 2019-2020, compared to 110.3 per cent in 2018-2019. This is a direct result of the decrease in the detainee population. This indicator is unable to be compared to the national average, which cannot be calculated due to three jurisdictions not reporting on this indicator.
- The prisoner on prisoner assault rate has increased from 9.09 per 100 prisoners (44 serious assaults) in 2010—2019 to 13.07 per 100 prisoners in 2019-20.
- The prisoner on prisoner serious assault rate decreased from 3.31 per 100 prisoners (10 serious assaults) in 2018-19 to 1.8 per 100 prisoners (8 serious assaults) in 2018-19.
- The percentage of Community Corrections orders that were completed without breach has decreased in 2019-20. The ACT had a Community Corrections order completion rate of 68.1 per cent, decreasing from 69.2 per cent in 2018-19 and below the national average of 71.4 per cent.
- Of all orders in 2019-20, the supervision order completion rate decreased to 68.5 per cent, while the completion rate of community service work orders decreased to 61.4 per cent. Both completion rates were lower than the national average of 72 per cent and 68.8 per cent respectively.
- Whilst breaches of orders have risen, the data shows that more community orders were successfully completed in 2019-20 with an increase of 391 orders.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-009

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: COVID-19 at the AMC

Talking points:

- There are currently no confirmed cases of coronavirus within the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). As at 20 January 2021one hundred and fity three (153) detainees have been tested since the commencement of the pandemic and returned a negative result.
- As at 20 January 2021 , one (1) detainee is in isolation at the AMC.
- Detainees are placed on isolation if they:
    - Have identified on admission as having either travelled overseas, interstate, or to a hotspot area within the last fourteen (14) days;
    - Have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last fourteen (14) days;
    - Have shared a cell with a detainee who has been tested for COVID-19; or
    - Are unwell and are exhibiting flu-like symptoms.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) enacted detailed pandemic arrangements for a staged response to the situation. As at 20 January 2021 , both community and custodial operations are operating at Stage 1.
- This situation will continue to be monitored in line with advice from Health Protection within ACT Health.
- AMC Training and Programs rooms will resume full capacity, accommodating up to 25 people and increasing program participation.

<u>Social visits resumption</u>

- On Wednesday 9 September 2020, limited face-to-face social visits resumed at the AMC. Staff, visitors and detainees were informed about the resumption of visits on Wednesday 2 September 2020.
- New visitor restrictions have been implemented to ensure that ACTCS meets both public health advice and workplace health and safety guidelines.

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- Due to physical distancing requirements, social visit sessions are limited to five (5) in person visits per session. Only one (1) adult visitor and one (1) child visitor per detainee is permitted per visit. Social visits are also limited to immediate family and partners only.
- Visitors are required to print and complete the *ACTCS COVID-19 Screening Form* each time they visit the AMC. The screening tool will be used to identify whether it is safe for the visitor to enter the Centre and will be made available on the ACTCS website and in the reception area.
- The changes implemented by ACTCS to resume social visits are consistent with the practices in other jursidictions:
    - Social distancing principles are abided by and screening methods for COVID-19 are utilised in all jurisdictions
    - Similar restrictions on the number of visitors are in place in all jurisdictions
    - Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia and NSW have continued video visits
- Although these changes are in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the new processes may have long lasting benefits of strengthening ACTCS' security provisions and reduce the opportunity for contraband to enter the AMC.
- All persons wishing to enter the AMC are required to undergo a touchless thermometer check, in addition to answering a number of screening questions.

Activity packs for detainees

- The Programs and Interventions team prepared a range of self-paced program booklets and activity packs for detainees during the pandemic. These packs provide detainees with ways to use their time meaningfully, including learning new strategies and for enjoyment. Self-paced booklets and card making kits are also being offered to detainees who are waiting for court appearances by telephone.
- As at18 January 2021 , 738 certificates of completion have been issued for self-paced programs. This includes 686 certificates issued to male detainees and 52 certificates to female detainees.

- On 6 January 2021, the sixth self-paced booklet, Working Together, was distributed to detainees. This booklet may be completed as a stand alone booklet or as a prerequisite to the detainee Peer Mentor training program.

Personal Protective Equipment

- The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at the AMC is in accordance with the Public Health Guidelines that are currently in place.
- PPE is not required for general work activities but is required for those working in close contact with people who have been placed on isolation and/or those who have been confirmed to have COVID-19. Correctional officers and other staff will be issued with appropriate PPE equipment where they are required to engage directly with detainees who have been placed on isolation.
- Masks will be issued to any detainees infected to prevent the spread of the disease where they are in contact with others.
- Appropriate signage is on display at 2 Constitution Avenue advising offenders who are unwell or experiencing flu-like symptoms to remain away and make telephone contact, as well as general hygiene advice.

Video visits

- Between 2–16 July 2020, ACTCS sent out a survery to families and friends who were visiting detainees by video. The survey was sent to approximately 300 visitors and 115 responses were received.
- The survey identified that the majority (93 percent) of respondents were satisfied with the video visits and would like to see them offered as a permanent visit option in addition to face-to-face visits.
- The survey also identified the following benefits for visitors:
    - Limiting exposure of the environment to children;
    - Allowing family and friends who are overseas and interstate to see a detainee more regularly;
    - Convenience; and
    - Safer for those with medical conditions.
- Visitors and family members of detainees will continue to receive updates via the ACTCS website. Detainees will also continue to receive

weekly electronic notices to keep them updated on the situation both in the community and at the AMC.

- Video visits have continued and detainees may have up to one (1) video visit and one (1) in person visit per week. Visits are up to one (1) hour in duration.
- Non-Contact Visits have ceased to occur – these have been replaced with the option for video visits.

Audio Visual Link

- Audio-Visual Links (AVL) to the Courts and Sentence Administration Board (SAB) have been in high demand at the AMC throughout the pandemic, however availability is limited.
- While the Courts and SAB have both maximised the use of AVL and telephone hearings, this is not sustainable once restrictions ease and the facilities are returned to their original purpose as Programs rooms.
- The Courts, SAB and other stakeholders are extremely keen to continue the use of AVL and thereby reduce unnecessary detainee movement.

Key Information

Visits

- AMC conducted 3,036 visits between 9 September 2020 and 31 Decemeber 2020. 55% (1,372) of these visits were conducted via video and 45% (1,350) were conducted in person.
- ACTCS' response to resuming social visits is consistent with other jurisidictions:
    - Western Australia and Queensland have implemented the following:
        - COVID-19 screening prior to visits entering prisons, including the requirement to complete a questionnaire
        - Social distancing, increased cleaning and hygiene stations
        - Restrictions on the number of visits per session and the number of visitors
        - Continuation of video visits.
    - The Northern Territory has introduced similar measures:
        - Restrictions on the number of visitors per detainee (however two children are permitted to visit, compared to one child in the ACT) and the number of visits per week (one) with visits limited to one hour

- Social distancing and additional hygiene measures
- However, detainees are required to wear a mask during visits.

- Social visits in South Australia are suspended for two weeks as of 17 November 2020 following a staff member testing positive for COVID-19 at the Yatala Labour Prison:
  - Zoom visits are continuing during this time
  - Professional visits have been reduced to 50% capacity with only one visitor per detainee and social distancing principles must be adhered to (including not sharing any pens, documents, etc.).
- New South Wales are resuming social visits from 23 November 2020 with the following conditions:
  - Social distancing must be abided by (with the exception of an elbow or fist bump at the commencement of the visit)
  - COVID screening and increased hygiene must be adhered to
  - There is a limit on the number of visitors for each detainee (one child and one adult or two adults)
  - Visits will be for 30 minutes and provided masks must be worn by visitors for the duration of the visit (with the exception of children under the age of 12)
  - Video visits will continue.
- Tasmania have implemented similar requirements for social visits:
  - COVID-19 screening prior to visits entering prisons, including the requirement to complete a questionnaire
  - A maximum of two visitors are permitted per detainee (including children)
  - Hugging or kissing is not permitted during visits
  - The Visitor Reception does not accept property items.

- All social visits to the AMC were suspended from close of business on Sunday 22 March 2020 to ensure the health and safety of all detainees and visitors.
- Since Wednesday 25 March 2020, detainees have been provided with an additional $20 phone credit to assist with contact to their family and friends, and with effect from Friday 27 March 2020, ACTCS commenced the use of video visits using the video communication program 'Zoom'.
- Visitors are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to their visit time to complete the requirements of entry.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- Detainees are required to complete a 'Visitor Nomination' form before visits can be booked. This form was circulated to all detainees in late July 2020.
- Detainees can nominate up to ten (10) visitors they would like to receive visits from on their 'Visitor Nomination' form.
- Following these nominations, visitors are required to confirm their identity with ACTCS before they can attend a visit. These changes were communicated to visitors on Friday 14 August 2020.
- Visits must be booked 72 hours prior to the intended visit. Visitors must call AMC Executive Support and leave a message to arrange a visit.
- Visitors will receive a text message confirming the outcome of their booking enquiry. Visitors without a mobile phone will be contacted by telephone.
- Detainees do have the option to apply to the General Manager AMC in exceptional circumstances for other visits arrangements.
- Unfortunately, due to cleaning requirements, the following services and facilities are not available during visits:
    - toilet facilities
    - barista
    - the BBQ and outdoor play equipment.
- Professional visits are able to occur in person and via video at the choice of the professional agency and the availability of the video equipment.

<u>Activities</u>

- The activity packs offer a range of craft and brain teasers, including find a picture, find a word, sudoku and origami. Craft packs are also available, including making cards with scrapbooking paper and colouring/drawing ideas and lesson pages. Packs continue to be available to all detainees.
- Hepatitis ACT have donated a selection of card making, colouring in sheets, drawing paper, hepatitis information booklets and packs of cards for distribution to detainees.
- The self paced booklets may be submitted to the Programs Unit for review and, if completed, a certificate will be awarded. This will assist detainees in custody for a short period who wish to demonstrate their engagement in a short intervention and encourage detainees to increase their own self development and independence in skill building. It is envisaged these programs will be used beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Pandemic arrangements for staff

- ACTCS staff were identified as 'Essential Workers' and were required to continue to provide key mandated services within the ACT and to maintain community safety. ACTCS increased flexible working arrangements where possible to maintain social distancing by reducing the volume of employees within the workplace.
- Stage 1 of ACTCS' pandemic arrangements consists of adopting social distancing principles, undertaking screening of offenders and adjusting operational activities on a case-by-case basis to reduce the likelihood of infection.
- Sanitation stations have been placed at the entrance to all buildings within the AMC and at 2 Constitution Avenue.

Background Information

- The Canberra Times and ABC reported on the suspension of visits on Saturday 21 March 2020. The articles are available at:
    - https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/6690073/infection-risk-shuts-visitors-out-of-canberra-jail/?src=rss
    - https://www.abc.net.au/news/2020-03-21/canberra-records-new-cases-of-covid-19-prison-visits-stopped/12077734
- In order to limit any spread of infection, offender attendance in court is being minimised and may be rescheduled and the obligations of staff to attend reduced. ACTCS introduced a Telephone Court option for magistrates to supplement their existing Audio-Visual Links and the usual face-to-face court appearances.
- Due to maximum room occupancy levels, changes were made to the AMC Education timetable. The timetable was separated into four education sessions per day. This reduced the majority of education classes for participating detainees from 2.5 hours per week to 1 hour per week.
- ACTCS worked closely with other jurisdictions to assist with decision making during this time through the Corrective Services Administrators Council.
- A Coordination Centre within ACTCS was established and commenced Monday 23 March 2020 at 2 Constitution Avenue.
    - The purpose of the centre is to have a team who can coordinate, manage and support all COVID-19 related matters and provide updates to staff, detainees and stakeholders in a timely manner.
    - The Coordination Centre will be operating from 0830 to 1600 Monday to Friday, for pandemic related matters only.
- A Situation Report is developed and distributed each weekday confirming key issues from the previous 24 hours and issues presenting.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- A fact sheet about COVID-19 was published and distributed to detainees on Tuesday 24 March 2020. The fact sheet covered the following information:
    - What is coronavirus and COVID-19?
    - What do you need to know?
    - What are the symptoms?
    - How can we help prevent the spread of coronavirus?
    - What about visitors?
    - Attendance at court.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-004

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: ACTCS REFORM

Talking points:

- The ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Strategic Plan 2019-24 contains four pillars under the banner of 'One Team, One Purpose: Supporting a Safer Community':
    - Safety – Maintaining community safety is our priority
    - Reintegration – Supporting offenders to positively change their lives is our focus
    - Dignity – Treating people with humanity, dignity and respect is our mandate
    - Excellence – Developing organisational capacity and capability, and ensuring continuous improvement is our commitment.
- To achieve the strategic plan goals, a significant program of reform is underway to support the provision of a leading correctional service to the ACT community. This includes:
    - Development of an Integrated Offender Management model
    - AMC Reform project
    - Women Offenders Framework
    - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offenders Framework
    - Workforce reform
    - Community and volunteer engagement
    - ACTCS Disability Action and Inclusion Plan.

<u>Integrated Offender Management (IOM)</u>

- The IOM model aligns with the ACT Government's commitment to Reducing Recidivism and will embed early release planning and the ACTCS *Reintegration Framework* across custodial and community operations through a holistic end to end sentence management process for offenders.

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- The IOM model will ensure that interventions are delivered in a considered and timely manner at the appropriate point of an offender's sentence. IOM also seeks to provide opportunities for offenders to engage in constructive activity throughout their custodial sentence and that those in the community post release or under community supervision, are supported appropriately.
- Development and implementation of an IOM model is a substantial program of work and is intended to be in place and operational by the end of 2021.

AMC Reform

- Includes:
    - Cohort moves to ensure physical separation between mainstream and protection detainees and enhance safety, security and good order in correctional centres.
    - Regime changes to better manage detainee cohorts and increase constructive activity through enhanced core day programs.
    - Development and implementation of violence reduction and drug strategy reforms.
    - Introduction of an Incentives and Earned Privileges scheme to encourage and reward positive and pro-social behaviours and engagement by detainees in their sentence management plans.

Women Offenders' Framework

- ACTCS has drafted a Women Offenders' Framework that aims to address the specific needs of women in custody and supervised in the community, to optimise their chances of successful rehabilitation and reintegration. This Framework is currently undergoing finalisation and is anticipated to be launched on International Women's Day on 8 March 2021.
- The development of the Framework involved consultation and active engagement with non-government organisations and key stakeholders through a Reference Group.

- Women with 'lived experience' of the correctional system in custody and in the community were consulted via a non-government provider, Women's Centre for Health Matters, so that their important perspective informed the Framework's development.
- A Women Offenders' Operating Model is planned for development in 2021 in collaboration with internal and external stakeholders. This model will seek to align operational practice with the principles and objectives outlined in the Women Offenders' Framework.

Workforce reform

- Review of corrections officer roster to improve efficiencies and increase predictability of future shifts for officers and align with the *Correctional Officer Enterprise Agreement 2018-2021* for the timely provision of rosters. The new roster will also expand the training commitment for officers to ensure that appropriate training is delivered to all officers.
- Creation of staff wellbeing forum incorporating the WorkSafe ACT *Healthier Work* initiative.
- Creation of an Operational Support division with capability to invest in staff development and a skilled workforce.
- Development of an *Attraction and Retention Strategy*, including defining career pathways within operational divisions and pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Culturally and Linguistically Diverse employees.
- Development of a *Staff Engagement Strategy* to promote engagement and wellbeing, and collaboration with Deakin University.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offender Framework

- ACTCS is committed to addressing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in custody and the community through culturally safe intervention and rehabilitation.
- ACTCS has commenced work to develop the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offender Framework to guide service delivery in a culturally sensitive and appropriate way. The Framework will complement the Women Offenders' Framework and will be completed in 2021.
- The Framework will guide frontline staff on the effective management and rehabilitation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders and

support the development and implementation of Indigenous programs and services.

- The Framework will be informed by extensive internal and external stakeholder consultation, including community Elders, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, and key service providers such as Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services.

Community and volunteer engagement

- ACTCS is developing a policy for ongoing formal community engagement that will provide opportunities for service enhancements, improve awareness of ACTCS operations and processes and encourage collaboration between ACTCS and community stakeholders.
- The ACTCS *Community Engagement Policy* is due for completion by mid-2021.
- Preparations for a program of volunteer engagement have commenced to provide support with the reintegration of offenders into the community from custody.

Disability Action and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

- The Disability Action and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) was launched on 3 December 2020, the International Day of People with a Disability.
- ACTCS worked with the Australian Network on Disability to develop the DAIP to improve access and participation of people with a disability across all areas of operations.
- The DAIP will enable ACTCS to identify where people with a disability come into contact with the service, including staff members, offenders and members of the community. It will also set out reasonable adjustments that can be made to improve access.
- In 2021 ACTCS will commence development of a *Corrections Disability Framework* under the ACT *Disability Justice Strategy 2019-29.*

Key Information

- Due to multiple unsuccessful recruitments for an Identified Senior Policy Officer position within ACTCS to lead the development of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offender Framework, ACTCS has engaged a consultancy to lead the development of the Framework working closely with the ACTCS Policy Unit. The

consultants will work closely with ACTCS to identify best practice evidence and engage key stakeholders in the development of the Framework.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-015

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: REINTEGRATION CENTRE

Talking points:

- As part of the *Building Communities Not Prisons* initiative, the ACT Government committed to improving rehabilitation options for detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), including through a purpose built Reintegration Centre that will support detainees in transitioning back to the community.
- Capital funding of $35 million (over three years) was allocated in the 2019-20 Budget to construct the 80-bed minimum security Reintegration Centre located outside the secure perimeter of the AMC. The Reintegration Centre will incorporate the 20-bed Transitional Release Centre.
- The Reintegration Centre is intended to reduce the time a person may be detained in custody through increasing the capacity of detainees to gain parole and, once released, to successfully reintegrate into the community with increased skills and strategies to address the causes of their criminogenic behaviours.
- To achieve the desired positive outcomes, there will be a key focus on job readiness, access to transitional release and employment in the community, family and community supports as well as interventions related to alcohol and drug misuse.
- The Reintegration Centre is intended to provide enhanced rehabilitation programs including trauma and relationship counselling, alcohol, tobacco and other drug rehabilitation, and jobs skills training in partnership with non-government and government organisations.
- As detainees accommodated in the Reintegration Centre will not access AMC facilities, the facility will include an industries building to provide detainees with work opportunities and skills training to enhance employment prospects on release.
- The Reintegration Centre will address the risk of overcrowding at the AMC and decrease the number of male detainees currently accommodated within the secure perimeter of the AMC.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Key Information

- In December 2019, the Minister for Corrections and Justice Health reported to the Legislative Assembly on the progress of the Reintegration Centre.
- The Reintegration Centre project involves design and planning approvals to provide accommodation buildings for new beds and associated support, administration and stores.
- The design, procurement and construction of the facility is being managed by Major Projects Canberra.
- Following the announcement of the expansion of the Reintegration Centre as part of the 2018-19 budget review and the 2019-20 budget, a geotechnical investigation was commissioned to assess the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions across the site.
- The investigation identified a number of areas of concern which had different classifications for rectification before building works can commence.
- The rectification works have been considered as part of the project timelines and work is due to commence in 2021.
- The budget bid to support the works being undertaken will be submitted as part of the 2020-21 budget process as this was not included in the original project budget.
- Key milestones achieved to date include:
    - In May 2019, Perumal Pedavoli Pty Ltd was appointed to provide Design Consultancy Services for the Reintegration Centre.
    - 30 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan documents were submitted in June 2019.
    - 80 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan documents were issued for review in mid-December 2019.
    - The Development Application (DA) was submitted in May 2020.
    - 100 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan was completed in September 2020.
    - The Government Procurement Board endorsed the proposal in November 2020.
- The DA was approved in November 2020. The design phase of the Reintegration Centre is complete and a public tender will follow to enable construction to commence.
- A project to commence development of the Operating Model for the Reintegration Centre has commenced, with a preliminary model developed to date. The focus for the next six months is the development of a detailed operating model which is being progressed in consultation with current and released detainees, staff and community stakeholders.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Background Information

- Since the opening of the AMC in 2009, detainee numbers have consistently exceeded forecast numbers.
- In 2017, the ACT Government agreed that a feasibility study be undertaken to identify, prioritise and program the delivery of future correctional requirements in a staged and cost-effective manner.
- In January 2019, during the 2018-19 mid-year review process, the ACT Government allocated $997 000 to ACTCS to commence planning and design for the Reintegration Centre.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-007

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ALEXANDER MACONOCHIE CENTRE TRANSFERS

Talking points:

- On 24 November 2020, five (5) male detainees were transferred from the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) to NSW correctional centres.
- An additional four (4) male detainees were transferred in early December 2020 (two on 3 December 2020, and two on 11 December 2020).
- Of the nine detainees transferred, eight were involved in the disturbance which occurred at the AMC on 10 November 2020, where 27 detainees housed in the AU-North accommodation unit refused to return to their cells for the night lock-in and caused significant damage to the unit, including by lighting fires.
- One detainee that was transferred was involved in various other incidents, including a fire incident that caused significant damage to parts of the Sentenced Cottage 2 (SC2) accomodation unit.
- The impact of the disturbance and fire incident in SC2 placed increased pressure on the management of complex cohorts of detainees by ACTCS due to the temporary loss of these accommodation units as a result of damage.
- The decision to transfer these nine detainees to NSW was made to ensure the ongoing safety, security and good order of the AMC in consideration of the reduced capacity due to the temporary loss of the accommodation units.
- The transfer of these detainees will not affect their ACT court orders and sentences.

Key Information

- The AMC manages multiple complex cohorts across minimum to maximum level security classifications and this requires individual detainee group placements to be considered for each relocation, which has been made increasingly difficult in the current circumstances.

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- ACTCS will continue to consider appropriate risk assessments when considering the placement of detainees and the options available to ACTCS.

Background Information

- Two detainees have been transferred to NSW since 2018 based on risk assessments to ensure their safety and wellbeing and that of other detainees. The first transfer was on 23 September 2018, and the second on 12 March 2020.
- Four of the detainees transferred in November/December 2020 identify as Aboriginal.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-002

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES KEY DATA (as at 1 January 2021)

Court Transport Unit (CTU)

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male
28	28.57	71.43

- This number includes one officer who has been on long term unpaid leave for approximately two years.

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – six (6) vehicles.
    - One (1) vehicle is currently in the process of transferring the equipment to the replacement vehicle. When completed, the vehicle will be returned to SG Fleet.

Custodial officers

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male
202	26.24	73.76

- There are generally 71 weekday posts at the AMC (Monday and Tuesday are slightly less as there are no visits), with 82 officers rostered on each day. This includes an additional 11 officers to account for unexpected and other leave.

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – eight (8) vehicles.
    - One (1) vehicle is currently in the process of transferring the equipment to the replacement vehicle. When completed, the vehicle will be returned to SG Fleet.

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Custodial operations – All staff (inclusive of administrative and corrections officers)

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous	% Disability	% Multicultural
271 – includes 2 on temporary contracts	53.66	46.34	7.11	3.30	8.96

- 41 of the staff members are administrative staff, including two on temporary contracts.

Community Corrections and Release Planning

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous	% Disability	% Multicultural
96.58 – includes 1 on temporary contracts	65.83	34.17	4.14	4.14	8.18

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – five (5) vehicles
    - Three (3) vehicles are located at 2 Consitution Avenue
    - Community Corrections and Release Planning has an additional two (2) vehicles based at the Transitional Release Centre adjacent to the AMC.

Corporate Services

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous	% Disability	% Multicultural
59.44 – includes 11 on temporary contracts	49.87	50.13	0	5.05	34.99

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – four (4) vehicles
    - Two (2) vehicles are located at 2 Consitution Avenue
    - Corporate Services also has an additional two (2) vehicles based at the AMC utilised by the Maintenance and Stores teams.

Operational Support

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous	% Disability	% Multicultural
26.6 – includes 3 on temporary contracts	82.71	17.29	3.76	3.76	17.29

Office of the Commissioner and Executive

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous	% Disability	% Multicultural
16 – includes 6 on temporary contracts	75.00	25.00	0	6.25	6.25

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-042

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: STAFF SUPPORT AND WELLBEING

Talking points:

- The safety, mental health and wellbeing of all ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) staff, including Correctional Officers, is a priority for ACTCS.
- ACTCS recognise that the work Correctional Officers do daily can have a significant impact on their wellbeing and are committed to protecting and promoting their physical and psychological wellbeing.
- Since mid 2020, ACTCS has introduced the following initiatives:
    - the Mentally Healthier Workplaces Pledge
    - launch of a new Peer Support Program
    - support dog.
- ACTCS is currently developing a Wellness Framework to align with the ACT Government's *Healthy Minds – Thriving Workplaces Strategy* and the development of the ACTCS Mentally Healthier Workplaces action plan.
- The ACTCS Wellness Framework is anticipated to be completed by April 2021.
- A support dog, Eddie, was added to the K9 unit in 2020 and forms part of the new Peer Support Program.
- Eddie is scheduled to complete training by mid 2021 and will be available to provide comfort and companionship to staff as required.

<u>Mentally Healthier Workplaces pledge</u>

- Over coming months, a Health and Wellbeing Plan will be developed to guide clear actions aimed at building a positive, healthy, and safe environment. The action plan and ACTCS' delivery against it will be routinely reported so that all staff are able to see what has been committed to and what has been delivered.
- WorkSafe ACT is focused on ensuring all workers in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) have healthy, safe, and productive workplaces.

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- Healthier Work (within ACT WorkSafe) is an initiative that builds the capacity of workplaces to develop and implement programs, policies, and practices that lead to healthy environments and sustained healthy lifestyle changes for employees.
- ACTCS are committed to workplace health and wellbeing and took the Mentally Healthier Workplaces Pledge during the National Corrections Day celebrations on 13 January 2021.
- ACTCS will work with WorkSafe ACT and relevant stakeholders to develop an action plan that will ensure ACTCS are place of work that:
    - Prevents harm
    - Promotes a positive culture
    - Protects staff wellbeing
    - Provides support for staff with mental illness.
- This action plan is anticipated to be completed by April 2021 for implementation. The action plan will then be reviewed every six to 12 months.

ACTCS Peer Support Program

- ACTCS Peer Support Officers are staff members who have volunteered to undertake peer support training to assist their colleagues in coping with employment-related or personal difficulties.
- ACTCS Peer Support Officers are accessible to all staff and aid the operations of ACTCS by:
    - contacting staff after an incident where there is a perceived potential of being a highly stressful or emotional experience for those involved
    - providing supportive and neutral assistance for staff for employment or personal issues
    - providing encouragement and facilitation of referrals to an Employment Assistance Program provider
    - providing promotional material relating to health and wellbeing.
- The ACTCS *Staff Peer Support Policy* was notified in July 2020 and Peer Support Officers completed relevant training in September 2020.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

The Employee Assistance Program

- The ACT Government provide Corrective Services with an Employee Assistance program which offers free, professional, and confidential services to support staff and immediate family members through both personal and work-related issues.
- All ACTCS personnel are frequently reminded of the availability of EAP as well as other support services available, such as Lifeline and Beyond Blue.

Health and wellbeing reimbursement

- Recognising the benefits of maintaining a healthy and productive workforce, the Justice and Community safety Directorate provides a reimbursement of up to $100 per annum to all permanent and fixed term employees who undertake, in their own time, health and wellbeing activities as described in the relevant Enterprise Agreements.
- These activities include, but are not limited to:
    - Sports team uniforms or clothing specifically associated with health and wellbeing
    - Runners/footwear
    - Clothing – gym, swimming and cycling gear
    - Fitness equipment – exercise bikes, soccer balls, and yoga mats etc.
    - Bone density testing
    - Stress management courses
    - Quit smoking and weight loss programs.

Key Information

- Peer support officers receive no financial payment or benefits in lieu for undertaking the role.
- The ACTCS Peer Support Policy requires Peer Support Officers to participate in regular supervision with a qualified Supervision Counsellor. A Supervision Counsellor is an external provider authorised by the ACTCS Commissioner to provide supervision and other support to the peer support scheme. Supervision includes group training, debriefing and individual support.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- A Statement of Requirements is under development to engage a suitable Supervision Counsellor to ensure compliance with the Peer Support Policy.
- ACTCS will be further developing the Peer Support Officer initiative in first quarter 2021 to include supervision.
- As well as the Employee Assistance Program, Mental Health Guru is an online mental health program available to all ACTCS employees. The interactive program can assist in better understanding mental health and how to get support for mental health conditions.

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS
2020-21 BUDGET DAY PACK INDEX
9 FEBRUARY 2021

No.	Title
1.	2020-21 Budget Summary (including summary of JACS Initiatives)
2020-21 Budget Initiatives	
2.	2020-21 Budget Initiatives Summary - MFC
3.	Contraband detection and intelligence solution
4.	Better support when it matters - Integrating the Winnunga Model of Care and Enhancing Health Services in the Alexander Maconochie Centre
2020-21 Delayed Budget	
5.	AMC Reintegration Centre - Soil rectification contingency
Rollovers	
6.	Rollovers - MFC
2020-21 Staffing	
7.	2020-21 Budget Staffing FTE by Ministerial Portfolio – MFC
2019-20 Audited Outcome and 20-21 Budget Variance	
8.	2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Controlled
9.	2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Territorial
MFC Strategic and Accountability Indicators	
10.	2020-21 Strategic and Accountability Indicators - Output 2 - Corrective Services

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

JACS2021/143-002-001

Portfolio/s: JACS Ministers

DELAYED BUDGET DECISIONS

Attorney-General

Increased Magistrates Court resourcing

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	310	0	0	0	**310**
Offset – Expenses	-310	0	0	0	**-310**
Net cost of services	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

The Government will provide additional capacity in the Magistrates Court from the Confiscated Assets Trust to manage the backlog of court activities resulting from COVID-19.

Enhancing administration of the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	130	399	0	0	**529**

The Government will provide additional staff to administer the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme. These additional resources will help ensure the scheme continues to provide critical support to the victims of crime in a timely manner while a review of the administration of the scheme is finalised.

More support for the Public Trustee and Guardian

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	400	410	420	431	**1,661**
Revenue	494	506	519	532	**2,051**
Net cost of services	**-94**	**-96**	**-99**	**-101**	**-390**

The Government will increase Community Service Obligation funding to the Public Trustee and Guardian (PTG) to reflect the increased cost and complexity in managing the affairs of clients. The PTG will also increase its own-source revenue to reflect the cost of managing its clients' accounts.

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Improving road safety through Mobile Device Detection Cameras

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Expenses – Transport Canberra and City Services Directorate	726	2,073	1,922	1,973	**6,694**
Expenses – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate	210	762	911	929	**2,812**
Expenses – Justice and Community Safety Directorate	0	144	150	154	**448**
Revenue	0	6,311	7,762	5,570	19,643
Net cost of services	**936**	**-3,332**	**-4,779**	**-2,514**	**-9,689**

The Government will introduce mobile device detection cameras, as part of the ACT's road safety camera program, to support law enforcement activities and to increase road safety.

Minister for Gaming

Community Clubs Ministerial Advisory Council

Empty Cell	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Expenses	249	489	502	515	**1,755**

The Government will establish a Community Clubs Ministerial Advisory Council to support more sustainable clubs. Funding will also provide for the development of policy and legislation to support the introduction of $5 bet limits and $100 load-up limits on electronic gaming machines. The Government intends for a staged rollout of the new limits to commence by the end of 2022.

Gaming Machine Authorisation Surrender Incentive – extension

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Expenses	0	0	0	0	**0**

The Government will extend the gaming machine authorisation surrender incentive for an additional six months to June 2021. The extension will utilise the remaining funding available from the $3.75 million originally provided for the measure.

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Minister for Corrections

AMC Reintegration Centre – Soil rectification contingency

	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Capital	1,754	3,870	0	0	**5,624**
Depreciation	0	82	141	141	**364**

The Government will increase the contingency for the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) Reintegration Centre project to address soil rectification issues subject to further investigation. The Centre will accommodate up to 60 low-risk detainees and an Industries Building to enhance opportunities for employment for detainees when they are released.

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Management and remediation of firefighting substances at Fire Stations

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	1,452	797	0	0	**2,249**

The Government will undertake further investigations into the existence of poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) at eight current Emergency Service Agency sites and the site of the former Charnwood Fire Station. This critical work is required to ensure the safety of Government sites and workplaces.

Relocating ACT Policing's Traffic Operations Centre

	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Capital	NFP	NFP	NFP	NFP	**NFP**
Depreciation	NFP	NFP	NFP	NFP	**NFP**
Expenses	NFP	NFP	NFP	NFP	**NFP**
Net cost of services	**NFP**	**NFP**	**NFP**	**NFP**	**NFP**

The Government will relocate ACT Policing's Traffic Operations Centre from its current site at Belconnen to a fit for purpose facility which will better meet the business and operational needs of ACT Policing. The cost of this initiative has been withheld to secure value for money when the Government approaches the market.

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Expanding the Police, Ambulance and Clinician Early Response (PACER) service

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	1,934	3,965	4,064	4,166	**14,129**
Offset – Health Funding Envelope	0	-3,965	-4,064	-4,166	**-12,195**
Net cost of services	**1,934**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1,934**

The Police, Ambulance and Clinician Early Response (PACER) service brings together a team of experts to better respond to Canberrans in mental health crisis. Police, paramedics and mental health clinicians provide in-community assessment and treatment of people, significantly reducing demand on the Emergency Department. The Government will continue to provide ongoing funding for the PACER service, with services expanded to operate seven days per week.

COVID-19 Public Health Response

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses – ACT Health Directorate	9,839	0	0	0	**9,839**
Expenses – Education Directorate	4,163	0	0	0	**4,163**
Expenses – Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate	3,539	0	0	0	**3,539**
Expenses – Justice and Community Safety Directorate	2,434	0	0	0	**2,434**
Expenses – Transport Canberra and City Services	2,450	0	0	0	**2,450**
Expenses – ACT Local Hospital Network	500	0	0	0	**500**
Expenses – Community Services Directorate	328	0	0	0	**328**
Expenses – Provision	0	16,593	0	0	**16,593**
Offset – Savings	-6,418	0	0	0	**-6,418**
Offset – Savings Provision	0	-5,336	0	0	**-5,336**
Hotel quarantine fees	1,138	437	0	0	**1,575**
Net cost of services	**15,697**	**10,820**	**0**	**0**	**26,517**

The Government will continue the COVID-19 response through the next phase of the pandemic in the coming 12 months. This initiative will continue to support the whole of government response to the health emergency. This initiative will be funded through a cost sharing arrangement between the Commonwealth and the Territory.

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

ECONOMIC AND FISCAL UPDATE DECISIONS

Attorney-General

Increased Magistrates Court resourcing

	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	0	310	0	0	0	**310**

The Government will fund additional capacity in the Magistrates Court to quickly address any backlog of cases as a result of reduced court activity arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

This initiative was published on 19 June and remains unchanged.

Minister for Gaming

Continuing the Gaming Machine Authorisation Surrender Incentive

	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	1,635	2,115	0	0	0	**3,750**

The Government will extend the Gaming Machine Authorisation Surrender Incentive until 4 December 2020. The initiative will provide gaming machine licensees with the opportunity to access a payment of $15,000 per authorisation if they voluntarily surrender a gaming machine authorisation.

This initiative was published on 19 June, but it was included in the *Supporting Community Clubs* initiative. The financial estimates have been revised to reflect activity to date and to incorporate the extension of the scheme until 4 December 2020.

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Supporting Community Clubs

	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	5,138	0	0	0	0	**5,138**

The Government is providing further support to Canberra's community clubs and Casino, to enable them to keep staff employed through a waiver/refund of gaming machine tax liabilities for clubs for March 2020 activity (for larger clubs that pay gaming tax monthly) or for first quarter 2020 activity (for smaller clubs that pay gaming tax quarterly).

The Government has also made an additional $1.5 million contribution to the Clubs Diversification Fund, which will support clubs in the ACT to keep staff employed on the Clubs award rate.

This estimate has been revised down from the original estimate, due to initial take-up of measures being lower than originally estimated. The final cost of this initiative will depend on the final take-up of available measures.

Additionally, the Government has amended legislation to allow payment of award wages to staff to be claimed as community contributions where an emergency declaration has been made and provide incentives for clubs to prepare food for the vulnerable.

This initiative was published on 19 June, for presentation purposes, the voluntarily surrender of gaming machine authorisation component is now reflected in the *Continuing Gaming Machine Authorisation Surrender Incentive* initiative.

Minister for Corrections

Contraband detection and intelligence solution

	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Capital	0	610	0	0	0	**610**
Depreciation	0	0	58	58	58	**174**
Associated Expenses	0	212	0	0	0	**212**
Total Expenses	**0**	**212**	**58**	**58**	**58**	**386**

The Government will provide additional contraband detection equipment at the Alexander Maconochie Centre to improve operational safety and security for both staff and detainees.

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

More ACT Fire & Rescue Staff and Construction of Acton Station

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Expenses	0	7,335	8,354	10,745	15,709	**42,143**
Depreciation	0	0	0	0	1,690	**1,690**
Total Expenses	**0**	**7,335**	**8,354**	**10,745**	**17,399**	**43,833**
Associated Capital	0	6,653	29,423	7,983	1,127	**45,186**

The Government will provide an additional 99 firefighters by 2024-25 to ensure ACT Fire & Rescue operational response capability is able to meet the increased demand for its services.

The Government will also design and construct a joint ACT Fire & Rescue and ACT Ambulance Service station at Clunies Ross Street, Acton, which will become operational in the 2022-23 financial year. The new station will help to improve Fire & Rescue and the ACT Ambulance Service emergency response times.

Strategic accommodation study for Policing

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Expenses	0	687	0	0	0	**687**

The Government will undertake two feasibility studies to consider strategic accommodation options for the Winchester Police Centre in Belconnen and the ACT Policing Gungahlin Police presence currently located at the Joint Emergency Services Centre in Gungahlin.

Emergency Services Agency critical ICT investment

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	**Total**
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	**$'000**
Capital	0	550	0	0	0	**550**
Offset – Capital	0	-253	0	0	0	**-253**
Net Capital	**0**	**297**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**297**
Depreciation	0	0	59	59	59	**177**

The Government will strengthen critical ICT systems and spatial awareness infrastructure used by front-line staff of the Emergency Services Agency in the delivery of emergency services to the ACT community.

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ACT Government
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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Minister for Human Rights

Additional resources for the Victims of Crime Commissioner

	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	0	130	0	0	0	**130**

The Government will provide additional resources to the Victims of Crime Commissioner to meet increased demand for the Victims of Financial Assistance Scheme and the Victims Services Scheme during COVID-19. These schemes provide critical support to the victims of crime.

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

CONTINUATION OF ACTIVITIES CEASING AT 30 JUNE 2020

Attorney-General

Legislation, Policy and Programs - Funding to Deliver Government Priorities

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	1,096				**1,096**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**6.00**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The Government will fund additional capacity to deliver the Government's legislative initiatives, legal policy and justice system programs by providing a stable, permanent and experienced workforce.

Implementing the Commonwealth Redress Scheme for Institutional Child and Sexual Abuse

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses JACS	431				**431**
ACT Policing	40				**40**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**4**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

As part of the Commonwealth Redress Scheme, the Government will provide funding to support eligible survivors of abuse in Government institutions through a redress payment, counselling and psychological care.

Expense: ($0.431m in 2020-21)

The funding for this initiative has been split across several directorates. The table above shows the JACS components only.

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Strengthening legal and court support for vulnerable young people and families affected by domestic and family violence

Financial Impacts Summary	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts[(a)]						
Expenses - Justice and Community Safety Directorate	0	250	256	260	262	**1,028**
Expenses – ACT Legal Aid	0	313	321	329	337	**1,300**
Expenses – Education Directorate	82	85	0	0	0	**167**
Offset – Expenses – Education Directorate	-82	-85	0	0	0	**-167**
Total Additional FTEs (number)						
Courts	0	2	2	2	2	
Legal Aid	0	3	3	3	3	

The Government will invest in court and legal support services for families and young people impacted by domestic and family violence by:

- continuing support for ACT Courts to deal with applications for Family Violence Orders;
- continuing to contribute to Legal Aid's Family Violence Unit which is based at the ACT Courts building; and
- improving access to legal assistance for young people and their families through the introduction of a Legal Liaison pilot program in schools.

More Support for families and inclusion: Enhancing the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	391				**391**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**2.5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The Government will provide more resources to administer the new Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme and outstanding claims under the previous court-based Victims

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of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme, to improve the claims experience for scheme participants.

Minister for Corrections

Winnunga Model of Care at the AMC

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	874				**874**
CAT funded					
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**5.6**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

This measure will address the immediate need to provide culturally appropriate holistic health and well-being services to members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).

Minister for Police and Emergency Services

Economic Survival Package – Police, Ambulance and Clinician Emergency Response (PACER)

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expenses					
ACTAS (ESA)	240	0	0	0	**240**
ACT Policing	240	0	0	0	**240**
ACT Health	240	0	0	0	**240**
Total	720	**0**	**0**	**0**	**720**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**2.00**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The Government will fund ACT Policing, the ACT Ambulance Service (ACTAS) and the ACT Health Directorate as part of the tri-service mental health emergency co-response PACER to strengthen first-response capability for acute mental health episodes in order to provide in-situ mental health assessment treatment and care.

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Traffic Operation Centre (TOC) Feasibility Study

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	258				**258**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The current TOC facility is 'not fit for purpose'. This initiative will fund an assessment of requirement to provide a viable solution for TOC.

ACT Policing 2020-21 - Enhanced Forensic Medical Services

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts[(a)]					
Expenses – ACT Policing	729	0	0	0	**729**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	**0.0**	

The Government will increase funding for the provision of on-call forensic medical services available to ACT Policing. Additional funding will support services such as the medical assessment of people in custody, coronial and criminal investigations including documenting evidence of injuries of assaults for victims of violent crimes, attending death scenes to assist in the coronial process and providing expert evidence for court.

ACT Policing Emergency Cost Pressures

Empty Cell	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Expenses	879	0	0	0	**879**

The Government will provide funding to ACT Policing for costs associated with combating the 2019-20 bushfire crisis and for the implementation of initiatives to keep members of the community safe during the COVID 19 pandemic, including providing Personal Protection Equipment for police officers and additional cleaning and intercoms at Police Stations.

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Minister for Human Rights

Victim Services Scheme: therapeutic support for victims

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	204				**204**
CAT funded					
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The Government will continue to support victims by providing resources to address scheme demand. This initiative will ensure victims of family violence and other violent crimes can access therapeutic support aimed at minimising the traumatic impacts of crime, improving personal safety and assisting victims and their families to actively pursue recovery.

More Support for families and inclusion: Enhancing the Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	391				**391**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**2.5**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

The Government will provide more resources to administer the new Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme and outstanding claims under the previous court-based Victims of Crime Financial Assistance Scheme, to improve the claims experience for scheme participants.

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Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

TRIM: JACS2021/143-002-010

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: 2020-21 Budget Summary – Corrections

Talking points:

The 2020-21 Budget continues investment in Corrections including:

- **$0.8 million** in 2020-21 **($0.2 million** in recurrent and **$0.6 million** in capital funding**)** to provide additional contraband detection equipment at the Alexander Maconochie Centre to improve operational safety and security for both staff and detainees.
- **$0.9 million** in 2020-21 to continue funding from 2019-20 to address the need to provide culturally appropriate holistic health and well-being services to members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- **$5.6 million** over two years to increase the contingency for the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) Reintegration Centre project to address soil rectification issues.

In addition, **$0.6 million** over two years was provided in the 2019-20 Budget Review to introduce a parole time credit scheme in the ACT to provide parolees with credit towards their sentence for time spent in the community in compliance with parole obligations. This initiative builds on the Government's election commitment to reduce recidivism by reinforcing a rehabilitative approach to sentence administration.

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Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Budget initiatives related to Corrections	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000	$'000
2020-21 Budget Initiatives						
Recurrent						
Contraband Detection and Intelligence Solution		212				212
Better support when it matters — Integrating the Winnunga Model of Care and Enhancing Health Services in the Alexander Maconochie Centre		874				874
Total 2020-21 Recurrent initiatives	-	1,086	-	-	-	1,086
Capital						
Contraband detection and intelligence solution		610				610
AMC Reintegration Centre — Soil rectification contingency		1,754	3,870			5,624
Total 2020-21 Capital initiatives	-	2,364	3,870	-	-	6,234
2019-20 2nd Appropriation Initiatives						
Recurrent						
Introducing a Parole Time Credit Scheme	128	155				283
Total 2019-20 2nd Appropriation Recurrent initiatives	128	155	-	-	-	283
Capital						
Introducing a Parole Time Credit Scheme	300					300
Total 2019-20 2nd Appropriation Capital initiatives	300	-	-	-	-	300

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

REC20/38362

Portfolio/s: Corrections

Contraband Detection and Intelligence Solution

	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	**Total $'000**
Capital	610	0	0	0	**610**
Depreciation	0	58	58	58	**174**
Associated Expenses	212	0	0	0	**212**
Total Expenses	**212**	**58**	**58**	**58**	**386**

The Government will provide additional contraband detection equipment at the Alexander Maconochie Centre to improve operational safety and security for both staff and detainees.

Expense: ($0.212m in 2020-21)

The funding is for 1.6 FTE to address some of the findings in the Healthy Prison Review undertaken in 2019.

The capital funding will be used for the following:

	$
Full Body X-Ray Scanner	400,000
Portable Scanning Device	50,000
Mobile phone detection device	75,000
Handheld metal detectors	60,000
Procurement Fee	25,000
Total	**610,000**

The above devices allow these outcomes to be achieved: (1) searches of detainee cells and their property are carried out in a professional and accountable way, prioritising systems and equipment to find contraband items; (2) all searching is lawful and proportionate, and carried out in a manner that is respectful of the inherent dignity of the person being searched; and (3) effective systems are in place to detect and confiscate weapons, illicit substances and other contraband introduced, manufactured, carried or secreted on others by detainees, visitors, or staff.

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

REC20/43539

Portfolio/s: Corrections

Winnunga Model of Care at the AMC

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Expense Impacts					
Expenses	874				**874**
CAT funded					
Total Additional FTEs (number)	**5.6**	**0**	**0**	**0**	

This measure will address the immediate need to provide culturally appropriate holistic health and well-being services to members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).

This initiative was originally funded in the 2018-19 Budget with original funding ceasing on 30th June 2020. The initiative includes components relating to ACT Health. The above table shows the JACS component only.

Expense: ($0.874 in 2020-21)

The initiative will continue funding for another year relating to:

- 3.6 x Rover Custodial Officer Post CO1 which is equivalent to 1 person on a 12 hour post per day, 7 days a week
- Training Relief 2.0 x Custodial Officer Post CO1 which is equivalent to the provision of 1.3 hours of training per year per person.

Further information:

- Winnunga specialise in providing comprehensive primary care consistent with client needs. It focuses on developing client relationships through the delivery of a 'one stop shop' approach to holistic health care.
- Winnunga Model of Care addresses Recommendation 5 of the Moss Inquiry integrating a range of cultural determinates of health into the AMC health care operational model.
- The Winnunga Model of Care implements a framework that coordinates with other health service providers including Justice Health and Canberra Health Services, non-governmental organisations, state and territory government agencies and kin groups for individuals returning to home communities in regional and remote areas that require high intensity and frequency post release case management and care.

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

TRIM: REC21/1261

Portfolio/s: Corrections

MFC 2020-21 Delayed Budget Initiative – AMC Reintegration Centre - Soil rectification contingency (JACS CW 14)

Financial Impacts Summary	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Totals $'000
Capital	1,754	3,870	0	0	**5,624**
Depreciation	0	82	141	141	**364**
Total Additional FTEs (number)	0.1	0.1			

The Government will increase the contingency for the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) Reintegration Centre project to address soil rectification issues.

Upon completion of the Reintegration Centre, up to 60 low-risk detainees would be able to move from the AMC to the Reintegration Centre, which would free up these beds for medium/high security detainees.

Capital: ($5.624m over 2 years)

The initiative will rectify the soil and groundwater issues identified as part of geotechnical investigation.

Further Information:

The proposed AMC Reintegration Centre project has completed the design investigation. The investigation indicated that the current ground condition reflects reactive clays and undefined fill material. These materials are not suitable as founding material for construction of substantial building structures. This initiative will rectify the soil and underground water condition on the site to ensure the AMC Reintegration Centre project can stick to current targeted project delivery dates.

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JACS2021/143-002-011

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ACT Budget 2020-21 - Rollovers (MFC)

FMA Section 16B Rollovers (2018-19 to 2019-20)

Section 16b Rollovers

- **Attachment B** provides details of the Corrections portfolio FMA s16b rollovers from 2018-19 to 2019-20 including reasons, amount rolled and revised completion dates.
- Directorate re-profiled $4.692m of recurrent funding (**Attachment B**), of which of which $0.100m directly related to your portfolio, $0.500m related to yours and other Ministers' portfolios for Workers' Compensation true-up and $4.092m related to other JACS Ministers' portfolios.

Background

- Section 16b of the Financial Management Act 1996 (FMA), 'Rollover of Undispersed Appropriation', allows, in certain circumstances, unspent appropriation to be rolled over to the following year by an instrument signed by the Treasurer.

2020-21 Budget Rollovers

Reprofiling to and from future years

- **Attachment A (Capital projects)** provides details of revised funding profile by projects including reasons, amounts reprofiled and revised completion dates for capital works projects related to the Corrections portfolio.
- Capital reprofiling is summarised in the table below. Total of $42.621m was reprofiled into 2021-22 ($13.332m out of 2019-20, $27.531m out of 2020-21, $0.673m out of 2022-23 and $1.085m out of 2023-24).

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	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000
Total JACS - Departmental	-13,332	-27,531	42,621	-673	-1,085
Attorney-General	-2,939	2,012	927	0	0
Minister for Corrections	-4,136	-31,885	34,683	1,338	0
Minister for Police and Emergency Services	-5,515	1,635	6,976	-2,011	-1,085
Human Rights	-293	258	35	0	0
BIF	-449	449	0	0	0

- **Attachment B (Recurrent projects)** provides details of revised funding profile by projects including reasons and amounts reprofiled.
- Recurrent reprofiling of $4.469m from 2020-21 and $3.350m from 2020-21 were move to forward years ($0.806m in 2021-22. $3.430m in 2022-23 and $3.583m in 2023-24).

For Minister's information only

- *Financial Management Act 1996*, Subdivision 2.1.3 Capital Works Reserve, notes that a 20% reserve of total capital appropriation is held centrally and a capital works advance can be accessed if the project exceeds the current year funding allocation and there is sufficient allocation available in future years for that project.

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Attachment A: ACT Budget 2020-21 - Capital Rollovers (MFC)

CAPITAL ROLLOVERS	Reason for rollover	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000	Estimated physical completion
2020-21 Budget Rollovers - Reprofiling to and from future years							
ACT Corrective Services — Information Management	CSIMS has been met with some delays. ACTCS are currently looking to engage consultants who are able to finalise the development of the system and implement prior to the end of 2020-21. However, phase two development may be delayed until next year.	-153	-1,147	1,300			Oct-21
Alexander Maconochie Centre Detainee industries and activities enforcement project	Project physically completed, trade waste facility became operational in Jun-20. Rollover was requested to finalise invoice payment in 2020-21.	-116	116				Jun-20
Better support when it matters — Integrating the Winnunga Model of care and enhancing health services in the Alexander Maconochie Centre	The Contractor submitted cost variations for which funding had to be brought forward from 2020-21.	644	-644				Jun-21
Contraband detection and intelligence solution	The reprofiled amount relates to the X-ray machine that was part of this budget initiative. Scoping of the best value for money product; and design of area in which machine is to be housed are in progress but will not be completed prior to the current financial year.		-404	404			Sep-21
Creating a Reintegration Centre to support pathways out of the justice system	Rollover out of 2019-20 as the project was on hold pending approval to the change of scope to include an Industries Building which was obtained in July 2020. ACTCS sought approval to utilise the costs from reducing additional beds at the existing minimum-security Transitional Release Centre (TRC) to construct an industries building in TRC. Rollover out of 2020-21 is due to tender on hold while other options are considered. In addition, rollovers also due to delays in geo-technical and planning approval issues.	-1,279	-26,788	28,067			Jun-22
Digital Canberra — New digital radio communication system	Project physically completed. Rollover was to finalise invoice payment in 2020-21.	-38	38				Mar-20
More support for families and inclusion — Better resourcing for the Alexander Maconochie Centre	Project is delayed due to COVID-19. Discussion continues with the vendor to finalise the revised schedule for the remaining works. Re-profiling into future years is required.	-1,136	247	751	138		Dec-22
More support for families and inclusion — Commencing operations of the Drug and Alcohol Court	This project is dependant on the implementation of the CSIMS project which is delayed to next financial year. As a result, this project is also delayed and re-profiling was required to accompany that.	-610	149	461			Oct-21
More support for families and inclusion — Design and planning for the Alexander Maconochie Reintegration Centre expansion	Project was on hold pending approval to the change of scope to include an Industries Building which was obtained in July 2020. ACTCS sought approval to utilise the costs from reducing additional beds at the existing minimum-security Transitional Release Centre (TRC) to construct an industries building in TRC.	-97	97				Jun-22
More support for families and inclusion — Providing safe alternatives to remand	GHD has reported that the proposed building is Unfit for the purpose as a Hostel. The rollover was required to include the remaining funding in the broader Justice Housing Program.	-187	187				Jun-21
Upgrading essential services at the Alexander Maconochie Centre	Rollover from 2019-20 was due to delays associated with COVID-19 restrictions. Digital Theatre System (DTS) has been delayed to allow for additional scoping of options relating to other technologies in addition to the phones. Fire System Refresh, delays to site access caused by COVID have delayed the tender documents being released, hence reprofiling suggested into future years.	-1,164	-3,736	3,700	1,200		Dec-22
Total budget rollover - MFC		**-4,136**	**-31,885**	**34,683**	**1,338**	**0**	

Attachment B: ACT Budget 2020-21 - Recurrent Reprofiling (MFC)

RECURRENT REPROFILING - DIRECTORATE	Reason for reprofiling	2019-20 $'000	2020-21 $'000	2021-22 $'000	2022-23 $'000	2023-24 $'000
Approved s16B Rollover of Undisbursed Appropriation from 2018-19 to 2019-20						
Implementing Moss Review Recommendations	The delay was due to the whole of Alexander Maconochie Centre review (required by legislation) not being able to be conducted until July 2019 due to operational requirements. Therefore, the bulk of our expenses related to this project was planned to be incurred in the 2019-20 financial year.	225				
Providing safer alternatives to remand	$100k was allocated to a consultant to develop Program Logic and Evaluation and Data Frameworks for the Program. However due to delays with the commencement of the program, this expenditure on the consultant did not occur until the 2019-20 financial year.	100				
Workers' Compensation Acquittal	The rollover was required to enable payment of the 2018-19 true-up invoice which was accrued in 2018-19.	500				
Total approved s16b capital rollover - MFC		**825**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
2020-21 Budget Reprofiling - Reprofiling to and from future years						
More support for families and inclusion — Providing safe alternatives to remand	Rollovers of $3.579m from 2019-20 and $1.289m from 2020-21 to forward years were required as the program continues to develop and expand to the anticipated level that was originally proposed as part of the business case. The rollovers were required due to the delays in expending the allocated funds. The delays relate to the services proposed being adapted to meet the needs of the clients, with many clients not seeking the support that was being offered. Alternate approaches have been developed and the program scope has been expanded with a focus still on delivering the desired outcomes. Re-profiling the money at this stage will allow the program to continue into years where currently funding does not exist. Delays have been caused by the processes for identification and provision of a suitable property by ACT Housing. The AMC will experience an increase in costs without the continuation of this program.	-3,579	-2,119	1,708	1,900	2,090
Providing alternatives to jail through the Justice Housing Program	The program continues to develop and expand to the anticipated level that was originally proposed as part of the business case. The rollovers of were required due to the delays in expending the allocated funds. The delays in expending the allocated funds relate to the services proposed being adapted to meet the needs of the clients, with many clients not seeking the support that was being offered. Alternate approaches have been developed and the program scope has been expanded with a focus still on delivering the desired outcomes. Re-profiling the money at this stage will allow the program to continue into years where currently funding does not exist. Delays have been caused by the processes for identification and the provision of suitable properties by ACT Housing. The AMC will experience an increase in costs without the continuation of this program.	-554	-1,447	-1,022	1,530	1,493

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Attachment B: ACT Budget 2020-21 - Recurrent Reprofiling (MFC)

Better support when it matters — Implementing Moss Review recommendations	Rollover of $150k from 2019-20 to 2020-21 was required for a whole-of-centre review of Bimberi Youth Justice Centre in 20-21 as mandated in the Inspector of Correctional Service Act 2017. $120k savings were created through efficiencies with the Bimberi Review; less than expected engagement of consultants for reviews critical incidents in 2020-21 and restrictions from COVID (e.g. visits by the Inspector to Canberra, staff training and development, attendance at conferences). The Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017 requires that a full review of AMC be undertaken in 2021-22, which will require the engagement of expert consultants. There is also an ongoing requirement to monitor compliance with Government-agreed recommendations arising from the 2019 AMC Review, the 2020 Bimberi review and reviews of critical incidents. As a result, $120k that was earmarked to be spent in 2020-21 will now be spent in the 2021-22 financial year, necessitating this rollover to occur.	-150	30	120		
Alexander Maconochie Centre Fire Services System capital refresh program	There has been delays in the implementation of the Alexander Maconochie Centre Fire Services Systems (FSS) Capital Refresh Program. Rollover of $186k from 2019-20 to 2020-21 was required for the employment of a Corrections Officer to oversees contractors while the work is being undertaken	-186	186			
Total budget reprofiling - MFC		**-4,469**	**-3,350**	**806**	**3,430**	**3,583**

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

JACS2021/143-002-012

Portfolio/s: Corrections

2020-21 Budget Staffing FTE by Ministerial Portfolio - MFC

Justice and Community Safety Directorate
Budget Initiatives related to Minister of Corrections portfolio

2020-21 Budget Initiatives	2019-20 FTE	2020-21 FTE	2021-22 FTE	2022-23 FTE	2023-24 FTE
Recurrent					
Integrating the Winnunga Model of Care and Enhancing Health Services in the Alexander Maconochie Centre		5.60			
Total Recurrent Initiatives	**0.00**	**5.60**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**
Capital					
Contraband Detection and Intelligence Solution		1.60			
AMC Reintegration Centre Soil rectification contingency		0.10	0.10		
Total Capital Initiatives	**0.00**	**1.70**	**0.10**	**0.00**	**0.00**
2019-20 Budget Review					
Recurrent					
Charter of Rights and Additional Support for Victims of Crime[1]		0.40	0.50	0.50	0.50
Disability Justice Strategy [2]	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
Introducing a Parole Time Credit Scheme	0.50	0.50			
Total Recurrent Initiatives	**1.50**	**1.90**	**1.50**	**1.50**	**1.50**

Notes:
1. Only Minister for Corrections resources are included above, Minister for Human Rights and AG also have resources under this initiative
2. This initiative is a joint bid with AG, only FTEs related to MC are included in this list.

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

TRIM: JACS2021/143-002-016

Portfolio/s: JACS Ministers

ISSUE: 2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Controlled

Talking points:

These notes refer to JACS Controlled Budget Statements (extracts of statements attached)

Significant variations are as follows:

Operating Statement

- Controlled recurrent payments:

  The increase of $12.099 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to new 2020-21 initiatives ($14.237 million), Commonwealth Grants ($6.320 million), net rollovers of projects ($2.861 million), impact of 2019-20 Budget review initiatives ($1.094 million) and the transfer of capital funding to recurrent for Courts Public Private Partnership (PPP) ($0.638 million), partially offset by the transfer of the transport regulation and safety policy function from the Justice and Community Safety (JACS) Directorate to Transport Canberra and City Services (TCCS) Directorate ($3.608 million), Shared Services changed funding model ($3.523 million), savings relating to Workers' compensation premium adjustment, COVID-19 Public Health Response and the Office of the Coordinator General for the Whole of Government (Non-Health Response to COVID-19) ($3.343 million), revised superannuation and indexation parameters ($1.954 million) and the transfer of More support for families and inclusion – Drug and Alcohol Court to Canberra Health Services (CHS) ($0.442 million).
- Sale of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers:

  Since publication of the 2019-20 Budget Statements, JACS has adopted Australian Accounting Standard AASB 15, 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers' which has resulted in renaming 'User Charges' to 'Sales of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers'. The significant variances are explained below:
  - the increase of $8.881 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to higher Helicopter charges ($4.7 million) associated with 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses and higher client funded legal services by the ACT Government Solicitor's Office in 2019-20; and
  - the decrease of $5.679 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to higher revenue in 2019-20 relating to

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Helicopter charges ($4.7 million) associated with 2019-20 bushfires emergency incident responses and other adjustments.

- Grants and Contributions:

  Since publication of the 2019-20 Budget Statements, JACS has adopted Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1058, 'Income of Not-for-Profit Entities' which has resulted in the reclassification of some revenue items from 'Resources Received Free of Charge' and 'Other Gains' to 'Grants and Contributions' and 'Gains from Disposal of Assets'. The significant variances are explained below:
  - the increase of $5.050 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the change of funding arrangement relating to the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (CMTEDD) receiving direct government funding for the provision of Shared Services Finance and Human Resources services in 2019-20 with the Directorate receiving these services as Resources Received Free of Charge ($4.001 million), and a one-off contribution of land and building in Hackett in 2019-20 from the CMTEDD and TCCS, to be used for the upgrade of the ACT State Emergency Services Majura facility ($0.452 million); and
  - the decrease of $0.786 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the one-off contribution of land and building in Hackett in 2019-20 from the CMTEDD and TCCS, to be used for the upgrade of the ACT State Emergency Services Majura facility ($0.452 million) and other adjustments.

- Other revenue: the increase of $1.811 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the recoveries for workers on short-term contracts under the Jobs for Canberrans Fund ($0.726 million) and higher revenue recoveries in the Emergency Services Agency (ESA) ($0.716 million).

- Employee expenses:
  - the increase of $22.387 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is primarily due to wage increases, additional staffing and higher overtime and allowance payments associated with the 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses; and
  - the decrease of $4.583 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the higher expenses in 2019-20 relating to wage increases, additional staffing and higher overtime and allowance payments associated with the 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses ($22.386 million), savings relating to Workers' Compensation Premium Adjustment (2.581 million) and the transfer of the transport regulation and safety policy function to TCCS ($1.5 million), partially offset by new initiatives ($10.696 million), the increase in estimates mainly relating to

high demand for legal services and other activities ($6.061 million), net impact from previous years initiatives ($3.679 million) and other adjustments.

- Supplies and services: the increase of $12.174 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to increase in various operating expenses associated with 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses.
- Depreciation and Amortisation:
  - the decrease of $10.378 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the rollovers of capital works projects to 2020-21 and delay in the construction of the new ACT Courts Facilities through a Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract (where Stage 2 was completed in early 2020).
- Grants and purchased services:
  - the decrease of $2.877 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the rollovers of the Justice Housing Program initiatives to 2020-21;
  - the increase of $6.173 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the National Legal Assistance Partnership and other Commonwealth Grants ($4.592 million), Disaster Risk Reduction Commonwealth Grants ($2.088 million) and rollovers of Commonwealth Grants to 2020-21 ($0.332 million), partially offset by reclassification of expenses to Supplies and Services for Justice Housing Program ($1.080 million).
- Borrowing costs:
  - the decrease of $2.286 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the delay in completion of ACT Courts Facilities PPP; and
  - the increase of $1.396 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the full year interest repayments for the ACT Courts Facilities PPP compared to 2019-20 which was part year impact only (due to Stage 2 being completed in early 2020).
- Other expenses: the decrease of $0.550 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget and similar increase of $0.722 million in the 2020-21 budget is mainly due to the lower impaired receivables associated with Ambulance Transport Services in 2019-20.

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Balance Sheet

- Cash and Cash Equivalents: the increase of $10.940 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget and the decrease of $8.375 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome are mainly due higher cash holdings in 2019-20 to meet outstanding commitments as at 30 June 2020.
- Other Assets: the increase of $2.067 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to higher Emergency Services Agency related stock items such as uniforms, medical supplies and fire and rescue consumables in 2019-20.
- Property, Plant and Equipment: the increase of $11.608 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to new initiatives and rollovers of capital projects.
- Intangible Assets: the decrease of $21.606 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to realignment of the budget estimates closer to the actual asset profile.
- Capital Works in Progress: the decrease of $17.569 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to capital projects rollovers.

- Payables:
    - the increase of $6.129 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the higher accrued expenses associated with ACT Courts Facilities PPP ($3.810 million) and operating expenses relating to the 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses ($2.100 million); and
    - the decrease of $4.111 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to higher accrued expenses in 2019-20 associated with ACT Courts Facilities PPP and operating expenses relating to the 2019-20 bushfire emergency incident responses.
- Current and Non Current Lease Liabilities:
    - the decrease of $27.342 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the 2019-20 Budget including the impact of expected accommodation lease liability which was subsequently recognised by the Chief Minister, Treasury and Economic Development Directorate (ACT Property Group) as a result of whole of Government Policy; and
    - the decrease of $2.417 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to the repayment of PPP liabilities.

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- Current and Non Current Employee Benefits:
    - the increase of $18.837 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to higher annual leave provision primarily driven by increased staffing level resulting in higher leave entitlements and the impact of wages increases; and
    - the decrease of $7.349 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to adjustments relating to backpay of employee benefits.
- Current and Non Current Other Provisions: the increase of $0.738 million the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the increases in provisions relating to make good of the Directorate's leased accommodation, removal and minor remediation associated with decommissioned fuel tanks and per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

Statement of Changes in Equity

- Capital injections:
    - the decrease of $10.616 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to rollovers of capital projects to future years; and
    - the increase of $7.790 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to new capital initiatives.

Cash Flow Statement

Variations in the Statement are explained in the notes above.

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Cleared by:	Chief Operating Officer	Ext:78420
Information Officer name:	Moira Crowhurst	
Contact Officer name:	Dean Browne	Ext:54013
Lead Directorate:	Justice and Community Safety	

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Table 29: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Operating Statement

2019-20 Budget $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	2020-21 Budget $'000	Var %	2021-22 Estimate $'000	2022-23 Estimate $'000	2023-24 Estimate $'000
	Income						
	Revenue						
340,481	Controlled Recurrent Payments	346,923	359,022	3	359,972	366,268	375,645
16,725	Sale of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers	25,606	19,927	-22	17,545	18,025	18,522
413	Grants and Contributions	5,463	4,677	-14	4,627	4,733	4,840
12,878	Other Revenue	13,954	15,765	13	11,792	12,139	12,503
370,497	**Total Revenue**	**391,946**	**399,391**	**2**	**393,936**	**401,165**	**411,510**
	Gains						
0	Gains from Disposal of Assets	148	0	-100	0	0	0
0	**Total Gains**	**148**	**0**	**-100**	**0**	**0**	**0**
370,497	**Total Income**	**392,094**	**399,391**	**2**	**393,936**	**401,165**	**411,510**
	Expenses						
217,098	Employee Expenses	239,485	234,902	-2	233,597	237,266	244,082
32,969	Superannuation Expenses	32,503	34,715	7	34,304	35,545	36,022
95,036	Supplies and Services	107,210	106,410	-1	105,484	107,388	110,547
39,385	Depreciation and Amortisation	29,007	29,057	..	36,247	36,787	40,203
7,133	Grants and Purchased Services	4,256	10,429	145	7,860	8,550	8,737
13,478	Borrowing Costs	11,192	12,588	12	12,186	11,968	11,732
2,428	Other Expenses	1,878	2,600	38	2,458	2,462	2,466
407,527	**Total Expenses**	**425,531**	**430,701**	**1**	**432,136**	**439,966**	**453,789**
-37,030	**Operating Result**	**-33,437**	**-31,310**	**6**	**-38,200**	**-38,801**	**-42,279**
	Other Comprehensive Income						
0	Increase/(Decrease) in Asset Revaluation Surplus	-219	0	100	-600	-8,000	-13,550
0	**Total Other Comprehensive Income**	**-219**	**0**	**100**	**-600**	**-8,000**	**-13,550**
-37,030	**Total Comprehensive Income**	**-33,656**	**-31,310**	**7**	**-38,800**	**-46,801**	**-55,829**

Note(s):

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Information Officer name:	Moira Crowhurst	
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1. Since publication of the 2019-20 Budget Statements, JACS has adopted Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15, 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers', and AASB 1058, 'Income of Not-for-Profit Entities', from 1 July 2019. This has resulted in:

   a. the renaming of 'User Charges' to 'Sales of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers'; and

   b. the reclassification of some revenue items from 'Resources Received Free of Charge' and 'Other Gains' to 'Grants and Contributions' and 'Gains from Disposal of Assets'.

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Table 30: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Balance Sheet

Budget at 30/6/20 $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	Budget at 30/6/21 $'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/22 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/23 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/24 $'000
	Current Assets						
8,322	Cash and Cash Equivalents	19,262	10,887	-43	10,706	10,525	10,344
14,299	Receivables	13,912	12,948	-7	11,985	11,022	10,059
1,933	Other Assets	4,000	4,001	..	4,001	4,001	4,001
24,554	**Total Current Assets**	**37,174**	**27,836**	**-25**	**26,692**	**25,548**	**24,404**
	Non Current Assets						
530,142	Property, Plant and Equipment	533,502	545,110	2	596,936	575,229	534,356
30,780	Intangible Assets	9,174	9,774	7	10,092	7,499	4,285
27,459	Capital Works in Progress	27,935	10,366	-63	7,810	1,274	975
588,381	**Total Non Current Assets**	**570,611**	**565,250**	**-1**	**614,838**	**584,002**	**539,616**
612,935	**TOTAL ASSETS**	**607,785**	**593,086**	**-2**	**641,530**	**609,550**	**564,020**
	Current Liabilities						
6,074	Payables	12,203	8,092	-34	6,343	6,265	8,095
8,261	Lease Liabilities	3,346	3,548	6	3,598	3,499	3,368
85,089	Employee Benefits	101,435	94,322	-7	95,545	96,573	97,834
614	Other Provisions	1,037	700	-32	290	200	100
870	Contract Liabilities	1,648	1,495	-9	1,495	1,495	1,495
100,908	**Total Current Liabilities**	**119,669**	**108,157**	**-10**	**107,271**	**108,032**	**110,892**
	Non Current Liabilities						
177,161	Lease Liabilities	154,734	152,115	-2	151,368	152,631	154,338
1,335	Employee Benefits	3,826	3,590	-6	3,372	3,154	2,936
2,300	Other Provisions	2,615	2,614	..	2,615	1,616	540
180,796	**Non-Current Liabilities**	**161,175**	**158,319**	**-2**	**157,355**	**157,401**	**157,814**
281,704	**TOTAL LIABILITIES**	**280,844**	**266,476**	**-5**	**264,626**	**265,433**	**268,706**
331,231	**NET ASSETS**	**326,941**	**326,610**	**..**	**376,904**	**344,117**	**295,314**
	REPRESENTED BY FUNDS EMPLOYED						
267,528	Accumulated Funds	261,745	261,414	..	312,308	287,521	252,268
63,703	Asset Revaluation Surplus	65,196	65,196	-	64,596	56,596	43,046
331,231	**TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED**	**326,941**	**326,610**	**..**	**376,904**	**344,117**	**295,314**

Note(s):

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1. Since publication of the 2019 20 Budget Statements, JACS has adopted Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15, 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers', and AASB 1058, 'Income of Not for Profit Entities', from 1 July 2019. This has resulted in reclassifing 'Other Liabilities' to 'Contract Liabilities'.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	03/02/2021	
Cleared by:	Chief Operating Officer	Ext:78420
Information Officer name:	Moira Crowhurst	
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Table 31: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Statement of Changes in Equity

Budget at 30/6/20 $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	Budget at 30/6/21 $'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/22 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/23 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/24 $'000
	Opening Equity						
270,753	Opening Accumulated Funds	271,993	261,745	-4	261,414	312,308	287,521
63,703	Opening Asset Revaluation Reserve	65,415	65,196	..	65,196	64,596	56,596
334,456	**Balance at the Start of the Reporting Period**	**337,408**	**326,941**	**-3**	**326,610**	**376,904**	**344,117**
	Comprehensive Income						
-37,030	Operating Result - Including Economic Flows	-33,437	-31,310	6	-38,200	-38,801	-42,279
0	Inc/Dec in Asset Revaluation Reserve Surpluses	-219	0	100	-600	-8,000	-13,550
-37,030	**Total Comprehensive Income**	**-33,656**	**-31,310**	**7**	**-38,800**	**-46,801**	**-55,829**
0	**Total Movement in Reserves**	**0**	**0**	**-**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds						
33,805	Capital Injections	23,189	30,979	34	89,094	14,014	7,026
33,805	**Total Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds**	**23,189**	**30,979**	**34**	**89,094**	**14,014**	**7,026**
	Closing Equity						
267,528	Closing Accumulated Funds	261,745	261,414	..	312,308	287,521	252,268
63,703	Closing Asset Revaluation Reserve	65,196	65,196	-	64,596	56,596	43,046
331,231	**Balance at the end of the Reporting Period**	**326,941**	**326,610**	**..**	**376,904**	**344,117**	**295,314**

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Information Officer name:	Moira Crowhurst	
Contact Officer name:	Dean Browne	Ext:54013
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Table 32: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Cash Flow Statement

2019-20 Budget $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	2020-21 Budget $'000	Var %	2021-22 Estimate $'000	2022-23 Estimate $'000	2023-24 Estimate $'000
	CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
	Receipts						
340,481	Controlled Recurrent Payments	346,923	359,022	3	359,972	366,268	375,645
15,193	Sale of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers	21,040	18,320	-13	15,938	16,418	16,915
0	Grants and Contributions	378	0	-100	0	0	0
26,959	Other	31,179	34,278	10	30,391	30,827	31,280
382,633	**Operating Receipts**	**399,520**	**411,620**	**3**	**406,301**	**413,513**	**423,840**
	Payments						
215,148	Employee	226,104	240,907	7	231,696	235,304	242,058
32,971	Superannuation	31,510	35,417	12	34,303	35,544	36,021
94,665	Supplies and Services	98,558	107,522	9	103,579	105,466	108,607
7,133	Grants and Purchased Services	4,256	10,429	145	7,860	8,550	8,737
13,569	Interest Expenses	11,208	12,817	14	12,415	12,197	11,961
15,571	Other	15,324	15,666	2	15,524	15,528	15,532
379,057	**Operating Payments**	**386,960**	**422,758**	**9**	**405,377**	**412,589**	**422,916**
3,576	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**	**12,560**	**-11,138**	**-189**	**924**	**924**	**924**
	CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
	Receipts						
0	Proceeds from Sale of Property, Plant and Equipment	430	0	-100	0	0	0
0	**Investing Receipts**	**430**	**0**	**-100**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	Payments						
26,236	Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	22,754	24,203	6	86,437	14,268	7,418
7,569	Purchase of Land and Intangibles	311	3,612	#	3,362	451	313
33,805	**Investing Payments**	**23,065**	**27,815**	**21**	**89,799**	**14,719**	**7,731**
-33,805	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**	**-22,635**	**-27,815**	**-23**	**-89,799**	**-14,719**	**-7,731**

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Lead Directorate:	Justice and Community Safety	

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Table 32: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Cash Flow Statement (continued)

2019-20 Budget $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	2020-21 Budget $'000	Var %	2021-22 Estimate $'000	2022-23 Estimate $'000	2023-24 Estimate $'000
	CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
	Receipts						
33,805	Capital Injections	23,189	30,979	34	89,094	14,014	7,026
33,805	**Financing Receipts**	**23,189**	**30,979**	**34**	**89,094**	**14,014**	**7,026**
	Payments						
4,731	Repayment of Lease Liabilities - Principal	5,877	400	-93	400	400	400
4,731	**Financing Payments**	**5,877**	**400**	**-93**	**400**	**400**	**400**
29,074	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES**	**17,312**	**30,579**	**77**	**88,694**	**13,614**	**6,626**
-1,155	**NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**	**7,237**	**-8,374**	**-216**	**-181**	**-181**	**-181**
9,477	**CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD**	**12,025**	**19,261**	**60**	**10,887**	**10,706**	**10,525**
8,322	**CASH AT THE END OF REPORTING PERIOD**	**19,262**	**10,887**	**-43**	**10,706**	**10,525**	**10,344**

Note(s):

1. Since publication of the 2019-20 Budget Statements, JACS has adopted Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15, 'Revenue from Contracts with Customers', and AASB 1058, 'Income of Not-for-Profit Entities', from 1 July 2019. This has resulted in:

   a. the renaming of 'User Charges' to 'Sales of Goods and Services from Contracts with Customers'; and

   b. the reclassification of some revenue items from 'Resources Received Free of Charge' and 'Other Gains' to 'Grants and Contributions' and 'Gains from Disposal of Assets'.

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TRIM: JACS2021/143-002-015

Portfolio/s: JACS Ministers

ISSUE: 2019-20 Audited Outcome & 2020-21 Budget Variance - Territorial

Talking points:

These notes refer to the Territorial Budget Statements (extract of statements attached)

Significant variations are as follows:

Statement of Income and Expenses on behalf of the Territory

- Payment for expenses on behalf of the Territory: the increase of $13.959 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to new budget initiatives, net impact of prior years' initiatives and other adjustments.
- Taxes, fees and fines: the increase of $0.563 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to lower than expected court imposed fines in 2019-20.
- Other revenue: the increase of $0.641 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome compared to 2019-20 budget and a similar decrease of $0.656 million in the 2020-21 budget is mainly due to higher insurance recoveries for legal matters in 2019-20.
- Supplies and services: the increase of $11.777 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to higher payments to the Australian Federal Police relating to additional ACT Policing initiatives.
- Grants and purchased services:
    - the increase of $2.239 million in 2019-20 audited outcome from 2019-20 budget is mainly due to emergency relief funding provided to clubs under the COVID-19 Economic package.
    - the increase of $1.608 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to additional funding for continuing the Gaming Machine Authorisation Surrender Incentive.

Statement of Assets and Liabilities on Behalf of the Territory

- Capital works in progress:
    - the increase of $2.859 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to increase in works in progress for ACT Policing facilities.

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- the increase of $3.698 million in the 2020-21 budget from the 2019-20 audited outcome is mainly due to new budget initiative, net capital reprofiling and other adjustments.

- Property, plant and equipment: the decrease of $4.190 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome from the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to delays in completion of capital projects.

- Payables: the increase of $1.101 million in the 2019-20 audited outcome compared to the 2019-20 budget is mainly due to the increase in accruals relating to Redress Program and Territorial legal expenses and ACT Policing facilities capital works.

Statement of Cash Flows on Behalf of the Territory

Variations in the Statement are explained in the notes above.

ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

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Table 33: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Statement of Income and Expenses on behalf of the Territory

2019-20 Budget $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	2020-21 Budget $'000	Var %	2021-22 Estimate $'000	2022-23 Estimate $'000	2023-24 Estimate $'000
	Revenue						
189,329	Payment for Expenses on Behalf of the Territory	190,873	204,832	7	204,013	204,516	204,644
6,249	Taxes, Licences, Fees and Fines	5,963	6,526	9	6,689	6,681	6,889
2,682	Other Revenue	3,323	2,668	-20	2,667	2,673	2,753
198,260	**Total Revenue**	**200,159**	**214,026**	**7**	**213,369**	**213,870**	**214,286**
198,260	**Total Income**	**200,159**	**214,026**	**7**	**213,369**	**213,870**	**214,286**
	Expenses						
1,600	Employee Expenses	1,586	1,621	2	1,642	1,663	1,685
179,025	Supplies and Services	178,887	190,664	7	193,497	194,981	195,008
3,122	Depreciation and Amortisation	3,147	3,162	..	3,610	3,969	3,532
8,696	Grants and Purchased Services	10,935	12,543	15	8,870	7,868	7,947
514	Other Expenses	377	518	37	518	518	518
8,425	Transfer Expenses	8,393	8,680	3	8,842	8,840	9,128
201,382	**Total Expenses**	**203,325**	**217,188**	**7**	**216,979**	**217,839**	**217,818**
-3,122	**Operating Result**	**-3,166**	**-3,162**	**..**	**-3,610**	**-3,969**	**-3,532**
-3,122	**Total Comprehensive Income**	**-3,166**	**-3,162**	**..**	**-3,610**	**-3,969**	**-3,532**

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Table 34: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Statement of Assets and Liabilities on behalf of the Territory

Budget at 30/6/20 $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	Budget at 30/6/21 $'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/22 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/23 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/24 $'000
	Current Assets						
411	Cash and Cash Equivalents	699	699	-	699	699	699
4,702	Receivables	4,931	4,931	-	4,931	4,931	4,931
5,454	**Total Current Assets**	**5,630**	**5,630**	**-**	**5,630**	**5,630**	**5,630**
	Non Current Assets						
78,300	Property, Plant and Equipment	74,110	74,189	..	80,901	76,631	72,580
341	Capital Works in Progress	3,200	6,898	-116	5,347	6,179	7,011
78,300	**Total Non Current Assets**	**77,310**	**81,087**	**-5**	**86.248**	**82,810**	**79,591**
83,754	**TOTAL ASSETS**	**82,940**	**86,717**	**-5**	**91,878**	**88,440**	**85,221**
	Current Liabilities						
4,278	Payables	5,379	5,379	-	5,379	5,379	5,379
0	Interest-Bearing Liabilities	54	54	-	54	54	54
10	Employee Benefits	21	20	-5	20	20	20
306	Other Provisions	175	175	-	175	175	175
4,594	**Total Current Liabilities**	**5,629**	**5,628**	**..**	**5,628**	**5,628**	**5,628**
	Non Current Liabilities						
0	Interest-Bearing Liabilities	262	261	..	261	261	261
0	**Non-Current Liabilities**	**262**	**261**	**..**	**261**	**261**	**261**
4,594	**TOTAL LIABILITIES**	**5,891**	**5,889**	**..**	**5,889**	**5,889**	**5,889**
79,160	**NET ASSETS**	**77,049**	**80,828**	**5**	**85,989**	**82,551**	**79,332**
	REPRESENTED BY FUNDS EMPLOYED						
48,704	Accumulated Funds	46,592	50,372	8	55,533	52,095	48,876
30,456	Asset Revaluation Surplus	30,457	30,456	..	30,456	30,456	30,456
79,160	**TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED**	**77,049**	**80,828**	**5**	**85,989**	**82,551**	**79,332**

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Table 35: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Statement of Changes in Equity on behalf of the Territory

Budget at 30/6/20 $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	Budget at 30/6/21 $'000	Var %	Estimate at 30/6/22 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/23 $'000	Estimate at 30/6/24 $'000
	Opening Equity						
48,569	Opening Accumulated Funds	47,728	46,592	-2	50,372	55,533	52,095
30,456	Opening Asset Revaluation Reserve	30,457	30,457	-	30,456	30,456	30,456
79,025	**Balance at the Start of the Reporting Period**	**78,185**	**77,049**	**-1**	**80,828**	**85,989**	**82,551**
	Comprehensive Income						
-3,122	Operating Result - Including Economic Flows	-3,166	-3,162	..	-3,610	-3,969	-3,532
-3,122	**Total Comprehensive Income**	**-3,166**	**-3,162**	**..**	**-3,610**	**-3,969**	**-3,532**
0	**Total Movement in Reserves**	**0**	**0**	**-**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds						
3,257	Capital Injections	2,030	6,938	242	8,771	531	313
3,257	**Total Transactions Involving Owners Affecting Accumulated Funds**	**2,030**	**6,938**	**242**	**8,771**	**531**	**313**
	Closing Equity						
48,704	Closing Accumulated Funds	46,592	50,372	8	55,533	52,095	48,876
30,456	Closing Asset Revaluation Reserve	30,457	30,456	..	30,456	30,456	30,456
79,160	**Balance at the end of the Reporting Period**	**77,049**	**80,828**	**5**	**85,989**	**82,551**	**79,332**

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2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Table 36: Justice and Community Safety Directorate: Cash Flow Statement on behalf of the Territory

2019-20 Budget $'000		2019-20 Audited Outcome $'000	2020-21 Budget $'000	Var %	2021-22 Estimate $'000	2022-23 Estimate $'000	2023-24 Estimate $'000
	CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES						
	Receipts						
189,329	Payment for Expenses on Behalf of the Territory	190,873	204,832	7	204,013	204,516	204,644
6,049	Taxes and Fines	5,418	6,326	17	6,489	6,481	6,689
3,256	Other	3,771	3,242	-14	3,241	3,247	3,327
198,634	**Operating Receipts**	**200,062**	**214,400**	**7**	**213,743**	**214,244**	**214,660**
	Payments						
1,600	Employee	1,576	1,621	3	1,642	1,663	1,685
179,025	Supplies and Services	178,657	190,664	7	193,497	194,981	195,008
8,696	Grants and Purchased Services	10,935	12,543	15	8,870	7,868	7,947
8,739	Transfer of Territory Receipts to the ACT Government	8,340	8,994	8	9,156	9,154	9,442
574	Other	35	578	#	578	578	578
198,634	**Operating Payments**	**199,543**	**214,400**	**7**	**213,743**	**214,244**	**214,660**
0	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**	**519**	**0**	**-100**	**0**	**0**	**0**
	CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES						
	Payments						
3,257	Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment	2,842	6,938	144	8,771	531	313
3,257	**Investing Payments**	**2,842**	**6,938**	**144**	**8,771**	**531**	**313**
-3,257	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**	**-2,842**	**-6,938**	**-144**	**-8,771**	**-531**	**-313**
	CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES						
	Receipts						
3,257	Capital Injections	2,030	6,938	242	8,771	531	313
0	Proceeds from Borrowings	961	0	-100	0	0	0
3,257	**Financing Receipts**	**2,991**	**6,938**	**132**	**8,771**	**531**	**313**
0	Repayment of Borrowings	634	0	-100	0	0	0
3,257	**NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES**	**2,357**	**6,938**	**194**	**8,771**	**531**	**313**
0	**NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**	**34**	**0**	**-100**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Cleared as complete and accurate:	03/02/2021	
Cleared by:	Chief Operating Officer	Ext:78420
Information Officer name:	Moira Crowhurst	
Contact Officer name:	Dean Browne	Ext:54013
Lead Directorate:	Justice and Community Safety	

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

411	**CASH AT THE BEGINNING OF REPORTING PERIOD**	665	699	5	699	699	699
411	**CASH AT THE END OF REPORTING PERIOD**	699	699	-	699	699	699

Cleared as complete and accurate:	03/02/2021	
Cleared by:	Chief Operating Officer	Ext:78420
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Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

TRIM: JACS2021/143-002-022

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: 2020-21 STRATEGIC AND ACCOUNTABILITY INDICATORS OUTPUT 2 CORRECTIVE SERVICES

Strategic Objective 2

Safe Community

An effective criminal justice system underpins the safety of the community. Although neither the Directorate nor the ACT Government can control all of the factors that impact on community safety, effectiveness can be measured by examining the level of crime against people and property and whether the justice system deals with offenders in a way that reduces the risk of further offending.

Table 3: Strategic Indicator 2: Crime Related Community Safety

Success	Strategic Indicator	2019-20 Targets	2019-20 Actuals	2020-21 Targets
No escapes/ abscondments from custody	Number of escapes or absconds per 100 detainees	0	0	0
Reduction in recidivism rate	ACT sentenced detainees released two years earlier than the year being measured who returned to prison with a new correctional sanction within two years	41%	37.1%	41%

Historical performance trends of these Strategic Indictors can be found in the Justice and Community Safety Directorate's 2019-20 Annual Report.

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

2020-21 BUDGET DAY BRIEF

Accountability Indicator

Output 2.1: Corrective Services

Table 21: Accountability Indicators Output 2.1

	2020-21 Targets	2020-21 YTD Targets	2020-21 YTD Result	Variance (%)
a. Completion rates of Community Corrections Orders:				
- The proportion of Community Corrections supervision orders successfully completed within the counting period	68%	68%	73%	7
- The proportion of Community Corrections reparation orders successfully completed within the counting period [1]	60%	60%	38%	(37)
b. Average cost per detainee per day for all detainees [a]	$354	$354	$359	1
c. Average cost per day for community based offenders [2]	$39	$39	$44	13
Total Cost ($'000) [3]	92,831	49,928	45,164	(10)
Controlled Recurrent Payments ($'000)	84,377	44,312	44,312	-

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators:

a. The 2020-21 target for this indicator was revised up from $310 to $354. The increase to this target reflects the projected population for 2020-21; the actual results for the first two quarters and the projected result for the last two quarters of 2020-21.

Note(s):

1. Reduced successful completion of Community Services Work orders (reparation orders) during this period reflects an increase of offenders who have not completed their community service hours within the court ordered period.
2. The average daily cost per offender has increased due to a decrease in offender numbers in the same period from 1278 in 2019-20 to 1073 in 2020-21.
3. There have been delays in the full implementation of the Justice Housing Program and general repairs and maintenance orders.

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ACT Government
Justice and Community Safety

MINISTER MICK GENTLEMAN MLA
MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONS
QUESTION TIME BRIEFS PACK
30-31 MARCH 2021

Question Time Briefs	
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2.	Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee
3.	Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC
4.	Blueprint for Change
5.	ACTCS Commissioner position
6.	Female Detainees at the AMC
7.	ATSI Incarceration Rates
8.	Building Communities Not Prisons Programs
9.	10 November Incident (inc ICS Report into the incident)
10.	AMC Operations
11.	Detainee Numbers and Accommodation Pressures
12.	ACTCS Policies
13.	Implementation of Healthy Prisons Report Recommendations
14.	Court Transport Unit Report Progress
15.	AMC Health Services

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16.	Official Visitor Reports
17.	Inspector
18.	Justice Housing
19.	ROGS Release
20.	COVID-19 at the AMC
21.	ACTCS Reform
22.	Reintegration Centre
23.	AMC Transfers
24.	ACTCS Key Data
25.	ACTCS Staff Support and Wellbeing Initiatives

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-051

Portfolio/s: Police and Emergency Services
Corrections

Half Yearly Statement of Performance

Accountability Indicators

Output 4.1: Emergency Services

Table 23: Accountability Indicators Output 4.1

.	2020-21 Targets	2020-21 YTD Targets	2020-21 YTD Result	Variance (%)
Prevention and Preparedness				
a. Desktop audit of ACT Government Directorate Bushfire Operational Plans activities [a]	n/a	n/a	n/a	
b. Field assessment of Access Management Upgrades and Hazard Reduction burns conducted in accordance with Bushfire Operational Plans of ACT Government Directorates [1]	100%	100%	n/a	
c. Percentage of ESA staff who have completed accredited training in AIIMS [b]	70%	70%	76%	9
Response and Recovery				
d. Structure Fire incidents responded to within target [c]	90%	90%	93%	3
e. Road Rescue incidents responded to within target [d]	90%	90%	93%	3
f. Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 50th percentile (minutes) [e]	8	8	8.75	9
g. Ambulance priority 1 - Incident Response Time 90th percentile (minutes) [e]	15	15	14.26	(5)
h. Percentage of Patient Transport Service 'fixed booking' attended by booked time[2];	65%	65%	75%	15
i. Total cost per head of population [f]	$394.86	$390.06	$391.39	(1)
Total Cost ($'000)	173,994	88,135	84,364	(4)
Controlled Recurrent Payments ($'000)	146,193	72,354	72,354	-

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators:

a. This indicator is discontinued in 2020-21 as it is not reflective of the actual performance of the Rural Fire Services (RFS) but rather performing audits of ACT Government directorates' commitments under the Bushfire Operational Plans.

b. AIIMS – Australasian Inter-Service Incident Management System. This accountability indicator captures training provided to Emergency Services Agency (ESA) staff only on the AIIMS system.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	17/03/2021	
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TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-051	

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c. Target refers to the response to structure fires within 10 minutes.
d. Target refers to the response to road rescues within 13 minutes.
e. Priority 1 records that are incomplete due to operator or system errors, or where incidents are outside the ACT, or where the priority rating has been changed, are excluded.
f. The 2020-21 original target is based on an estimated population of 440,643 estimated according to the most recent population projections for the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) by ACT Treasury (ACT Population Projects 2018-2058: Table 1 - Summary, 2017-2058).

Note(s):

1. ACT Rural Fire Service (RFS) have not been notified of any access management upgrades or hazard reduction burns completed in accordance with an approved Bushfire Operational Plans in the first half of 2020-21 financial year. Therefore, no field assessments have been conducted and the result of this indicator is Not Applicable.
2. The higher than target outcome is a result of improved booking procedures, with a focus on avoiding conflicts in booking time.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Accountability Indicator

Output 2.1: Corrective Services

Table 21: Accountability Indicators Output 2.1

	2020-21 Targets	2020-21 YTD Targets	2020-21 YTD Result	Variance (%)
a. Completion rates of Community Corrections Orders:				
- The proportion of Community Corrections supervision orders successfully completed within the counting period	68%	68%	73%	7
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c. Average cost per day for community based offenders [2]	$39	$39	$44	13
Total Cost ($'000) [3]	92,831	49,928	45,164	(10)
Controlled Recurrent Payments ($'000)	84,377	44,312	44,312	-

The above Accountability Indicators should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Explanation of Accountability Indicators:

a. The 2020-21 target for this indicator was revised up from $310 to $354. The increase to this target reflects the projected population for 2020-21; the actual results for the first two quarters and the projected result for the last two quarters of 2020-21.

Note(s):

1. Reduced successful completion of Community Services Work orders (reparation orders) during this period reflects an increase of offenders who have not completed their community service hours within the court ordered period.
2. The average daily cost per offender has increased due to a decrease in offender numbers in the same period from 1278 in 2019-20 to 1073 in 2020-21.
3. There have been delays in the full implementation of the Justice Housing Program and general repairs and maintenance orders.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-047

Portfolio/s: Corrections

Alleged incident involving strip search of a female Indigenous detainee

Talking points:

- I am aware that in late January 2021, a female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee made allegations regarding the circumstances surrounding a strip search conducted at the Alexander Maconochie Centre.
- Let me be very clear, the ACT Government takes these allegations very seriously. As you may be aware, the ACT Human Rights Commission (HRC) is investigating the detainee's allegations. The matter has also been referred to the Inspector of Correctional Services for investigation.
- ACT Corrective Services is committed to assisting both the HRC and Inspector during the investigative process.
- I will await the outcome of the respective investigations underway before commenting further.

Key Information

- On 11 January 2021, an Indigenous Liasion Officer (ILO) attended the SCC accommodation unit to advise the detainee that her Detainee Leave Application had been denied due to the difficulty of arranging with short notice, the distance and staffing concerns.
- The detainee became agitated and threatened self-harm, and was subsequently deemed "At Risk". In accordance with the *Management of At-Risk Detainees Policy 2019* (the Policy), the detainee was assessed by Forensic Mental Health Services and was relocated to the Crisis Support Unit (CSU).
- As outlined in the Policy, all detainees are required to be searched on arrival to the CSU. The detainee refused to participate in a mandatory search.
- A Custodial Officer Grade 2 (CO2) observed the detainee with her hands in her crotch area and was of the belief that the detainee may be attempting to secrete a razor or another item that could be used to self-harm.
- Prior to the planned Use of Force occurring, the Operations Area Manager contacted Justice Health Services to provide notification and to confirm that the Use of Force could safely proceed in, taking into account the health status of the detainee.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	26/03/2021	
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TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-007	

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- Four female officers wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) conducted a Use of Force to enable a strip search in line with the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.
- At one stage the detainee stated she could not breathe and a 'Code Pink' was called in order to have medical staff attend the area to assess the detainee.
- Handcuffs were ultimately applied and the detainee became compliant. The detainee was moved to the bathroom where a compliant strip search was conducted by two (2) female officers with no other person present.
- The detainee was assessed by health staff and transported to the Canberra Hospital for further assessment, however the detainee was not admitted. The detainee returned to the AMC on 12 January 2021.
- During the incident, staff involved received various scratches, minor lacerations and bruising, with one staff member being bitten. The alleged assault on the custodial officer has been referred to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) for investiation. On 12 January 2021, welfare checks were conducted on staff involved in the incident.
- The allegations made by the detainee relating to the manner in which the strip search took place have been reviewed by ACT Corrective Services and cannot be substantiated.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-049

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: Allegations of systemic racism at the AMC

Talking points:

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) takes any allegations of racism at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) seriously and is committed to investigating all allegations as they arise.
- We all acknowledge the fact that systemic racism exists across the community as a fundamental inequality of systems and processes, and as a result of an environment in which racism was not called out or addressed.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) are absolutely committed to supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in custody. ACTCS staff undertake a range of training and programs to better equip them in supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees. In addition, ACTCS and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-led organisations have implemented programs helping people at risk of involvement with the criminal justice system, and assisting ex-detainees reintegration into the community; last year, the government introduced parole time credit, a drug and alcohol court, and Indigenous sentencing courts headed by elders.
- Recent allegations made by a female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee relating to the manner in which she was strip searched while at the AMC are being investigated by the Human Rights Commission and the Inspector of Correctional Services.

Key Information

- In 2020, ACTCS settled a complaint that alleged one incident of racism in 2018. Since then, there have been no further substantiated allegations of racism at the AMC. There is no evidence to support that there is systemic racism at the AMC.

Custodial Recruit Training program

- ACT Corrections Officers participate in the Custodial Recruit Training program, and a Certificate III Correctional Practice and Certificate IV Correctional Practice are also offered, which include the following components relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness and understanding.
- **Custodial Recruit Training**
    - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Awareness

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TRIM Ref:	2020/000088-041	

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- Indigenous Liaison Officer and Royal Commission into Aboriginal Death in Custody session
- Diversity
- Respect Equity Diversity (RED) Training.

- **Certificate III Correctional Practice**
  - Work effectively with diversity
  - Protect the safety and welfare of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders
  - Protect the safety and welfare of vulnerable offenders.

- **Certificate IV Correctional Practice**
  - Work effectively with culturally diverse offenders and colleagues.

Initiatives

- The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Services Committee was established to oversee the delivery of initiatives in ACTCS arising from the Justice and Community Safety Directorate Reconciliation Action Plan. It has membership from across ACTCS and is chaired by the Commissioner, ACTCS. The Committee is a relatively new initiative focused on enhancing services for detainees, overseeing commitments such as the Reconciliation Action Plan and ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028, and also the work of the Indigenous Staff Network.
- The Cultural Engagement Officer works with staff across ACTCS Community Operations to ensure culturally appropriate engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and stakeholders.
- In the Healthy Prison Review, the Inspector of Correctional Services commended the commitment and dedication of the ACTCS Indigenous Services Team. This team plays a key role in maintaining the wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cohort of detainees through cultural support, welfare requests and the coordination of specific programs.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees are allocated an Indigenous Liaison Officer within five business days of admission.
- An holistic Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander model of care and health service was introduced into the AMC. Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Service (Winnunga) delivers this service to assist in maintaining and improving the overall health and wellbeing of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees, by providing a culturally safe service within the AMC, which is an Australian first.

Oversight

- The ACT has four entities that provide independent oversight in relation to correctional centres: the Inspector of Correctional Services, ACT Human Rights Commission, ACT Ombudsman and Corrections Official Visitors. Together, ACTCS and these entities continuously improve the experiences of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee population.
- It is a legislative requirement that an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person be appointed as an Official Visitor for the purposes of the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- ACTCS is committed to ensuring that detainees can make requests or complaints to staff and external complaint bodies about all aspects of their custody. In accordance with the *Corrections Management (Detainee Requests and Complaints) Policy 2019* detainees are informed about the ways to make a complaint and are not prevented from doing so.
- Detainees can make complaints directly to the oversight agencies, independent from the ACTCS complaints process. Complaints can be referred to and from the oversight agencies, which allows for greater accountability and transparency.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-044

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: BLUEPRINT FOR CHANGE

Talking points:

- Supporting the staff of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) and Court Transport Unit (CTU) is a key priority for the ACT Government and for me personally. As we continue work to implement a broad corrections reform agenda, we need to do so in a way that is support of and engages our staff.
- A new Oversight Committee has been established to develop a Blueprint for Change (Blueprint) for the operations of the AMC and the CTU. The Blueprint will guide the implementation of enhancements to staff training, engagement and capability in a way that promotes improved culture. The Blueprint will be developed in the context of a broader corrections reform agenda.
- The Oversight Committee brings together representatives of ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS), the AMC, the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU), Official Visitors, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, the Human Rights Commission and the Justice and Community Safety Directorate, and is independently chaired by Ms Christine Nixon.
- The first meeting of the Oversight Committee was held on 24 March 2021, and I will receive regular progress updates through Ms Nixon as Chair.
- I look forward to updating the community further as the work of the Oversight Committee progresses.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	26/03/2021	
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TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-044	

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-053

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: ACTCS COMMISSIONER POSITION

Talking points:

- Former Commissioner ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS), Mr Jon Peach, has accepted an opportunity to take on the new role of Executive Group Manager, Security and Emergency Management within the Justice and Community Safety Directorate.
- Mr Peach finished with ACTCS on 19 March 2021.
- I thank Jon for his dedication and professionalism while ACTCS Commissioner and wish him all the best in his new role.
- Emergency Services Agency (ESA) Deputy Commissioner, Mr Ray Johnson, will act as ACTCS Commissioner while a permanent recruitment process is undertaken. Mr Johnson commences in this role on 1 April. He brings with him extensive experience in policing and emergency management, having previously occupied the position of ACT Chief Police Officer.
- Mr Johnson's work reviewing the 2019-20 bushfire season and leading the ESA's People and Culture teams mean he is well placed to continue reforms underway in ACTCS. I look forward to working with Mr Johnson in this important role.
- Mr Johnson's role at the ESA will be backfilled over this period.

Cleared as complete and accurate:	22/03/2021	
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TRIM Ref:	2020/000088-053	

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-045

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: Female detainees at the AMC

Talking points:

- As at 2 March 2021, the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) had 30 women in custody; 15 remanded and 15 sentenced.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) recognise the importance of considering the differing needs of all sexes and genders when providing accommodation, programs and services to people in the criminal justice system.
- Female Sentence Management Officers are available to women for daily support, ongoing issues, referrals and welfare concerns. The AMC also provides a coordinator for women's and children's services for female detainees.
- The ACT Government is carefully considering various options with respect to the accommodation of women at the AMC into the future. Deliberations will take into account the findings outlined in the Inspector of Correctional Services Healthy Prison Review Report in addition to operational matters.

Key Information/Background

Incarceration Rates

- On 18 October 2018, female detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 51 detainees.
- The average daily number of detained females in the:
  - 2019/20 financial year was 32;
  - 2018/19 financial year was 40;
  - 2017/18 financial year was 38;
  - 2016/17 financial year was 33;
  - 2015/16 financial year was 23; and
  - 2014/15 financial year was 19.

Women's Reference Group

- The Women's Reference Group (the Group) was established to identify opportunities to positively support women within the AMC through enhanced engagement with the community sector. It is not intended as a governance group but as an opportunity to identify and explore options for the short term to improve the lives of women offenders.

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TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-045	

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- The Group meets bi-monthly to:
    - identify key service gaps in relation to meeting the needs of women offenders;
    - discuss practical and quick solutions to these service gaps;
    - consider options to actively engage women detainees in meaningful constructive activity within the AMC; and
    - identify opportunity to assist in supporting rehabilitation efforts for women offenders in the AMC and upon return to community.
- The Group consists of women representatives from ACT Corrective Services, oversight agencies, and various community organisations involved in the criminal justice system.

Women's Programs

- ACTCS recognises the complex higher needs of women offenders with higher levels of complex trauma, family and sexual violence and disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Women detainees can access a wide range of programs, including programs focused on their criminogenic behaviours. The women's area is also serviced by diverse community organisations delivering and providing health and wellbeing activities to women. Examples of programs and services available include:

    - Cognitive Self Change
    - Anger Management
    - Stress Less
    - First Steps Drug and Alcohol
    - Harm Minimisation and ADAPT
    - Introduction to Stress Management and Wellness
    - Peer Mentor training program
    - Yoga Mindful Movement program
    - Beryl Women Domestic Violence Awareness Program
    - Alcoholics Anonymous
    - Shine for Kids
    - Women's Centre for Health Matters
    - Coming Home delivered by Toora Women Inc
    - Women's Health Services Counselling
    - Work Ready Program
    - Return to Work Grants
    - Hepatitis C Health Awareness Program
    - Hairdressing
    - Mother and baby bonding and visiting time
    - Yarning Cirlce (for Indigenous women)
    - Culture Inside (for Indigenous women)
    - Elders Visitation program
    - Chaplaincy

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-046

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander incarceration rates

Talking points:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to be significantly over-represented in the criminal justice system, as both victims and offenders, principally due to historical social disadvantage, social exclusion, and systemic societal racism.
- The ACT has experienced a steady increase in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees from 2014 onwards, with a small decrease in the 2019/20 financial year. The average number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees by financial year was:
    - 2019/20 – 107
    - 2018/19 – 110
    - 2017/18 – 103
    - 2016/17 – 92
    - 2015/16 – 92
    - 2014/15 – 68
- As at 3 March 2021, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander male detainees accounted for:
    - 22 per cent of the total AMC detainee population – 89 detainees out of a total of 404.
    - 23.8 per cent of the total AMC male population – 89 detainees out of 374.
- As at 3 March 2021, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander female detainees accounted for:
    - 3.2 per cent of the total AMC detainee population – 13 detainees out of a total of 404.
    - 43.3 per cent of the total AMC female population – 13 detainees out of 30.

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Lead Directorate:	Justice and Community Safety	
TRIM Ref:	JACS2021/47-001-046	

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

- On 12 January 2019, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 126.
- In 2019-20, the recidivism rates for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ex-detainees returning to corrective services was:
    - 72.5 per cent for **male** ex-detainees; and
    - 79.4 per cent for **female** ex-detainees.
- Given the comparatively small numbers of offenders in the ACT, relatively small fluctuations in the number returning to corrective services can significantly affect the rate from year to year. Further, given the size of this population, any variations to the risk profile of offenders released in a given year may significantly affect the rate of recidivism for that cohort.
- ACTCS is committed to helping address the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- In 2021, ACTCS will develop an *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Framework* (the Framework) that provides best practice principles to assist staff in operational roles in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples throughout the justice system, and mechanisms to improve social outcomes both during and after incarceration.
- The Framework will guide frontline staff on the effective management and rehabilitation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders and support the development and implementation of tailored programs and services.

Key Information/Background

- The ACT Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Agreement 2019-2028 Justice Action Plan was implemented in 2019. The Agreement has four core focus areas including children and young people, cultural integrity, inclusive community and community leadership accompanied by six significant focus areas (justice housing, health and wellbeing, economic participating, life-long learning and connecting with the community).
- ACTCS employ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Sentence Management Officers in identified and non-identified positions, allowing for culturally appropriate sentence management practices.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-047

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: BUILDING COMMUNITIES NOT PRISONS PROGRAMS

Talking points:

- The *Building Communities, Not Prisons* (BCNP) Framework was developed in 2018 and with an aim to urgently address and reverse the rising number of people in custody at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) by strengthening service responses and providing strength-based support and inclusive pathways that lead to better justice outcomes.
- Underpinning this framework is the ACT Justice Reinvestment approach, which represents a commitment to developing initiatives that improve criminal justice outcomes by reducing crime and diverting offenders, and those at risk of becoming offenders, from the justice system.
- BCNP initiatives focus on areas such as housing, alcohol and other drug services, mental health and disability, as well as family and other group services for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.
- Initiatives are intersecting and guided by the principles of trauma-informed practice, gender-informed practice, evidence-informed practice, cultural integrity, restorative practices, and human rights.

Key Information

ACTCS Rehabilitation Framework

- Implementation of the AMC offender treatment and rehabilitation plan contributes to the goal of reducing recidivism by 25% by 2025. It covers the Strengthen Program in ACTCS which will allow ACTCS to assess and deliver (through a partnership with appropriate providers) priority responses to detainees. Funding will focus on detainee's dependence on alcohol and/or drugs and requiring foundational and readiness skills to participate in programs addressing offender criminogenic risks and needs, as well as services that contribute to the wellbeing of offenders.

ACTCS Disability Framework

- The ACTCS Disability Framework will ensure that people with disability in custody or under supervision have access to supports and adjustments that enable them to be safe, participate in programs and reduce recidivism.
- This Framework is being developed under the ACT *Disability Justice Strategy 2019-29.*
- On 3 December 2020, ACTCS launched the Disability Action and Inclusion Plan.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Throughcare Support

- Throughcare Support is a client centred program designed to enable eligible detainees to succeed on their journey from prison to living sustainably back in the community. The program operates in collaboration with ACTCS to provide individualised and intensive case management and trauma informed support.

Parole Time Credit Scheme

- The Parole Time Credit (PTC) Scheme gives parolees credit for time spent on parole, reducing their time spent in custody.
- As of 27 January 2020, PTC has been applied 38 times since commencement of the scheme in March 2020. The minimum amount applied was 5 days and the maximum applied was 1 year 3 months and 25 days.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-001

Portfolio/s: Corrections

10 NOVEMBER INCIDENT

Talking points:

- I thank the Inspector of Correctional Services for his report. The Government is currently considering the recommendations made and I will provide a formal response in the coming months.
- I am pleased that the incident was resolved peacefully without injury to any detainee or member of staff. However, it is important that we learn from incidents such as this and address areas identified as requiring improvement, with a view to enhancing the management and response to any future incidents of this nature.
- While a formal response will be provided to the Review in due course, the Government takes these recommendations very seriously.

Incident on 10 November 2020

- On 10 November 2020 at approximately 6:50pm, 27 detainees housed in the AU-North accommodation unit at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) refused to return to their cells for the night lock-in.
- Detainees were able to move between the AU-North unit and adjacent external yard and proceeded to start a fire in the external yard using bedding and furniture from within the unit, as well as wooden doors removed from programs rooms within AU-North.
- In order to ensure their safety, corrections officers withdrew from the unit and secured the remainder of the AMC accounting for all other detainees and staff on duty.
- Several detainees armed themselves with makeshift weapons.
- ACT Fire and Rescue (ACT F&R), ACT Ambulance Service and ACT Policing (ACTP) attended the AMC in response to the incident.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) officers in full tactical Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), provided an escort for ACT F&R to safely extinguish the fire in the external yard. Detainees proceeded to light another fire to mattresses at the door between the external yard and the common space within the larger accommodation unit.

- Detainees started two additional fires within cells in AU-North, resulting in further smoke contamination and significant property damage.
- At approximately 9:30pm, the detainees informed ACTCS negotiators that they wished to surrender. Planning commenced for a safe surrender and a small response team entered the unit to check that the door to the external yard was secure before escorting ACT F&R to extinguish the two cells fires.
- The disturbance was resolved peacefully and no injuries were sustained by detainees or staff members.
- The detainees involved were temporarily accommodated in cells, including three to a cell, for less than 12 hours following their surrender for appropriate placement assessments to be conducted.
- All 27 detainees were separated and relocated to new accommodation units appropriate to their security classification. Health checks were conducted by Justice Health Services and Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services prior to their relocation, and detainees were issued with a fresh set of clothes.
- The AMC remained in lock-down on 11 November 2020, with minimum entitlements under the *Corrections Management Act 2007* provided to detainees, including medication distribution, court and medical escorts, meals, and one-hour time out of cells per day.
- On 12 November 2020, the lock-down at the AMC ceased.
- ACTCS immediately notified the ACT Insurance Authority (ACTIA) of the damage and have received in-principle support for the claim from ACTIA.
- The ACTCS Director, Facilities Management met with Major Projects Canberra on 12 November 2020 to commence planning for the repairs. Major Project Canberra will manage the repairs, and the unit will remain offline until all work has been completed.
- On 22 November 2020, ACTCS and Major Projects Canberra received a Rough Order Magnitude cost estimate for the repairs from Rider Levett Bucknall. The cost, which excludes GST, ACTCS staffings costs and invasive testing, was estimated to be approximately $4,031,000.
- ACTCS has estimated that the staffing costs may total $1,700,000 based on the assumption that this project could be completed within 12 months with the construction site open six days per week. This figure

is based on 10.8 full time equivalent (FTE) ACTCS staff engaged on the project.

- The disturbance has been referred to ACTP for investigation.
- The Inspector of Correctional Services was notified of the incident on 10 November 2020 in accordance with the *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017*.

Incidents on 11 November 2020

- There were two fires in the Management Unit at the AMC on the afternoon of 11 November 2020.
- The first occurred when a detainee involved in the incident on 10 November 2020 set fire to an item in his cell. ACTCS officers extinguished the fire.
- The second occurred when a detainee, who was not involved in the incident, lit a fire in his cell. This detainee has a history of fire lighting and receives intensive therapeutic support and intervention from ACTCS and health services. The fire was extinguished by ACTCS staff, with ACT F&R also attending the location to confirm the fire was extinguished.

Incident on 14 November 2020

- On 14 November 2020 at approximately 11:07pm, detainees started a fire in the Sentenced Cottage 2 (SC2) foyer. ACTCS officers extinguished the fire.
- Damage was incurred to the flooring material of the stairs on the ground floor, as well as to the roof space and cabling in the ceiling.
- The ACT Insurance Agency have assessed the claim at under $200,000, meaning the works can be completed in house with the addition of external contractors where required.
- SC2 remained offline in order to undertake a complete painting refurbishment and repairs that were not attributed to the fire.
- The works due to the damage were completed in January 2021, and were undertaken by AMC Facilities Management, external contractors and approved detainee workers.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Key Information

- The AMC is a maximum-to-minimum security correctional centre surrounded by a maximum-security perimeter and is designed to accommodate detainees of all levels of security classification.
- The campus style of the AMC presents a risk within the limited amount of maximum-security accommodation available to male detainees and the requirement to house medium security detainees within minimum security cottages.
- In order to appropriately relocate the detainees that were involved in the incident on 10 November 2020, a number of detainees from other accommodation units were required to be relocated before the perpetrators could be moved from the external yard.
- The following tactical controlled items are available to corrections officers to respond to disturbances:
    - Batons
    - PPE body armour
    - Shields
    - Mechanical restraints.

Background Information

- The disturbance on 10 November 2020, and subsequent fires on 11 and 14 November 2020 have attracted significant media attention.
- The mother of a detainee at the AMC contacted the Canberra Times regarding allegations of the conditions following the incident on 10 November 2020. The Canberra Times news article is available at: https://www.canberratimes.com.au/story/7014800/life-inside-jail-since-riot-three-to-a-cell-and-long-hours-in-lockdown/?utm_source=Canberra+Times&utm_campaign=eccbb8c9ad-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2020_11_17_03_13&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_a4b15bbe48-eccbb8c9ad-70377658.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-006

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: AMC OPERATIONS

Talking points:

Safety of detainees

- The safety and security of all detainees is a priority for ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS).
- ACTCS is continuously seeking to improve processes to enhance safety, security and good order at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- In 2017-18, a centralised intelligence unit was established across both Community and Custodial Corrections to work with ACTCS staff and ACT Policing (ACTP) to provide assistance with investigations and intercept and mitigate acts prior to their perpetration. The centralised unit also enables ACTCS to utilise proactive and intelligence-led strategies to detect and intercept contraband.
- In late 2020, an additional AFP resource (two (2) in total) was embedded into the Intelligence and Integrity Unit (IIU) to work with ACTCS.
- The centralised IIU also participates in identifying and monitoring emerging security issues such as Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs and countering violent extremism.
- ACTCS continues to strengthen the close working relationship with ACTP, and held a joint day of action on 1 December 2019 to target the introduction of contraband to the AMC through social visits.

Safety of staff

- On 8 September 2020, the updated Use of Force and Restraint Policy was notified to align with the new Use of Force training program that was established in 2019. ACTCS is committed to ensuring that force and restraint is only used as a last resort where strictly necessary and with only the minimum amount of force that is reasonable and proporitionate to the circumstances.

- Since 2018, there has been a strong focus on Use of Force training within ACTCS. Use of Force training is mandatory for all corrections officers and includes an annual refresher training day. The roll out has been delayed since COVID-19 and recommenced in October 2020.
- ACTCS are in the process of reintroducing the use of chemical agents and training for the Deployment of Chemical Aids commenced on 12 February 2021. This training will also form part of the 10 week Custodial Recruit Training program and the use of chemical aids will be added to the Use of Force refresher training.
- Within correctional facilities, there is an inherent potential for conflict among some detainees. However, ACTCS staff work hard to de-escalate and prevent any serious incidents that may arise at the AMC. There is often pre-existing tension in the relationships between detainees at the AMC, resulting from interactions and associations both in custody and in the community.

Response to serious assaults

- ACTCS continues to refer all serious assault allegations to ACTP for investigation. Since the changes implemented in the wake of the Moss Review, a number of assault cases have progressed to prosecution.
- The *Memorandum of Understanding* (MOU) between ACTCS and ACTP developed in response to recommendations 2 and 3 of the Moss Report is currently under review and consultations between ACTCS and ACTP have commenced.

Contraband

- ACTCS employs a range of physical and static security measures to prevent introduction of contraband into the AMC. This includes physical barriers, CCTV surveillance, intelligence-led interventions, patrols by Corrections Officers and Passive Alert Detector (PAD) dog searches.
- ACTCS utilises a number of measures to search visitors, staff, contractors, and their belongings, when entering the AMC. These include:
    - metal detectors;
    - x-ray baggage scanner to scan property; and

- physical searches of all vehicles entering and exiting the AMC, including use of mirrors to search under vehicles and random PAD dog searches (except in case of an emergency, e.g. ambulances).

- In the 2019-20 financial year, ACTCS conducted 8,644 searches for contraband, 632 of which located contraband.
- In 2019-20, ACTCS intercepted visitors attempting to introduce contraband into the AMC on 20 occasions.
- Security consists of custodial officers who are tasked to carry out specific duties such as searches, urinalysis, perimeter checks, gate management and K9 management.
- On 8 August 2019, the AMC formally welcomed two new PAD dogs: a two year old New Zealand Huntaway named Doug, and an 18 month old Australian Kelpie named Luka. This has increased the K9 units capacity to intercept illicit substances before they enter the AMC, as well as within the Centre. A further K9 resource is currently under recruitment to bring the total to three (3).

Operational Results

- Between 1 January 2021 and 1 March 2021, ACTCS conducted 918 searches of cell accommodation, cottage rooms and other common areas and a total of 92 contraband items were seized as a result. In addition to these searches:
  - 219 searches of staff and contractors. These searches resulted in 8 contraband items being located which were required to be stored outside of the AMC; and
  - 104 targeted searches of detainees. A targeted search is prompted by intelligence information or information provided by staff.
- The number and contraband types discovered during searches of detainees and detainee areas between 1 January 2021 and 1 March 2021 included:
  - Mobile telephones – 2;
  - Phone accessories (sim cards, chargers etc.) – 5;

- USBs - 13;
- Syringes (includes other injecting items) – 12;
- Drugs – 17 (6 of which were unauthorised medications); and
- Home made edged weapons – 11.

Key information/Background

Additional Funding

- ACTCS secured an additional $8.8 million over 3.5 years in the 2017-18 Mid-Year Budget to fund improvements in security operations at the AMC, and across ACTCS generally.
- Recommendation 1 of the Moss Review called for improved Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) quality and coverage at the AMC. The AMC has increased its use of CCTV to monitor the movement and behaviour of detainees to ensure safety, security and good order at the AMC. The quality of the images that are captured by the CCTV system has also been improved to better support evidentiary outcomes.
- CCTV is an important evidentiary tool to support successful investigation of assaults in the AMC so that offenders can be held accountable. The improved quality of the images captured by the CCTV cameras has assisted ACT Policing with investigation of assaults and incidents at the AMC.

Contraband

- An updated Contraband (Prohibited Items) Declaration for the AMC was published on 15 October 2019. The declaration incorporates items that utilise new technologies, such as watches with mobile phone, USB or internet capabilities.
- Contraband searches at the AMC include searches of both people and locations. Between 1 January 2021 and 1 March 2021:
  - 1,275 were routine (required by policy or procedure);
  - 119 were targeted; and
  - 1,398 were PAD dog searches.
- Medication has always comprised a high number and proportion of items seized as part of ACTCS contraband search and seizure processes. Medication discovered in the possession of a detainee to whom it was not lawfully prescribed is considered to be contraband.
- The medication classification relates to items that may have been prescribed to detainees and subsequently stockpiled, diverted or simply kept past an expected time of use. Medications can range from drugs that would be available over the counter in the community (such as paracetamol) through to pharmacy or prescription medications.
- Improvised weapons have been seized that were created from a range of products available to detainees, including everyday household items. A reasonable and appropriate balance must be maintained between affording detainees the decency to utilise basic goods such as regular toothbrushes compared to silicon alternatives, and addressing safety and security risks where items have been misused.

- The AMC perimeter is approximately 1.3 kilometres in length and custodial officers check the grounds every morning to ensure no contraband has been dropped onto the premises overnight.

Emergency Lockdown – November 2019

- On 4 November 2019 during a perimeter check, a significant hole was located within the external perimeter fence at the AMC.
- An emergency roll check was immediately conducted, and all detainees accounted for.
- An unidentified community member threw a parcel over the fence into the grounds of the AMC on 3 November 2019. The unidentified person later returned, proceeded to make a hole in the fence, and threw the parcel further onto the prison grounds.
- To ensure the safety of the AMC, a Declaration of Emergency was issued by the Commissioner of ACTCS on 6 November 2019 under section 26 of the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.
- The Declaration of Emergency resulted in a complete lock-down of the AMC, during which ACTCS officers searched all units, buildings and grounds of the Centre with assistance from Corrective Services New South Wales K9 teams.
- The declaration was revoked on 11 November 2019. While various items of contraband were seized, no significant weapons were located.
- The incident was referred to ACT Policing for investigation and the Inspector of Correctional Services office was also advised.
- ACTCS initiated an Internal Management Review to establish facts and to determine appropriate responses.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-010

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: DETAINEE NUMBERS AND ACCOMMODATION PRESSURES

Talking points:

Detainee numbers

- The AMC is the only adult correctional facility within the ACT and accommodates multiple cohorts including women, men, mainstream (general population) and protection (where there is specific information to suggest that there is a credible risk to the safety of the detainee).
- As at 2 March 2021, the detainee population at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) was 404.
- During the 2019-20 financial year, the average daily number of detainees at the AMC was 444.
- On 20 June 2018, detainee numbers in the ACT reached a high of 507.

Women detainee numbers

- As at 2 March 2021, the AMC had 30 women in custody: 15 remanded and 15 sentenced.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees

- As at 3 March 2021, the AMC had 89 male and 13 female detainees who identified as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. The rate of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people held in the AMC as a proportion of the total detainee population is a major concern to the ACT Government.

Recidivism

- The ACT Government is committed to reduce recidivism by 25 per cent by 2025.
- The Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Justice Partnership Agreement commits to reducing over-representation by reducing recidivism and increasing access to diversionary programs, improving services, and focusing on data collection and reporting.

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees can access programs, services, and education available to the general AMC population, as well as programs and services specifically targeted towards Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people through the Indigenous Services Unit.

Accommodation pressures

- The AMC has experienced accommodation pressures for several years as a result of an upward trend in detainee numbers, and the relative size of the mainstream and protection cohorts.
- Detainee numbers have remained relatively stable over the past three months, with the average population at the AMC as follows:
    - 403 in December 2020;
    - 405 in January 2021; and
    - 405 in February 2021.

Key Information

Feasibility Study

- A feasibility study for the future expansion of the AMC was funded by Government in the 2017/18 mid-year budget. The objective of the feasibility study was to identify, prioritise and inform future correctional requirements in a staged and cost-effective manner.
- The feasibility study involved an infrastructure-based assessment to address male and female accommodation issues at the AMC.
- An Executive Summary of the Feasibility Study was publicly released on the JACS website in March 2019.
- ACTCS continues to consider safe and secure options to best manage the increasing numbers of detainees in the AMC within a human rights context, with the view of *Building Communities, Not Prisons* (BCNP). BCNP is a strategy aimed at reducing reoffending and improving community safety.

Extended Throughcare

- The University of New South Wales evaluation of the Throughcare program found positive outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women engaged in the program but highlighted an area for improvement in engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.
- On 1 April 2018, the Extended Throughcare Program made amendments to the program eligibility criteria. The changes allowed ACTCS to lower the eligibility point for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander clients and extending the program to male

and female remand and sentenced detainees. The Extended Throughcare Program can now be accessed by:

- All women who have served greater than 30 days;
- Men who identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and have served greater than 91 days (three months) in custody; and
- Men who do not identify as Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and have served greater than 182 days (six months) in custody.

Background

Detainee numbers

- Since 2012 the ACT has experienced an upward trend in detainee numbers, with the exception of 2019-20 which saw a reduction in the number of detainees. However, the overall trend in the ACT has been mirrored at a national level. Since 30 June 2017, the adult prisoner population has increased across all States and Territories except for South Australia, which recorded a small decrease.

Accommodation pressures

- The average daily number of detainees in:
  - 2014/15 financial year was 342, with a high of 411 in November 2015;
  - 2015/16 financial year was 402, with a high of 446 in November 2016;
  - 2016/17 financial year was 445, with a high of 473 on 20 May 2017;
  - 2017/18 financial year was 474, with a high of 507 on 20 June 2018;
  - 2018/19 financial year was 484, with a high of 501 on 11 July 2018; and
  - 2019/20 financial year was 444, with a high of 466 on 1 June 2020.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-003

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES POLICIES

Talking points:

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) has undertaken significant policy reform since 2018 across all areas of operations.
- Since October 2018, a Policy Project has been in progress to review and update all ACTCS custodial operations and corporate policies and operating procedures. This project is ongoing and due for completion by mid-2021.
- Nine (9) policies are in the final stages of consultation and are expected to be finalised and notified in mid-2021. These include:
    1. Admissions Policy
    2. Detainee Property Policy
    3. Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy
    4. Detainee Discipline Policy
    5. Visits Policy
    6. Authorised Absences Policy
    7. Temporary Leave Policy
    8. Searching Policy
    9. Refusal of Food and Fluids Policy
- Key policies developed as part of this Project to date include:
    - *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Policy Statement* - commits the ACTCS workforce to deliver on responding to the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the ACT criminal justice system.
    - *Detainee Delegates Policy* – formalising the process of delegate meetings at the Alexander Maconochie Centre as a forum for positive dialogue between detainees and senior custodial management.

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- *Remand Detainees Policy* – ensuring that detainees on remand are subject to fewer restrictions than sentenced detainees as far as practicable.
- *Placement and Shared Cell Policy* – enhancing the risk assessment and records keeping processes for decisions on accommodation placements and to ensure safety, security and good order at the AMC.
- *Transitional Release Program Policy* – establishes the Transitional Release Program to allow detainees to engage in training and employment in the community and enhance their prospects of a successful transition back to community.
- *Staff Peer Support Policy* – supporting the commitment of ACTCS to prioritising staff health and wellbeing.

- As part of undertaking policy reform, ACTCS has engaged in consultation with the Human Rights Commission and the ACT Ombudsman in line with recommendation 28 of the Inspector of Correctional Services *Healthy Prison Review of the AMC.*
- ACTCS has also commenced consultation with the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) to inform current policy development and is in the process of formalising their ongoing engagement into the future.
- ACTCS has also developed an *Open Access Policy 2020* to ensure that policies and procedures are widely accessible on the ACT Government Open Access Register.

Key Information/Background

- Historically, ACTCS did not have a rigorous process to ensure the regular review and monitoring of policy documents. This has been addressed as part of the comprehensive review undertaken since 2018.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-011

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: IMPLEMENTION OF HEALTHY PRISONS REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

Talking points:

- On 26 November 2019, the ACT Inspector of Correctional Services tabled the first Healthy Prison Review (the Review) of the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) in the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- The Review made 51 findings and 73 recommendations, which cover a broad range of often complex issues.
- The ACT Government has carefully considered all findings and recommendations made in the Review and tabled its Response in the Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020 outlining that it:
    - Agreed to 61 recommendations;
    - Agreed in principle to seven (7) recommendations;
    - Noted three (3) recommendations; and
    - Not agreed with two (2) recommendations.
- Many findings and recommendations made in the Healthy Prison Review had already been identified by ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) and a range of actions were already in progress to address the issues raised.
- As at 4 March 2021:
    - 44% of agreed recommendations have been completed, including:
        - a review of the Peer Mentor Program to ensure Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees are supported appropriately;
        - a review and increase of the detainee self-catering allowance; and
        - notification of the ACTCS *Placement and Shared Cell Policy 2020*.
- Although there has been an operational impact on actioning the recommendations due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ACTCS remains committed to implementing this important work.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Key Information/Background

- The *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* was passed by the ACT Government in response to the Moss Review, with the purpose to promote the continuous improvement of correctional centres and correctional services.
- The purpose of the Healthy Prison Review was to conduct a whole-of-centre review of the AMC and examine whether the AMC meets the 'healthy prison test'.
- The ACT Inspector of Correctional Services and his team attended the AMC from 1 – 5 July 2019 to conduct the onsite component of the review.
- Recommendation 3, that ACTCS provide male and female peer support workers in the admissions centre to support detainees on their arrival to AMC, was not agreed to as:
    - ACTCS is of the opinion that having peer support workers in the admissions area meet with new detainees would significantly increase the amount of time new detainees spend in the admissions area.
    - There are peer support worker positions for both genders in the induction process, where more time is available for such interaction without the risk of lengthening the admission processes.
- Recommendation 39, that the ACT government fund the creation of a new administration officer position in the Indigenous Services Unit at a level comparable to other such positions in ACTCS, was not agreed to as:
    - There is sufficient administrative capacity at the AMC for the Indigenous Services Unit to access appropriate admin support.
    - Progress on the implementation of agreed recommendations is monitored closely by ACTCS (via monthly internal reports) and by the Inspector of Correctional Services (via quarterly progress reports).
- The 'Healthy Prison Test' was devised by the World Health Organization and is based on four pillars:
    - Safety;
    - Respect and dignity;
    - Purposeful activity; and
    - Rehabilitation and preparation for release.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-008

Portfolio/s: Corrections

COURT TRANSPORT UNIT REPORT PROGRESS

Talking points:

- The Inspector tabled his second thematic review which examined the ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Court Transport Unit (CTU) in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2020.
- The Report makes 12 findings and 22 recommendations, which the ACT Government and ACTCS take very seriously.
- While work had begun on many of the issues highlighted in the report, it is essential and reassuring that independent oversight identifies and confirms issues that need to be addressed.
- Positive comments by the Inspector about the professionalism of the CTU staff are welcomed and highlight that the CTU staff have operated extremely well throughout a period of significant change, most notably during the transition from the old court complex to the new court cells area, which was still being finalised at the time of the review through the rectification of minor works that had been identified.
- On 6 October 2020, a Director of the CTU commenced. This newly created position will provide stable leadership across the CTU and assist in addressing recommendations made in the report.
- The ACT Government has carefully considered all findings and recommendations made in the Report and tabled its Response in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 11 February 2021 outlining that it:
    - Agreed to 20 recommendations;
    - Agreed in principle to one recommendation; and
    - Noted one recommendation.
- As of 9 March 2021:
    - 29% of agreed recommendations have been completed, including:
        - addition of a protocol to the Memorandum of Understanding with the ACT Courts and Tribunal regarding information needs;

- implementation of the agreed solution for the privacy frosting on court cells; and
- development and delivery of a CTU specific Recruit Training Program.

Key Information

- The 12 findings and 22 recommendations are centred around the following topics:
  - CTU related policies and procedures;
  - operations;
  - security and safety;
  - staff and training;
  - arrangements concerning young detainees;
  - access to detainees by professionals;
  - relationship between CTU and ACT Courts; and
  - relationship between CTU and the Sentence Administration Board.
- Two of the recommendations in the report are addressed to the Community Services Directorate.

Background Information

- Establishing an Inspector of Correctional Services was a commitment of the Government in response to Recommendation 8 of the Moss Review. It recognised that effective independent oversight is vitally important to build and maintain public confidence in our correctional system.
- Section 18(1)(b) of the *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* (the Act) requires that the Inspector of Correctional Services (the Inspector) 'examine and review correctional services at least once every two years'.
- The Inspector first requested data for this review on 13 January 2020, and various additional requests for information were made up until mid-June 2020.
- Pursuant to section 27 of the Act, the Inspector must give a report on each examination and review conducted by the Inspector to the ACT Legislative Assembly within six (6) months of completing the examination and review.
- Section 29(1) of the Act requires the Inspector to provide the Minister for Corrections and the JACS Director-General with a draft copy of the report at least six (6) weeks prior to submitting it to the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- On 30 June 2020, the Inspector provided the draft report of the CTU Review to the former Minister for Corrections and Justice Health, the Director-General of the

Justice and Community Safety (JACS) Directorate, and the ACTCS Commissioner for fact-checking.

- Section 29(2) of the Act allows the Minister for Corrections and the JACS Director-General to provide comments in relation to the draft report within the six (6) week period.
- On 10 August 2020, the JACS Director-General provided a response to the draft report outlining several issues, mostly related to the lack of evidence presented for findings and claims made in the report. In many instances, anecdotal evidence was presented as fact and formed the basis for recommendations. It was noted that there is a considerable risk in publishing reviews that rely on anecdote and opinions from a small number of staff and other stakeholders to inform recommendations rather than being evidence-based.
- The previous review of a correctional service, *The Care and Management of Remandees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre 2018*, was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly in February 2019.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-005

Portfolio: Corrections

ISSUE: AMC HEALTH SERVICES

Talking points:

AMC Health Services

- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) works closely with Canberra Health Services to ensure the health and wellbeing of detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- An Arrangement for the Delivery of Health Services to Detainees (the Arrangement) was signed by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) and ACT Health on 14 August 2017.
- The Arrangement addressed Recommendation 4 of the Moss Review, and recommendations from the *Independent Review of Mental Health Services at the Alexander Maconochie Centre* (the McGrath Review).
- In April 2018, services related to health care supports for detainees at risk of suicide or self-harm transferred to Canberra Health Services from ACTCS.

Integration of Winnunga health services into AMC

- The ACT Government committed $8.3 million to integrate the Winnunga Nimmityjah Aboriginal Health and Community Services (Winnunga) holistic model of care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the AMC in line with Recommendation 5 of the Moss Review.
- On 18 January 2019, the first patient's health care was transferred from Justice Health Services to Winnunga.

Improved Health Services facilities

- A newly constructed modular building for health services is in place within the secure perimeter of the AMC, and is now occupied. This will allow refurbishment of the existing Hume Health Centre throughout the 2020/21 financial year.
- These improvements were funded as part of a $4.022m capital fund over two years (2017-18 and 2018-19) to provide a temporary accommodation solution for Winnunga and renovation of the existing Hume Health Centre.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Key Information/Background

- Since 2017, Justice Health Services and ACTCS have worked collaboratively with Winnunga to develop and agree to a contemporary and best practice model of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Services delivery at the AMC.
- On 22 June 2018, ACTCS, Justice Health and Winnunga signed a contract to enable the delivery of coordinated health care services at the AMC.
- Staff from Winnunga have been present in the AMC since July 2018, developing protocols for the integrated service delivery. A Working Group was established to work through the clinical and operational arrangements for the successful integration of health services at the AMC.
- That work informed an MOU between the ACT Government and Winnunga for the delivery of coordinated health care services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees at the AMC. The MOU was signed on 21 December 2018.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-014

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: OFFICIAL VISITOR REPORTS

Talking points:

- The Official Visitors for Corrections are appointed to visit adult correctional facilities in the ACT, and receive complaints from detainees under the *Official Visitor Act 2012* (the Act).
- The Official Visitors for Corrections provides a mechanism to monitor the quality of services received by people in a correctional setting, and ensure their rights are being maintained.
- I take this opportunity to thank the Official Visitors for the good work they continue to perform in support of all detainees and the system as a whole.
- Between 1 July 2019 and 30 June 2020, the Official Visitors for Corrections made a total of 136 visits to the AMC, court cells and other detainee locations. This was an increase in the number of Official Visitor visits from 86 in the 2018-19 financial year.
- Between 1 October and 31 December 2020, the Official Visitors made a total of 34 visits to the AMC.
- The number of complaints significantly increased from 347 in 2018-19 to 703 in 2019-20. However, it is important to note that the Official Visitors changed the way that they report complaints at the commencement of 2020. Official Visitors now report on the number of complaints received, rather than the number of detainees who have made a complaint.
- In 2019-20, the most common complaints to the Official Visitors were in relation to health, maintenance, visits, education and employment, association concerns, and policy (specifically search processes, e.g. strip searches).
- ACTCS has an excellent working relationship with the Official Visitors and continues to work closely to explore and resolve these issues.

Key Information

- On 17 December 2017, Mr Shannon Pickles and Ms Denise Brasser were appointed as the Official Visitors for Corrections for a three-year term.

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- On 7 January 2020, Ms Vicki Quinn and Ms Violet Sheridan were appointed as the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Official Visitors for a three-year term.
- The Official Visitors (OVs) are obliged to provide a quarterly written report to the Minister as soon as practicable after the end of the quarter. The reports summarise:
    - the number and types of complaints received;
    - the action taken on the complaints received;
    - the number of times the OVs inspected a detainee's records without the detainee's consent (which can only occur in limited circumstances); and
    - the number and kind of matters that the Official Visitors referred on to an investigative entity.
- OVs can only inspect a detainee's records without the detainee's consent when:
    - The OV has taken reasonable steps to obtain consent;
    - The OV believes that the detainee is not able to provide consent;
    - Accessing the record is necessary and appropriate to fufill the OV's duties; and
    - The detainee has not shown that they do not consent to the record being accessed.

Background Information

- The *Official Visitors Act 2012* (the Act) was enacted to improve monitoring and complaints systems for people who are being held in government institutions. The Act created a specific statutory requirement that there must be an OV who is an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and to ensure such an OV is always appointed. Prior to the notification of the Act, the *Corrections Management Act 2007* managed the appointment and functions of the OV. In accordance with the *Corrections Management Act 2007,* the Act maintained that reports must be generated as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter for the Minister.
- During 2017-18, a large scale review of the OV scheme was undertaken and some of the practical feedback around difficulties in relation to recruitment, induction and training were provided.
- In September 2020, updated *Official Visitor Guidelines 2020* were published under the *Official Visitor Act 2012.* These Guidelines standardise the visits and complaint handling processes for OVs.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-012

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: INSPECTOR OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

Talking points:

- Establishing an Inspector of Correctional Services was a commitment of the Government in response to Recommendation 8 of the Moss Review. It recognised that effective independent oversight is vitally important to maintain public confidence in our correctional system.
- The Inspector of Correctional Services (the Inspector) has provided seven (7) Critical Incident Reviews, two (2) thematic review of the conditions of remand detainees, and one (1) healthy prison review to the Speaker of the ACT Legislative Assembly.
- The Inspector is required give a report on each review to the ACT Legislative Assembly within six (6) months of its completion.

Remand Review

- The Care and Management of remandees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) ('Remand Review') was the Inspector's first thematic review and was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 20 February 2019.
- The Review made 39 findings.
- The Government Response to the Remand Review was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 6 June 2019.

Healthy Prison Review

- The Healthy Prison Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 26 November 2019.
- The Government Response to the Healthy Prison Review was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020.
- ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) is currently implementing the recommendations as outlined in the Government Response.
- Healthy Prison inspections and reviews are based on the concept of a healthy prison which was first set out by the World Health Organization, and are accepted internationally as the benchmark for custodial environments. They rely on four pillars:

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- Safety – prisoners, even the most vulnerable, are held safely;
- Respect – prisoners are treated with respect for their human dignity;
- Purposeful activity – prisoners are able and expected, to engage in activity that is likely to benefit them; and
- Rehabilitation – prisoners are prepared for release into the community, and helped to reduce the likelihood of re-offending.

Court Transport Unit Review

- The Court Transport Unit Review was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 3 December 2020.
- The Government Response was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 11 February 2021.
- The review made 12 findings and 22 recommendations. Please refer to for further information.

Critical Incidents

- The *Inspector of Correctional Services Act 2017* (the Act) provides that the Inspector 'may review a critical incident on the inspector's own initiative'. All reviews to date were conducted at the Inspector's own initiative.
- A critical incident is defined in the Act, and includes 'an assault or use of force that results in a person being admitted to hospital'. To date, the majority of critical incident reviews undertaken concern incidents of assaults at the AMC that resulted in the hospitalisation of a detainee. Three (3) exceptions relate to a disturbance at the AMC on 10 November 2020, a fire incident on 14 November 2020, and a strip searching incident on 11 January 2021.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Critical incident date	Details	Media interest
23 May 2018	The critical incident involved an Indigenous detainee who was assaulted by a non-Indigenous detainee at the AMC. The Report contains ten (10) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 27 November 2018, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 19 March 2019.	No
25 October 2018	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains seven (7) findings. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 12 February 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 14 May 2019.	No
16 December 2018	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains six (6) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 5 June 2019. The ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	No
1 January 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a detainee at the AMC, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains seven (7) findings and three (3) recommendations for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 30 July 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	Yes This incident was the subject of media interest following the Attorney-General's response to the detainee and the tabling of the Inspector's Report. On 28 June 2019, the Chief Minister received a request for a remission of sentence for the assaulted detainee. The request was referred to the Attorney-General, who responded by letter on 31 July 2019, advising that the circumstance did not appear to provide a basis for remission and that it was not appropriate to consider the matter as the

		detainee was appealing his sentence.
15 April 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee by up to two (2) other detainees, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains five (5) findings. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 30 July 2019, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 24 October 2019.	No
5 December 2019	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee in a cell by another detainee, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains nine (9) findings and one (1) recommendation for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 23 July 2020.	No
13 January 2020	The critical incident involved the assault of a male detainee by up to two (2) other detainees, resulting in hospital admission. The Report contains ten (10) findings and two (2) recommendations for the ACT Government to consider. The final version of the Report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 21 May 2020, and the ACT Government response to the report was tabled in the ACT Legislative Assembly on 23 July 2020.	Yes This incident was subject to media interest due to next of kin coincidentally being at the hospital and spotting the victim prior to formal hospital admission and therefore prior to next of kin notification.
10 November 2020	There was a disturbance at the AMC with all 27 detainees located in AU North refusing to lock in. Multiple fires were lit and external support was provided by ACT F&R and AFP. Detainees surrendered after several hours, and no injuries occurred to detainees or staff.	Yes This incident was subject to significant media interest.
14 November 2020	There was a fire in Sentence Cottage 2 (SC2), which caused significant damage to parts of this accommodation unit. No injuries to detainees or staff were reported.	Yes This incident was subject to media interest on as it occurred soon after the disturbance of 10 November and was reported on in that context.
11 January 2021	A female Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainee was strip searched in the Crisis Support Unit to ensure her safety, with use of force required to gain compliance beforehand. The Human Rights Commission and the	Yes This incident is subject to significant media interest.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

	Inspector of Correctional Services are currently reviewing this incident.	

Background Information

- Following the Moss Review and in recognition of the unique make-up of the ACT's correctional system and increasing population pressures, the ACT Government committed to establishing an external and independent Inspectorate of Correctional Services, intended to strengthen and improve existing oversight arrangements.
- In May 2018, the ACT Government announced the appointment of Mr Neil McAllister to the role of Inspector of Correctional Services for the ACT.
- The office of the Inspector of Correctional Services is now fully operational and is committed to ensuring continuous improvement through its systemic and regular reviews of correctional services.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-013

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: JUSTICE HOUSING PROGRAM

Talking points:

- As part of the *Building Communities, Not Prisons* program, several initiatives, including the Justice Housing Program (JHP) were funded by the Government through the 2018-19 Budget review and the 2019-20 Budget process.
- This initiative has established a Supported Transitional Justice Housing Program across the ACT to support efforts to reduce reoffending and to reduce numbers at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC).
- The JHP is a collaboration between the Justice and Community Safety Directorate, Community Services Directorate, the social and community housing sector and support agencies, aiming to meet the diverse needs of people in the criminal justice system who are on bail or exiting custody.
- The JHP provides an accommodation option for those who otherwise would be incarcerated in the AMC due to a lack of suitable community based accommodation. An example is those who are remanded in custody instead of receiving bail in the community because they do not have a suitable address, or those applying for parole. This is intended to act as a stepping stone to longer term or permanent accommodation in public housing, community housing or the private rental market.
- The JHP service provider works with residents to source and transition into other long term accommodation. It is important to note that this support relates to a resident's accommodation and does not detract from other services with which an individual may be engaged, such as outreach or counselling services.
- The housing stock for the JHP is sourced from Housing ACT under arrangements ensuring public housing stock availability is not impacted by this initiative.
- Nine houses are currently operational. The final property of the ten properties allocated under JHP will be ready for occupancy by the end of March 2021.

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- ACTCS continues to collaborate with the service providers, community stakeholders, and residents of the program to refine the service model.
- In 2020, there were 13 (1 female, 12 male) occupants in JHP properties, with a further 9 (1 female, 8 males) accepted for occupancy pending the outcome of parole hearings. Seven offenders have been exited from the program.
- As at 3 March 2021, a total of nine houses comprising 27 beds were operational with 17 beds occupied. This includes seven houses for men with a total of 15 residents and two houses for women with a total of two residents.

Key Information/Background

- In the 2019-20 budget, the initiative "Alternatives to jail through the Justice Housing Program (JHP)" received capital funding of $7.2m, $5m of recurrent funding to cover payments to a third party for managing the accommodation program, program brokerage and evaluation for 3 years and other operational costs totalling $6.441m from 2019-20 over a period of 4 years. The premise of this funding is 10 properties provided by Housing ACT.
- Funding of $6.493m over 3 years from 2018-19 was provided for the Bail Accommodation Transition Support Service (BATSS) with commitment of a building by Housing ACT to accommodate eight men, with onsite 24/7 staffing. While the use of the building did not progress, the service is operational from two houses with limited support from CatholicCare support workers in business hours.

<u>COVID-19</u>

- The COVID 19 response within the JHP will:
  - Provide accommodation in houses sourced from Housing ACT, run by CatholicCare. These houses will be contracted for one year with a maximum of nine places (three houses) for women to expand accommodation options available for women leaving custody, to supplement the scarce provision in the housing and homelessness sector.
  - Provide reserved places for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people proportional to, or exceeding, the proportion of Aboriginal people in custody at the AMC. This will be supported by an indigenous CatholicCare support worker, and referrals where requested to a community controlled organisation to support culturally appropriate 'wraparound' services to best meet the needs of the cohort.
  - Provide a bail accommodation transition support service of six beds (two houses) which cater for those who would usually be granted bail by the courts but only on the condition that they have appropriate housing. The bail hostel was funded as part of the mid year cycle in 2018-19, and was contingent upon the use of a specific Weston Creek property. This property did not meet building code and required significant expenditure

to satisfy the requirements. As such, ACTCS is working with CatholicCare to achieve the stated aims of the bail hostel initiative from within the housing provision for the JHP.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-016

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: REPORT ON GOVERNMENT SERVICES (ROGS) RELEASE

Talking points:

Costs

- The real net operating expenditure per detainee per day has increased from $305.50 in 2018-19 to $420.56 in 2019-20. The total expenditure (including net operating expenditure and capital costs) per detainee per day in the ACT was $559.17 in 2019-20. While this is higher than the national average of $331.39, the ROGS advises that cost indicators are not comparable across jurisdictions.
- The increase in recurrent expenditure per prisoner in the ACT between 2018-19 and 2019-20 is in part due to reduced number of detainees in 2019-20 (i.e. the total daily cost – including fixed operational costs – is distributed across a smaller cohort).

Education

- In 2019-2020 there was a slight increase in the participation of detainees in education and training from 70.8 per cent in 2018-2019 to 71.4 percent.
- The ACT has been the highest-ranking jurisdiction in terms of education and training participation since the opening of the AMC, except for 2017-18 when South Australia (SA) surpassed the ACT in its performance against this indicator. The ACT performs well above the national average of 32 per cent.

Employment

- The ACT detainee employment rate remained unchanged, with 80.7 per cent of the eligible detainee population participating in employment. The ACT performed better than the Northern Territory (NT), Queensland (QLD), and Tasmania (TAS) in this area and sits just under the national average of 81.4 per cent.

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- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees were employed in 2019-20 at 75.7 per cent, above the national average of 73.7 per cent. This reflects the ACT Government's commitment to support detainees to develop the skills that allow them to obtain employment and successfully return to the community.
- The ACT has made significant progress to increase opportunities for detainees to develop skills for employment after being released, including through a new Horticulture Industry program which will commence in early 2021. Detainee industries at the AMC provide practical experience and skills that can translate into employment outcomes in the community.

Recidivism

- In 2019-20, the ACT had 37.1 per cent of detainees (released in 2017-2018) returning to prison within 2 years of their release, a decrease from 42.4 per cent and lower than the national average of 46 per cent.
- The return of ex-detainees to Corrective Services (either to Prison or to Community Corrections) reduced from 71.3 per cent in 2018-19 to 63.4 per cent in 2019-20. The ACT return rate of ex-detainees to Corrective Services ranked the second highest of all jurisdictions, after the NT and above the national average of 54.9 per cent.
- In 2019-20, 18.3 per cent of offenders returned to Community Corrections within 2 years of their release, an increase from 16.9 per cent in 2018-19 and higher than the national average of 16.1 per cent.
- The return of ex-offenders to Corrective Services (including prisons) rose to 20.8 per cent in 2019-20 from 19.1 per cent in 2018-19. The ACT performed the third best after Victoria (VIC) and Western Australia (WA), and is under than the national average of 25.7 per cent.

Time out of cells

- The time that detainees spent out of cells decreased to 9.1 hours per day on average in 2019-20 from 9.4 hours in 2018-19. The national average was 9.6 hours. The ACT had the fourth lowest time out of cells, followed by QLD, New South Wales (NSW), and TAS.

- The decrease in time out-of-cells was primarily due to the emergency lockdown of the AMC in November 2019 in response to a significant security breach.
- The ACT Government is committed to maximising time out of cells to ensure detainees can engage in purposeful activities including work, programs, education, visits and recreation to support them to successfully reintegrate into the community.

Key Information

- The ACT recorded zero escapes, deaths in custody, or serious assaults on correctional officers in 2018-19 and continued this trend in 2019-2020.
- There were fewer detainees imprisoned in the ACT in 2019-20, with a decrease of 8.3 per cent. The ACT continues to have fewer women and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in custody, falling below the national average again in 2019-20.
- The ACT was at 101.1 per cent design capacity utilisation at the AMC in 2019-2020, compared to 110.3 per cent in 2018-2019. This is a direct result of the decrease in the detainee population. This indicator is unable to be compared to the national average, which cannot be calculated due to three jurisdictions not reporting on this indicator.
- The prisoner on prisoner assault rate has increased from 9.09 per 100 prisoners (44 serious assaults) in 2010—2019 to 13.07 per 100 prisoners in 2019-20.
- The prisoner on prisoner serious assault rate decreased from 3.31 per 100 prisoners (10 serious assaults) in 2018-19 to 1.8 per 100 prisoners (8 serious assaults) in 2018-19.
- The percentage of Community Corrections orders that were completed without breach has decreased in 2019-20. The ACT had a Community Corrections order completion rate of 68.1 per cent, decreasing from 69.2 per cent in 2018-19 and below the national average of 71.4 per cent.
- Of all orders in 2019-20, the supervision order completion rate decreased to 68.5 per cent, while the completion rate of community service work orders decreased to 61.4 per cent. Both completion rates were lower than the national average of 72 per cent and 68.8 per cent respectively.
- Whilst breaches of orders have risen, the data shows that more community orders were successfully completed in 2019-20 with an increase of 391 orders.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-009

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: COVID-19 at the AMC

Talking points:

- There are currently no confirmed cases of coronavirus within the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC). As at 3 March 2021, 171 detainees had been tested since the commencement of the pandemic and all returned a negative result.
- As at 3 March 2021, one (1) detainee is in isolation at the AMC.
- Detainees are placed in isolation if they:
    - Have identified on admission as having travelled to a hotspot area within the last 14 days;
    - Have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days;
    - Have shared a cell with a detainee who has been tested for COVID-19; or
    - Are unwell and are exhibiting flu-like symptoms.
- This situation will continue to be monitored in line with public health advice from ACT Health.
- Visitors and family members of detainees will continue to receive updates via the ACTCS website. Detainees will also continue to receive weekly electronic notices to keep them updated on the situation both in the community and at the AMC.
- During the pandemic, ACTCS has put in various arrangements to facilitate social contact between detainees, their families and friends in a COVID-safe manner. Measures implemented include the increased availability of video visits.

Key Information

<u>Face-to-face social visits resumption</u>

- On 9 September 2020, limited face-to-face social visits resumed at the AMC. Staff, visitors and detainees were informed about the resumption of visits on 2 September 2020.

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- Due to physical distancing requirements, social visit sessions are limited to seven (7) in person visits per session. Each detainee is permitted two (2) adult visitors and two (2) child visitors per visit. Social visits are also limited to immediate family and partners only.
- Visitors are required to print and complete the *ACTCS COVID-19 Screening Form* each time they visit the AMC. The screening tool is used to identify whether it is safe for the visitor to enter the Centre and is available on the ACTCS website and in the reception area.
- All persons wishing to enter the AMC are required to undergo a touchless thermometer check, in addition to answering a number of screening questions.
- The changes implemented by ACTCS to resume social visits are consistent with the practices in other jurisdictions:
    - Social distancing principles are abided by and screening methods for COVID-19 are utilised in all jurisdictions
    - Similar restrictions on the number of visitors are in place in all jurisdictions
    - Western Australia, Queensland, South Australia and NSW have continued video visits

Activity packs for detainees

- The Programs and Interventions team prepared a range of self-paced program booklets and activity packs for detainees during the pandemic. These packs provide detainees with ways to use their time meaningfully, including learning new strategies and for enjoyment. Self-paced booklets and card making kits are also being offered to detainees who are waiting for court appearances by telephone.
- As at 3 March 2021, 867 certificates of completion have been issued for self-paced programs. This includes 805 certificates issued to male detainees and 62 certificates to female detainees.
- On 6 January 2021, the sixth self-paced booklet, Working Together, was distributed to detainees. This booklet may be completed as a stand alone booklet or as a prerequisite to the detainee Peer Mentor training program.
- A seventh self-paced booklet will be distributed to detainees in late March 2021.

Personal Protective Equipment

- The use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) at the AMC is in accordance with the Public Health Guidelines that are currently in place.
- PPE is not required for general work activities but is required for those working in close contact with people who have been placed on isolation and/or those who have been confirmed to have COVID-19. Correctional officers and other staff will be issued with appropriate PPE equipment where they are required to engage directly with detainees who have been placed on isolation.
- Masks will be issued to any detainees infected to prevent the spread of the disease where they are in contact with others.
- Appropriate signage is on display at 2 Constitution Avenue advising offenders who are unwell or experiencing flu-like symptoms to remain away and make telephone contact, as well as general hygiene advice.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Video visits

- Between 2–16 July 2020, ACTCS sent out a survey to families and friends who were visiting detainees by video. The survey was sent to approximately 300 visitors and 115 responses were received.
- The survey identified that the majority (93 percent) of respondents were satisfied with the video visits and would like to see them offered as a permanent visit option in addition to face-to-face visits.
- The survey also identified the following benefits for visitors:
    - Limiting exposure of the environment to children;
    - Allowing family and friends who are overseas and interstate to see a detainee more regularly;
    - Convenience; and
    - Safer for those with medical conditions.
- Video visits have continued and detainees may have up to one (1) video visit and one (1) in person visit per week. Visits are up to one (1) hour in duration.

Audio Visual Link

- Audio-Visual Links (AVL) to the Courts and Sentence Administration Board (SAB) have been in high demand at the AMC throughout the pandemic, however availability is limited.
- While the Courts and SAB have both maximised the use of AVL and telephone hearings, this is not sustainable once restrictions ease and the facilities are returned to their original purpose as Programs rooms.
- The Courts, SAB and other stakeholders are extremely keen to continue the use of AVL and thereby reduce unnecessary detainee movement.

Background

Visits

- AMC conducted 3,036 visits between 9 September 2020 and 31 Decemeber 2020. 55% (1,372) of these visits were conducted via video and 45% (1,350) were conducted in person.
- All social visits to the AMC were suspended from close of business on Sunday 22 March 2020 to ensure the health and safety of all detainees and visitors.
- Since Wednesday 25 March 2020, detainees have been provided with an additional $20 phone credit to assist with contact to their family and friends, and with effect from Friday 27 March 2020, ACTCS commenced the use of video visits using the video communication program ‘Zoom’.
- Visitors are asked to arrive at least 30 minutes prior to their visit time to complete the requirements of entry.
- Detainees are required to complete a ‘Visitor Nomination’ form before visits can be booked. This form was circulated to all detainees in late July 2020.

- Detainees can nominate up to ten (10) visitors they would like to receive visits from on their 'Visitor Nomination' form.
- Following these nominations, visitors are required to confirm their identity with ACTCS before they can attend a visit. These changes were communicated to visitors on Friday 14 August 2020.
- Visits must be booked 72 hours prior to the intended visit. Visitors must call AMC Executive Support and leave a message to arrange a visit.
- Visitors will receive a text message confirming the outcome of their booking enquiry. Visitors without a mobile phone will be contacted by telephone.
- Detainees do have the option to apply to the General Manager AMC in exceptional circumstances for other visits arrangements.
- Unfortunately, due to cleaning requirements, the following services and facilities are not available during visits:
    - toilet facilities
    - barista
    - the BBQ and outdoor play equipment.
- Professional visits are able to occur in person and via video at the choice of the professional agency and the availability of the video equipment.

Activities

- The activity packs offer a range of craft and brain teasers, including find a picture, find a word, sudoku and origami. Craft packs are also available, including making cards with scrapbooking paper and colouring/drawing ideas and lesson pages. Packs continue to be available to all detainees.
- Hepatitis ACT have donated a selection of card making, colouring in sheets, drawing paper, hepatitis information booklets and packs of cards for distribution to detainees.
- The self paced booklets may be submitted to the Programs Unit for review and, if completed, a certificate will be awarded. This will assist detainees in custody for a short period who wish to demonstrate their engagement in a short intervention and encourage detainees to increase their own self development and independence in skill building. It is envisaged these programs will be used beyond the COVID-19 pandemic.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-004

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: ACTCS REFORM

Talking points:

- The ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) Strategic Plan 2019-24 contains four pillars under the banner of 'One Team, One Purpose: Supporting a Safer Community':
    - Safety – Maintaining community safety is our priority
    - Reintegration – Supporting offenders to positively change their lives is our focus
    - Dignity – Treating people with humanity, dignity and respect is our mandate
    - Excellence – Developing organisational capacity and capability, and ensuring continuous improvement is our commitment.
- To achieve the strategic plan goals, a significant program of reform is underway to support the provision of a leading correctional service to the ACT community. This includes (but is not limited to):
    - Development of an Integrated Offender Management model
    - AMC Reform project
    - Workforce reform
    - Community and volunteer engagement
    - ACTCS Disability Action and Inclusion Plan (including the development of a Disability Offenders Framework).

<u>Integrated Offender Management (IOM)</u>

- The IOM model aligns with the ACT Government's commitment to reducing recidivism and will embed early release planning and the ACTCS *Reintegration Framework* across custodial and community operations through a holistic end-to-end sentence management process for offenders.

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- The IOM model will ensure that interventions are delivered in a considered and timely manner at the appropriate point of an offender's sentence. IOM also seeks to provide opportunities for offenders to engage in constructive activity throughout their custodial sentence and that those in the community post release or under community supervision, are supported appropriately.
- Development and implementation of an IOM model is a substantial program of work that will progress through 2021.

AMC Reform

- The AMC Reform Project includes:
    - Cohort moves to ensure physical separation between mainstream and protection detainees and enhance safety, security and good order in correctional centres.
    - Regime changes to better manage detainee cohorts and increase constructive activity through enhanced core day programs.
    - Development and implementation of violence reduction and drug strategy reforms.
    - Introduction of an Incentives and Earned Privileges scheme to encourage and reward positive and pro-social behaviours and engagement by detainees in their sentence management plans.

Workforce reform

- Review of rosters for corrections officers to improve efficiencies and increase predictability of future shifts and align with the *Correctional Officer Enterprise Agreement 2018-2021* for the timely provision of rosters. The new roster will also expand the training commitment for officers to ensure that appropriate training is delivered to all officers.
- Establishment of an ACTCS Wellbeing Working Group incorporating the WorkSafe ACT *Healthier Work* initiative.
- Increased investment in Organisational Capability to support greater staff development and a skilled workforce.
- Development of an *Attraction and Retention Strategy*, including defining career pathways within operational divisions and pathways for

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and culturally and linguistically diverse employees.

- Development of a *Staff Engagement Strategy* to promote engagement and wellbeing, and collaboration with Deakin University.

Community and volunteer engagement

- ACTCS is developing a policy for ongoing formal community engagement that will provide opportunities for service enhancements, improve awareness of ACTCS operations and processes and encourage collaboration between ACTCS and community stakeholders.
- The ACTCS Community Engagement Policy is due for completion by mid 2021.
- Preparations for a volunteer program have also commenced, with a view to provide support for the reintegration of offenders into the community.

Disability Action and Inclusion Plan (DAIP)

- The Disability Action and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) was launched on 3 December 2020, the International Day of People with a Disability.
- ACTCS worked with the Australian Network on Disability and the Office for Disability to develop the DAIP to improve access and participation of people with a disability across all areas of the Service.
- The DAIP highlights 15 prioritised commitments across five focus areas for implementation over the next three years to the end of 2023.
- In 2021 ACTCS will also commence development of a *Disability Offenders Framework* as prescribed in the ACT *Disability Justice Strategy 2019-29.* The Framework will be informed by extensive consultation and community engagement and is expected to be completed in late 2021.

Key Information/Background

- ACTCS has engaged consultancy Curijo Pty Ltd to lead the development of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Offender Framework working closely with the ACTCS Policy Unit. The consultants will work closely with ACTCS to identify best practice evidence and engage key stakeholders in the development of the Framework.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-015

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: REINTEGRATION CENTRE

Talking points:

- A tender associated with the construction of the proposed Reintegration Centre has not yet been let.
- The ACT Government is considering a range of options related to accommodation priorities at the AMC, in the light of the current detainee numbers and profiles, and in order to achieve optimal outcomes that most effectively balance the needs of the different cohorts of detainees – both currently but also into the future.
- The proposed Reintegration Centre is one element of the accommodation options for the AMC and, hence, it is part of these considerations.
- As part of the *Building Communities, Not Prisons* initiative, the ACT Government committed to improving rehabilitation options for detainees at the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC), including steps for the development of a proposed Reintegration Centre.
- The Reintegration Centre was intended to address the risk of overcrowding at the AMC at a time when there was significant pressure on population numbers. It was intended to decrease the number of male detainees accommodated within the secure perimeter of the AMC.
- The Reintegration Centre was also intended to reduce the time a person may be detained in custody through increasing the capacity of detainees to gain parole and, once released, to successfully reintegrate into the community with increased skills and strategies to address the causes of their criminogenic behaviours.
- The Reintegration Centre is intended to provide enhanced rehabilitation programs including trauma and relationship counselling, alcohol, tobacco and other drug rehabilitation, and jobs skills training in partnership with non-government and government organisations.
- As detainees accommodated in the Reintegration Centre would not access AMC facilities, the facility should include an industries building in

order to provide detainees with work opportunities and skills training to enhance employment prospects on release.

- To achieve these desired positive outcomes of the Reintegration Centre, it is important that there would be availability of the necessary programs and employment options, and that the current cohort and risk profile of detinees is well matched to these programs, such that detainees are readily able able to access and benefit from the proposed Reintegration Centre.

Key Information/Background

- Since the opening of the AMC in 2009, detainee numbers have consistently exceeded forecast numbers.
- In 2017, the ACT Government agreed that a feasibility study be undertaken to identify, prioritise and program the delivery of future correctional requirements in a staged and cost-effective manner.
- Capital funding of $35 million (over three years) was allocated in the 2019-20 Budget to construct the 80-bed minimum security Reintegration Centre located outside the secure perimeter of the AMC. The Reintegration Centre was to incorporate the 20-bed Transitional Release Centre.
- In December 2019, the then Minister for Corrections and Justice Health reported to the Legislative Assembly on the early progress on the Reintegration Centre project.
- The Reintegration Centre project involves design and planning approvals to provide accommodation buildings for new beds and associated support, administration and stores.
- The design, procurement and construction of the facility is being managed by Major Projects Canberra.
- As part of early design work, a geotechnical investigation was commissioned to assess the subsurface soil and groundwater conditions across the site.
- The investigation identified a number of areas of concern which had different classifications for rectification before building works would be able to commence.
- A separate budget bid of $5.6 million to support the works being undertaken was submitted and approved as part of the 2020-21 budget process as this was not included in the original project budget.
- Key milestones achieved to date include:
    - In May 2019, Perumal Pedavoli Pty Ltd was appointed to provide Design Consultancy Services for the Reintegration Centre.
    - 30 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan documents were submitted in June 2019.
    - 80 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan documents were issued for review in mid-December 2019.

- The Development Application (DA) was submitted in May 2020.
- 100 per cent Preliminary Sketch Plan was completed in September 2020.
- The Government Procurement Board endorsed the proposal in November 2020.

- The DA was approved in November 2020.
- A project to commence development of the Operating Model for the Reintegration Centre has commenced. The focus for the next six months is the development of a detailed operating model which is being progressed in consultation with current and released detainees, staff and community stakeholders.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-007

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ALEXANDER MACONOCHIE CENTRE TRANSFERS

Talking points:

- On 24 November 2020, five (5) male detainees were transferred from the Alexander Maconochie Centre (AMC) to NSW correctional centres.
- An additional four (4) male detainees were transferred in early December 2020 (two on 3 December 2020, and two on 11 December 2020).
- Of the nine detainees transferred, eight were involved in the disturbance which occurred at the AMC on 10 November 2020, where 27 detainees housed in the AU-North accommodation unit refused to return to their cells for the night lock-in and caused significant damage to the unit, including by lighting fires.
- One detainee that was transferred was involved in various other incidents, and was believed to be involved in a fire incident that caused significant damage to parts of the Sentenced Cottage 2 (SC2) accomodation unit.
- The impact of the disturbance and fire incident in SC2 placed increased pressure on the management of complex cohorts of detainees by ACTCS due to the temporary loss of these accommodation units as a result of damage.
- The decision to transfer these detainees to NSW was made to ensure the ongoing safety, security and good order of the AMC in consideration of the reduced capacity due to the temporary loss of the accommodation units.
- The transfer of these detainees will not affect their ACT court orders and sentences.

Key Information

- The AMC manages multiple complex cohorts across minimum to maximum level security classifications and this requires individual detainee group placements to be considered for each relocation, which has been made increasingly difficult in the current circumstances.

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- ACTCS will continue to consider appropriate risk assessments when considering the placement of detainees and the options available to ACTCS.
- Four of the detainees transferred in November/December 2020 identify as Aboriginal.

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-002

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES KEY DATA (as at 1 March 2021)

Court Transport Unit (CTU)

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male
28	28.57	71.43

- This number includes one officer who has been on long term unpaid leave for approximately two years and SOGB, Director, CTU.

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles –five (5) vehicles.

Custodial officers

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male
200.69	26.78	73.22

- There are generally 71 weekday posts at the AMC (Monday and Tuesday are slightly less as there are no visits), with 82 officers rostered on each day. This includes an additional 11 officers to account for unexpected and other leave. These numbers include a number of Officers who are on long term leave.

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – eight (8) vehicles.
    - One (1) vehicle is currently in the process of transferring the equipment to the replacement vehicle. When completed, the vehicle will be returned to SG Fleet.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF

Custodial operations – All staff (inclusive of administrative and corrections officers)

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous
269.69 – includes 2 on temporary contracts	31.05	68.95	7.05

- 42 of the staff members are administrative or GSO staff, including two on temporary contracts.

Community Corrections and Release Planning

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous
103.58 – includes 1 on temporary contracts	68.14	31.86	3.86

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – five (5) vehicles
    - Three (3) vehicles are located at 2 Consitution Avenue
    - Community Corrections and Release Planning has an additional two (2) vehicles based at the Transitional Release Centre adjacent to the AMC.

Corporate Services

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous
55.64 – includes 9 on temporary contracts	47.88	52.12	0

Vehicles

- Total number of vehicles – four (4) vehicles
    - Two (2) vehicles are located at 2 Consitution Avenue
    - Corporate Services also has an additional two (2) vehicles based at the AMC utilised by the Maintenance and Stores teams.

Operational Support

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous
28.2 – includes 3 on temporary contracts	73.05	26.95	3.55

Office of the Commissioner and Executive

Staffing

Total FTE	% Female	% Male	% Indigenous
17.6 – includes 8 on temporary contracts	77.27	22.73	0

QUESTION TIME BRIEF

JACS2021/47-001-042

Portfolio/s: Corrections

ISSUE: STAFF SUPPORT AND WELLBEING

Talking points:

- The safety, mental health and wellbeing of all ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) staff, including Correctional Officers, is a priority for ACTCS.
- ACTCS recognise that the work Correctional Officers do daily can have a significant impact on their wellbeing (and the wellbeing of their families) and are committed to protecting and promoting their physical and psychological wellbeing.
- Since mid 2020, ACTCS has introduced the following initiatives:
    - the Mentally Healthier Workplaces Pledge
    - launch of a new Peer Support Program
    - the introduction of a therapy support dog.
- ACTCS is currently developing a Wellness Framework to align with the ACT Government's *Healthy Minds – Thriving Workplaces Strategy* and the development of the ACTCS Mentally Healthier Workplaces action plan.
- The ACTCS Healthier Work action plan is expected to be provided to ACT WorkSafe in April 2021 for implementation.
- Is is anticipated that the ACTCS Wellness Framework will be released for consultation in April 2021, supported by the establishment of a Working Group.
- A therapy support dog, Eddie, was added to the K9 unit in 2020 and forms part of the new Peer Support Program.
- Eddie is scheduled to complete training by mid 2021 and will be available to provide comfort and companionship to staff as required.
- The issue of staff wellbeing will also be considered by the Oversight Committee tasked with developing a Blueprint for Change, alongside a range of other staffing matters.

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Key Information/Background

Mentally Healthier Workplaces pledge

- Over coming months, a Healthier Workplaces action plan will be developed to guide clear actions aimed at building a positive, healthy, and safe environment. The action plan and ACTCS' delivery against it will be routinely reported so that all staff are able to see what has been committed to and what has been delivered.
- This work is underpinned and supported by WorkSafe ACT whose focus is on ensuring all workers in the ACT have healthy, safe, and productive workplaces.Healthier Work is an initiative that builds the capacity of workplaces to develop and implement programs, policies, and practices that lead to healthy environments and sustained healthy lifestyle changes for employees.
- ACTCS are committed to workplace health and wellbeing and took the Mentally Healthier Workplaces Pledge during the National Corrections Day celebrations on 13 January 2021.
- ACTCS will work with WorkSafe ACT and relevant stakeholders to develop an action plan that will ensure ACTCS are a place of work that:
    - Prevents harm
    - Promotes a positive culture
    - Protects staff wellbeing
    - Provides support for staff with mental illness.

ACTCS Peer Support Program

- ACTCS Peer Support Officers are staff members who have volunteered to undertake peer support training to assist their colleagues in coping with employment-related or personal difficulties.
- ACTCS Peer Support Officers are accessible to all staff and aid the operations of ACTCS by:
    - contacting staff after an incident where there is a perceived potential of being a highly stressful or emotional experience for those involved
    - providing supportive and neutral assistance for staff regarding employment or personal issues
    - providing encouragement and facilitation of referrals to an Employee Assistance Program provider
    - providing promotional material relating to health and wellbeing.
- The ACTCS *Staff Peer Support Policy* was notified in July 2020 and Peer Support Officers completed relevant training in September 2020.
- A Request For Quotation is being developed to ensure ACTCS provide adequate Counsellor Supervision and support to Peer Support Officers. This is expected to be in place in May 2021.

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The Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

- The ACT Government EAP offers free, professional, and confidential services to support staff and immediate family members through both personal and work-related issues.
- All ACTCS personnel are frequently reminded of the availability of EAP as well as other support services available, such as Lifeline and Beyond Blue.
- As well as the Employee Assistance Program, Mental Health Guru is an online mental health program available to all ACTCS employees. The interactive program can assist in better understanding mental health and how to get support for mental health conditions.

Health and wellbeing reimbursement

- Recognising the benefits of maintaining a healthy and productive workforce, the Justice and Community Safety Directorate provides a reimbursement of up to $100 per annum to all permanent and fixed term employees who undertake, in their own time, health and wellbeing activities as described in the relevant Enterprise Agreements.
- These activities include, but are not limited to:
    - Sports team uniforms or clothing specifically associated with health and wellbeing
    - Runners/footwear
    - Clothing – gym, swimming and cycling gear
    - Fitness equipment – exercise bikes, soccer balls, yoga mats etc.
    - Bone density testing
    - Stress management courses
    - Quit smoking and weight loss programs.