

ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES NEWSLETTER



A MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

The past quarter has highlighted the dedication and professionalism across ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS). Reflecting the theme of *Extraordinary People, Extraordinary Work*, National Corrections Day underscored our shared pride in the important role correctional professionals play in supporting community safety.

This period also delivered key policy updates that continue to strengthen our practices and support improved outcomes for both staff and those in our care. In addition, the recent ACT Budget reaffirmed investment in ACTCS, reinforcing our ongoing focus on safety, rehabilitation, and system-wide improvement.

AMC Family Day

The AMC Family Day was held at the Alexander Maconochie Centre on Tuesday, 14 April 2026. It was a truly special afternoon, filled with joy, creativity, and meaningful connection.

Dads and their children spent valuable time together, engaging in fun activities, crafting unique artwork, and enjoyed decorating cupcakes and making fairy bread.

From messy face-painting to collaborative art projects, the day was filled with smiles, laughter, and unforgettable memories. The enthusiasm and excitement in the room were a testament to the importance of these moments in strengthening family bonds.



Australian Corrections Medal Recipient

On Thursday, 16 April 2026, Natalie Veenstra, Assistant Commissioner, Community Corrections, was formally awarded the Australian Corrections Medal at Government House in Canberra, recognising her outstanding contribution to corrective services.

Natalie is the first female officer in the ACT to receive this prestigious honour.

With more than 16 years of distinguished service, the award reflects her consistent professionalism, integrity and dedication to excellence. Throughout her career, she has demonstrated strong leadership, fostering an environment built on trust, respect and accountability.

Appointments to the Sentence Administration Board

Ms Laura Beacroft has been appointed as Chairperson of the Sentence Administration Board (the Board) for a three-year term, commencing 14 June 2026. Ms Beacroft brings strong experience and a clear commitment to the Board's work. She has previously served as Chair, and it is great to see her return to the role. Her strong leadership experience will support the Board's ongoing work.

The Board thanks Professor Dennis Foley for his contribution over three years as a Board Member. Professor Foley brought valuable cultural knowledge and a strong ability to engage with First Nations offenders.

The Attorney-General has re-appointed Ms Tamara Prosser and Ms Mirjana Wilson for a further three-year term. Ms Wilson brings valuable experience from serving multiple terms on the Board, while Ms Prosser made a strong contribution during her first term. Both are well prepared, thoughtful, and actively engaged and their continued service is very welcome.

Ms Margaret Rowe has been newly appointed to the Board for a three-year term. Ms Rowe previously served as Acting Victims of Crime Commissioner and previously led the family violence team at Legal Aid ACT. Her knowledge and expertise will be a valuable addition to the Board.

Policy Update

This quarter, the following policies and procedures have been updated:

- [Incident Reporting and Notifications Policy 2026](#)
- [Incident Reporting and Notifications Operating Procedure 2026](#)
- [Safety, Security and Incident Reporting in the Community Operating Procedure](#)
- [Death in Custody and Community Operating Procedure 2026](#)
- [ICT Incident Management Operating Procedure](#).

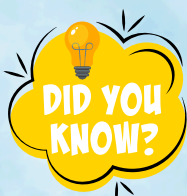
All custodial policies are available on the [ACT Legislation Register](#).

ACT Budget Announcement

The ACT Government's latest Budget underscores its commitment to community safety, with targeted investment in ACT Corrective Services.

Key funding allocations include:

- Upgrades and ongoing maintenance of the Electronic Security System (ESS) at the Alexander Maconochie Centre
- Continued delivery of the Justice Housing Program
- Ongoing support for Integrated Case Management for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander detainees
- Operational funding for the AMC, including utilities and essential detainee services such as meals, clothing, and personal care.



That mobile phones and smartwatches are strictly prohibited within the Alexander Maconochie Centre to uphold security and ensure controlled communication, in accordance with the *Corrections Management Act 2007*.

For more information on prohibited items, visit the [Prepare for your visit webpage](#).

