

REDUCING RE-OFFENDING BY 25% MORE REHABILITATION THAT WORKS

The greatest contribution the Department of Corrections can make to New Zealanders is to reduce re-offending. Breaking the cycle of crime results in fewer victims and safer communities. The Government is committed to achieving a 25% reduction in re-offending by 2017. This will mean 4,600 fewer offenders returning and 18,500 fewer victims.

To achieve this, we will work with our partners in the community and across the justice, public, and private sectors to move people away from a life of crime. Through a combination of interventions such as increased alcohol and drug treatment, greater access to education, skills training, employment programmes, expanded reintegration services, and innovative rehabilitation programmes, we can make a difference to people's lives.

Our plan to reduce re-offending involves developing new and innovative approaches, while expanding and strengthening existing services with proven results. This plan will evolve during the next few years to ensure that we are responsive to offenders' changing needs.

New and expanded rehabilitation interventions for 7,855 additional prisoners and community offenders.

We will increase the quality and availability of interventions to ensure that more offenders receive rehabilitation programmes with proven results.

One size does not fit all. To be successful, rehabilitation needs to be provided at the right time and be tailored to meet an individual's needs. Expanded case management by our staff will ensure that the correct combination of interventions is matched to an offender's needs.

By partnering with community groups with expertise in this area, we can ensure that offenders take part in those programmes known to make the biggest difference.

We will seek new and innovative approaches from iwi and other community providers to deliver a wider range of rehabilitation programmes.

In particular, we will focus on supporting young offenders to turn their lives around.

New and expanded rehabilitation programmes will mean, by 2017:

- > 200 young prisoners and community offenders a year taking part in programmes specific to their needs
- > 120 additional prisoners a year treated in Special Treatment Units
- > 140 additional prisoners and 395 more community offenders a year receiving a rehabilitation programme of medium intensity
- > 5,000 prisoners a year receiving expanded case management
- > 2,000 community offenders receiving improved externally-provided rehabilitation programmes