

Appendix 1

DEPARTMENTAL RESPONSE TO THE 2014 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Acceptance Level/Response
1. Commence the development of work camps and other minimum-security facilities, with a focus on reparation, skill development and rehabilitation, for female prisoners and juvenile detainees.	<p data-bbox="737 497 954 528">Supported in Part</p> <p data-bbox="737 542 1327 752">The Department recognises the need to ensure that work camps and other facilities offer an appropriate range of training and vocational skills for different population groups to assist with successful community re-integration. The Department has therefore developed new programs of work to:</p> <ul data-bbox="737 766 1327 1102" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="737 766 1327 833">• address the needs of specific offender cohorts and to inform future asset requirements;<li data-bbox="737 846 1327 945">• ensure that models of service delivery meet the individual needs of young people, informed by new program evaluation tools; and<li data-bbox="737 958 1327 1102">• build an integrated and individualised approach to case management (IICM) to ensure that offender interventions are personalised and targeted to their rehabilitation needs. <p data-bbox="737 1124 1305 1191">These initiatives are outlined in the Department’s Strategic Plan.</p> <p data-bbox="737 1205 1327 1373">The Department is also developing a new capital works program to maximise the use of its existing infrastructure and provide for projected growth requirements, including options to address pressures in the women’s estate.</p>

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<p>2. Continue to invest in work camps for male prisoners in appropriate locations, including the option of a work camp in the south west that aims to better meet the needs of Noongar Aboriginal men.</p>	<p>Supported in Part</p> <p>Albany Regional Prison, Bunbury Regional Prison, Pardelup Prison Farm and Walpole Work Camp are situated in the south west area. They are intended to meet the needs of male prisoners, including Noongar Aboriginal men.</p> <p>A number of issues affect decisions on investment in further work camps in the south west including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • declining occupancy rates; • access to placements based on security classification; • understanding and addressing the needs of specific offender cohorts; and • the build cost associated with new purpose built work camps. <p>Noting the above, the Department is committed to developing a strategic asset framework that encompasses different offender needs and to inform asset requirements.</p> <p>The Department is also looking for assurance that work camps will continue to offer an appropriate range of training and vocational skills to assist with successful community re-integration. Because of this, the Department is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engaging Aboriginal people to help develop targeted initiatives that produce better outcomes for Aboriginal offenders; and • reviewing rehabilitation and reintegration services to ensure they are targeted to criminogenic need and provide evidence based rehabilitation results.

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<p>3. Review the assessment and classification system with a view to better understanding why, since 2009, it has impacted negatively on Aboriginal prisoners, and to increasing the number of prisoners who reach minimum-security status and are considered suitable for work camp placement.</p>	<p>Supported in Part</p> <p>The Department's modified Security Assessment and Classification Instrument came into effect in 2009. Attaining minimum status is a fundamental precondition for accessing prison work camps.</p> <p>The Department is now reviewing the modified Assessment and Classification system as part of a broader offender management focus on safety, rehabilitation, reintegration, and reductions in offending. This review is expected to be completed by the end of June 2015.</p> <p>A Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group has also been established to develop an action plan that focuses on providing culturally relevant initiatives that will reduce aboriginal over-representation and high recidivism rates in the justice system. The Department is engaging with Aboriginal people to help develop these initiatives and expects a targeted plan to be prepared toward the middle of 2015.</p>
<p>4. Develop the skills and qualifications of work camp officers to facilitate the delivery of accredited on-the-job training to work camp prisoners.</p>	<p>Supported in Part</p> <p>Workplace Trainer and Assessor accreditation is a desirable criteria on the Work Camp Officer Job Description Form.</p> <p>The Department is introducing a new human resources system focused on recruitment and training to ensure that it has the Right Structure, Right People – Trained Right.</p> <p>Training for Corrections Officers is delivered by the Department's Training Academy. The Department will be examining and revising the Training Academy's model of training to ensure that it aligns with the Department's vision, mission and key deliverables. A key focus will be the establishment of Workforce Plans for prison officers to ensure it has the right number of work ready staff now and into the future.</p>
