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# RR25%

REDUCING RE-OFFENDING

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DEPARTMENT OF  
**CORRECTIONS**  
ARA POUTAMA AOTEAROA

STRATEGY 2014 - 2017  
**YEAR ONE**

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STRATEGY 2014 - 2017 YEAR ONE

 DEPARTMENT OF  
CORRECTIONS  
AND PROBATION SERVICES



## OUR VISION

Creating lasting change by breaking the cycle of re-offending

## OUR GOAL

To reduce re-offending by 25% by 2017

*Public safety is our bottom line*

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## WHAT WE DO

The Department of Corrections protects the public of New Zealand from those who can harm them, by:

- making sure prisoners, parolees and other offenders in the community comply with the sentences and orders imposed by the Courts and NZ Parole Board;
- providing offenders with rehabilitation programmes, education and job training that will turn their lives around and break the cycle of re-offending.

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## 10 FACTS ABOUT CORRECTIONS

1. 1838 – first jails in New Zealand
2. 1886 – community probation introduced
3. 1995 – Department of Corrections established
4. 8,500 people in New Zealand prisons
5. Each week we manage 30,000 people in the community
6. 8,000 staff – 17<sup>th</sup> largest organisation in NZ
7. 55,000 reports a year to Courts and Parole Board
8. 17 prisons, 1 contract-managed and 1 PPP in Wiri (NZ's biggest building development)
9. Over 151 Community Corrections sites
10. \$1.2 billion operating budget



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## FACTS ABOUT OFFENDERS

- The majority of offenders:
  - are in the community (82%)
  - are male (80% of community offenders, 94% of prisoners)
  - are under 35 (63% of community offenders, 54% of prisoners)
  - have a drug or alcohol problem (66%)
  - are unemployed (60%)
- 70% of prisoners have difficulty reading and writing
- 23,000 children in New Zealand have a parent in prison; seven times more likely to end up in prison
- Community Work provides 2.5 million hours of labour each year
- Re-imprisonment rate – 26.7%\*
- Reconviction rate – 26.8%\*

\* within 12 months of release or sentence

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## WHAT WE KNOW

People with education and training, who are in work, are less likely to offend.

Re-offending is reduced when people:

- address the issues behind their offending, e.g. drug and alcohol treatment, domestic violence programmes
- learn better life skills and trade experience that employers value, e.g. Offenders have provided 65,000 hours of labour toward the Christchurch re-build
- engage with whānau to change behaviour and reintegrate into the community



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## OUR PRIORITIES

1. Community Support
2. Working Prisons
3. Modern Infrastructure
4. Visible Leadership



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## WHAT WE WILL DO TO BREAK THE CYCLE OF CRIME





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## THANK YOU

## Any questions ?

