

## NSW Party positions on JR

Australian Prison Reform Journal

Volume 5, Issue 2, Article 1, 2025

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URL: [www.aprj.com.au/articles/APRJ-5\(2\)-1-NSW-Party-JR-positions.pdf](http://www.aprj.com.au/articles/APRJ-5(2)-1-NSW-Party-JR-positions.pdf)

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### Abstract

Australian Prison Reform Journal is endeavouring to publish the party policy positions in all jurisdictions with regard to justice reinvestment.

### Policies on justice reinvestment

[Australian Prison Reform Journal](#) is asking the major parties for their policy on justice reinvestment, which is considered by the [Journal](#) to be the main way in which the root causes of crime can be addressed and our high rates of incarceration reduced. It is also the main way in which the overrepresentation of First Nations peoples in the criminal justice system can be addressed and the gap between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people closed. The policies of the major parties in NSW have been sought. All parties contacted have returned their policy:

#### Australian Labor Party

The Hon. Michael Daley, MP – Attorney-General

Party position:

The NSW Government is partnering with communities to find local answers to local issues. Justice Reinvestment plays an important role in improving the lives of Aboriginal communities and addressing the causes of crime.

More info about justice reinvestment can also be found here: <https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/legal-and-justice/strategies-and-plans/justice-reinvestment.html#%3Cb%3EGovernment%E2%80%99s1>

### **Liberal Party of Australia**

Mr Alister Henskens, MP – Shadow Attorney-General

Party position:

Justice Reinvestment is an innovative program which aims to divert people away from the criminal justice system by investing in evidence-based community-led initiatives that address the underlying causes of crime, with a focus on Aboriginal people.

The first justice reinvestment approach in NSW was the Maranguka initiative in Bourke, first launched as a pilot by the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government in 2012.

In 2022, the NSW Liberal and Nationals Government committed \$9.8 million for two additional Justice Reinvestment pilots, in Nowra and Kempsey.

The underlying causes of offending are complex and the Liberals and Nationals are committed to working closely and collaboratively with Aboriginal communities to address disproportionate rates of Aboriginal incarceration.

The justice reinvestment approach works to divert Aboriginal people away from the criminal justice system with evidence-based, preventative, diversionary and community development initiatives. In doing so, it builds stronger, safer communities, focusing on getting to the underlying causes of crime and stopping crime from occurring in the first place.

### **Australian Greens**

Ms (Sue) Susan Higginson, MLC – Spokesperson for Justice

Party position:

We have some great resources surrounding Justice Reinvestment available online.

[Here](#) is a link to a 2016 paper published by the greens that outlined our stance on justice reinvestment

I would also direct you to our up to date policies regarding criminal justice that include references to justice reinvestment [here](#).

I draw your attention to principle 5.

"5. Acknowledging First Nations peoples' ongoing sovereignty, by granting the greatest possible measure of self-determination, including in services designed to prevent contact with the criminal justice system based on the principles of justice reinvestment."

And aim 23.

"23. Support statewide implementation trials of "justice reinvestment" in disadvantaged communities in NSW that seek such intervention, whereby money that would have been spent on the criminal justice prison system is reinvested in programs and services in communities to address structural disadvantage, the underlying causes of crime and reduce re-offending."