

QLD Party positions on JR

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Abstract

Australian Prison Reform Journal is endeavouring to publish the policy positions of the major parties on justice reinvestment. We will progressively publish these positions soon after receiving at least two party positions in a particular jurisdiction. If a party adds or amends their policy at any time, APRJ will amend the publication.

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 three major parties in QLD have been sought. Two parties have returned their policy so far:

Liberal National Party

Hon Deborah (Deb) Frecklington – Attorney-General

Party position:

As you may be aware, justice reinvestment involves directing resources to community-led early intervention and prevention initiatives to address drivers of crime, aiming to reduce offending and improve community safety. The Crisafulli Government recognises the importance of early intervention and prevention programs that address the causes of offending. Through our \$100 million Gold Standard Early Intervention investment, we are taking real and tangible steps to divert young people away from the criminal justice system

to create safer communities. I can advise an amount of \$5 million over three years from 2025-2026 has been allocated to the Queensland Justice Reinvestment grants program, which will establish community-led, place-based initiatives aimed at addressing the underlying causes of crime and support reducing the overrepresentation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. The First Nations Justice Office within the Department of Justice (DoJ) is finalising this grants program to be advertised in the coming months. This investment also complements the National Justice Reinvestment Program under which nine Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations in Queensland are receiving funding from the Australian Government to implement justice reinvestment initiatives in their communities. I can also advise the Crisafulli Government is committed to closing the gap, prioritising health, housing and education outcomes to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples opportunity and reduce disadvantage. Justice reinvestment is also recognised as a key action to address overrepresentation in the criminal justice system, and working towards closing the gap in adult imprisonment and youth detention.

Australian Labor Party

Hon Steven Miles – Leader of the Queensland Opposition

Party position:

Queenslanders have a right to be safe and feel safe in their homes and their community.

It is clear that investing in evidence-based criminal justice initiatives and services reduces crime and its causes.

That's why Labor will always support justice investment strategies that target the causes of offending, through both proactive and rehabilitative initiatives.

The Queensland Labor Opposition is committed to holding the Crisafulli LNP Government to account for the funding they have already cut to service providers in Queensland, and we will continue to call for new evidence-based investments into initiatives that are needed to break the cycle of offending.

Australian Greens

Mr Michael Berkman – Spokesperson for Justice

Party position:

Please see: QLD Greens Justice Policy: <https://greens.org.au/qld/policies/crime-prevention-judicial-process>;

Michael's dissenting reports to Justice, Integrity and Community Safety Committee; Community Support and Services Committee; and Health, Communities, Disability Services and Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Committee:

<https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Work-of-Committees/Publications>

As well as a record of his speeches: <https://www.michaelberkman.com.au/parliament>