



**Current Positions on Justice Reinvestment  
(generally of the Attorney-General of each major party in each jurisdiction)**

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**Cameron I Russell**



URL: [www.aprj.com.au/articles/APRJ-6\(2\)-2-JR-positions.pdf](http://www.aprj.com.au/articles/APRJ-6(2)-2-JR-positions.pdf)

**Current Positions on Justice Reinvestment**

The table below contains all responses received from the ministers responsible for justice reinvestment (JR) of each major party in each Australian jurisdiction. These ministers are usually the Attorney-General. The JR positions of each party have previously been published on the Australian Prison Reform Journal (and elsewhere), but this summary is also published to allow for easy comparison by researchers.

Ministers currently in government are shaded in green. Ministers who are yet to provide their party’s JR position are shaded in red. Text in red provides dated information, including that on former Attorneys-General who were approached, and on when requests for information or follow-ups were sent.

**Key:**

-  The party that is in power in in a particular jurisdiction
-  A response is yet to be received from the party

**PUBLISHED - FEDERAL ELECTION (3 May 2025)**  
**Currently Prime Minister Anthony Albanese of the Australian Labor Party**

Party	A-G (etc) Portfolio	Response
ALP	Michelle Rowland (now Attorney-General)	<p>RECEIVED 17/11/25. Angus Kelleher from the Attorney-General’s media team wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for getting in touch.</p> <p>Please see two resources which may provide the information you are after regarding justice reinvestment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">Justice Reinvestment   Attorney-General's Department</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Address to NSW Labor Lawyers</a></li> </ul>
Liberal National Party of Australia	Senator Michaelia Cash	<p>SENT 11/04/25  SENT 16/04/25  SENT 30/04/25</p> <p>As of February 2026, reappointed Shadow Attorney General</p> <p>SENT 28/04/26</p> <p>RANG 05/05/26 on WA no: (08) 9226 2000, and spoke with Gerry who is getting back with info.</p>
Greens	David Shoebridge	<p>RECEIVED 29/04/25. Kilty O’Brien Office Manager in Senator Shoebridge’s office wrote:</p> <p>The Greens strongly support justice reinvestment and measures to reduce incarceration of particularly First Nations people and young people.</p> <p>Our primary concern is that currently what is called Justice Reinvestment isn’t being funded by money removed from the prison and justice system. For it to really be effective this is an important precondition. David’s speech on this including some examples of organisations we specifically work with is available here - <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sEzkzvW5zGz-QucO2aBLmGZm1i7PEe-6/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/1sEzkzvW5zGz-QucO2aBLmGZm1i7PEe-6/view?usp=sharing</a></p> <p>Young people are particularly important for considering how justice reinvestment could work.</p> <p>The Greens will increase the age of legal responsibility across the country from 10 to at least 14.</p> <p>Instead of jailing children for minor crimes, our plan will support children through culturally safe and supportive diversionary</p>

programs, mental health and support services as well as supportive bail and community corrections programs to divert young people aged 14 and over away from prisons.

We will also fund the creation of a roadmap for the closure of child prisons around Australia in recognition of the fact that decades of evidence shows they continue to breach the fundamental rights of young people and do not help young people rejoin society. Investing the funds from these prisons back into the community through justice reinvestment focussing on at risk children will benefit society more broadly.

The roadmap would be created by a funding allocation of \$50 million to the Attorney General's Department to create a national plan for the closure of children's prisons.

Labor at a State level, including in NSW, Victoria and Queensland, have been strong proponents of "law and order" responses to community issues and this has put more young people in prisons.

With the NT Government lowering the age of criminal responsibility back to 10 years the Federal Labor Government has taken no steps to ensure children in that jurisdiction are not brutalised. In some jurisdictions Labor has claimed to support raising the age to 12. In Victoria a promise to raise the age from 10 to 14 was reversed by Jacinta Allen. In the ACT Labor and the Greens together have raised the age - initially to 12 and then eventually to 14 with a package of reforms to provide alternatives to prison. The ACT has invested in the alternatives to prison and provides the clearest blueprint for national reform.

The Greens will also:

Implement the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture to ensure oversight in all prisons and places of detention

Invest in federal monitoring and reporting of Deaths in Custody

Deliver independent police oversight in every jurisdiction

Fully fund legal assistance through legal aid, community legal centres, women's legal services and NATSILS

The Greens will provide \$100 million over the forward estimates to implement all the recommendations from the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, in partnership with First Nations people, particularly the families left behind after a death in custody.

We will also implement the recommendations from the Australian Law Reform Commission's Pathway to Justice report on how to end the over-imprisonment of First Nations people, including by establishing a justice reinvestment coordinating body.

We will work with affected communities to ensure the recommendations from the Royal Commission into the Detention and Protection of Children in the Northern Territory are also implemented.

It is estimated that the implementation of these programs would result in a significant reduction in costs on the justice system

	<p>over the medium and long term.</p> <p>We support the recommendations from the recent National Children’s Commissioner’s report into youth justice call “Help Way Earlier” including a national taskforce on youth justice.</p> <p>We are committed to investing in legal support and oversight of police and prisons because the justice system should be fair for all, not just those who can afford it.</p> <p>As a signatory to the Optional Protocol to the Convention Against Torture, Australia has an obligation to implement a strong, culturally appropriate, and independent prison oversight system across the country. Many years after we signed the Convention, this system still isn't working.</p> <p>The Greens will provide \$382m over four years, with an equal contribution of funding from the states and territories to set up an OPCAT monitoring system so that all imprisoned people have their human rights respected and affirmed while in custody.</p> <p>We will provide modest but essential increase in funding to the Australian Institute of Criminology of \$1 million per year to:</p> <p>Expand the National Deaths in Custody Program (NDICP) to include known details of those who have died, and Ensure the real time data collection and reporting of data from all jurisdictions regarding police shootings including circumstances, victim information and outcomes if any, even where these have not resulted in fatalities, and publication on a dashboard.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of deaths and custody is essential for understanding the harms created by the justice system and addressing these. This has been a consistent recommendation from Royal Commissions, coronial inquests, parliamentary inquiries and academics.</p> <p>Because equitable access to justice is essential in a fair society, the Greens will double federal funding from 2024 levels under the National Legal Assistance Partnership (NLAP) for legal assistance services like Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services, community legal centres, women’s legal services, Family Violence Prevention Legal Services, and legal aid commissions, costing around \$490 million per year (taking into account the modest increases Labor has committed to in the recent budget).</p> <p>The Greens see justice reinvestment as both a practical and symbolic response to the toxic law and order based political</p>
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		attacks of other parties. We know it responds to the evidence, we know it works and we know it is how we keep communities safe.
One Nation	Senator Sean Bell, Party Whip in the Senate (Aust Parl representing NSW)	<p>RECEIVED 12/11/25. Rebecca Thompson from the Office of Senator Sean Bell wrote:</p> <p>One Nation's position is firm on Strengthening Justice for offenders and advocating for further support of victims of crime.</p> <p>Please refer to our policy for further information.</p> <p><a href="https://nsw.onenation.org.au/crime">https://nsw.onenation.org.au/crime</a></p> <p>[Note the policy does not mention justice reinvestment although it does support early intervention]</p>
One Nation	Senator Malcolm Roberts (Aust Parl representing QLD)	<p>SENT 11/11/25</p> <p>[Senator Roberts forwarded my email to Senator Hanson's office - refer below]</p>
One Nation	Senator Pauline Hanson (Aust Parl representing QLD)	<p>RECEIVED 27/11/25. Richard Henderson, Senator Hanson's media adviser, wrote:</p> <p>Good afternoon Mr Russell</p> <p>Your request to Senator Roberts was forwarded to me as Senator Hanson's media adviser. My apologies for not getting back to you sooner during a very hectic sitting week.</p> <p>One Nation does not have a specific, stand-alone policy regarding justice reinvestment however our crime policy at the Queensland state election in 2024 and the crime policy we are taking to the 2026 South Australian election have related elements.</p> <p>We have advocated integrating proven redirection/intervention programs for at-risk youth in state justice systems. For young people unsuitable for such programs due to issues such as mental health or drug and alcohol abuse, we advocate appropriate counselling and support.</p>

In Queensland in 2024, we primarily referred to [Operation Hard Yakka](#) as a successful example of such programs in the state. This remains our policy in Queensland. In addition, One Nation advocated to locate such programs at a former education facility on Noth Keppel Island. We have also worked with Operation Hard Yakka, currently based on the Fraser Coast, to establish a second operation in the vicinity of Cairns. For more information please visit our Queensland policy page: [Tackling Crime - ONE NATION QUEENSLAND](#)

Our policy for South Australia is essentially the same, only it refers to [Operation Flinders](#). We have not yet published it online as the South Australian party website is still under development, however there was a [story](#) published about it in the *Adelaide Advertiser* based on a media release I have attached to this email.

I trust this information is of some use to you.

Kind regards

Richard Henderson  
Office of Senator Pauline Hanson

Attachment as described in last paragraph of letter:

**Accountability the key to arrest repeat youth offending**  
**24 July 2025**

The Malinuaskas Labor government needs to introduce real accountability to victims and the community for an effective crack down on repeat youth offenders.

One Nation SA president Carlos Quaremba said making repeat offenders make restitution to victims, and requiring magistrates who make poor bail decisions justify them to an empowered community panel, were key elements of a law and order policy his party would take to the state election next year.

“Our priority – and this should be the priority for any government – is the safety of the community and that means keeping repeat offenders off the streets,” Mr Quaremba said. “If that means we need more youth detention capacity then so be it; that’s a price we must pay to keep the community safe.

		<p>“We will advocate that repeat offenders also be required to make financial restitution to victims of property crime as part of their rehabilitation. In those cases where the offender is a minor and parental neglect is determined to be a factor in the offending, parents would also be required to make restitution. That is true accountability.</p> <p>“In many cases, the South Australian community has been left wondering what some magistrates or judges were thinking when they allow serious repeat offenders back on the streets. Our policy also includes the establishment of a panel with members of the community and legal experts before which magistrates would be required to appear to justify bailing a repeat offender who commits another crime while on bail.</p> <p>“These hearings would be open and transparent, with the panel providing a report with recommendations that will be tabled in Parliament by the Attorney-General. The community has a right to know why decisions which endanger the community are made.”</p> <p>Mr Quaremba said One Nation would also advocate for the integration of proven intervention programs for at-risk youth in the justice system.</p> <p>“Programs like Operation Flinders have a tremendous success rate in turning around the lives of troubled young people,” he said. “Not every repeat youth offender will be suitable to refer to such a program, but where it’s appropriate we will advocate for repeat youth offenders to be referred in an effort to prevent more offending.”</p> <p><b>ENDS</b>  <b>MEDIA CONTACT: Carlos Quaremba 0419 044 744</b></p>
One Nation	Senator Tyron Whitten (Aust Parl representing WA)	SENT 11/11/25 [Have received all One Nation responses that may be obtained]
Australia’s Voice	Senator Fatima Payman (Aust Parl)	RECEIVED 01/05/26. Senator Payman wrote: Thank you for your follow-up regarding Senator Payman's position on justice reinvestment. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

	representing WA)	<p>Senator Payman is a committed supporter of justice reinvestment and welcomes the opportunity to have her position reflected in the Australian Prison Reform Journal.</p> <p>In brief, Senator Payman supports justice reinvestment that is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community-led: particularly by First Nations communities, with lived experience central to design and delivery;</li> <li>• Targeted and data-driven: with investment directed where evidence demonstrates the greatest need and impact, and subject to independent evaluation;</li> <li>• Holistic: with wrap-around supports addressing the root causes of offending, including housing, mental health, employment and education; and</li> <li>• Focused on genuine transition: with sustained reintegration support before and after release to reduce recidivism.</li> </ul> <p>Senator Payman also supports raising the age of criminal responsibility, recognising that early contact with the justice system causes lasting harm and that diversion and early intervention produce far better outcomes for young people and the community.</p> <p>We hope this is useful for your research. Please feel free to reach out if you need anything further.</p> <p>Yours sincerely,</p> <p>Office of Senator Fatima Payman Independent Senator for WA Commonwealth Parliamentary Offices</p>
Country Liberals	Senator Jacinta Nampijinpa Price (NT)	SENT 11/11/25 [Have received Liberal Party responses]
<b>PUBLISHED - ACT ELECTION (21 October 2028)</b> <b>Currently Chief Minister Andrew Barr of the Australian Labor Party</b>		
<b>Party</b>	<b>A-G (etc) Portfolio</b>	<b>Response</b>
ALP	Tara Cheyne	RECEIVED 26/08/2025. Acting Attorney-General, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA wrote:

		<p>Thank you for your email to the Attorney-General, Ms Tara Cheyne MLA, about the Labor Party’s policy on justice reinvestment and for your patience in receiving a response. I am responding to your email as Acting Attorney-General. Within the Attorney-General’s portfolio, the ACT Government has a long-term commitment to justice reinvestment and understands that it is a vital component in providing a holistic response to addressing the underlying causes of crime. Since 2014, the ACT Government has been implementing, funding and delivering numerous justice reinvestment initiatives, highlighting the importance the ACT Government places on justice reinvestment as an effective way to reduce crime and build a stronger community in the ACT. The <i>RR25by25 and Beyond — A Justice Reinvestment Strategy for the ACT</i> was released in 2024 and is the current overarching strategy for justice reinvestment in the ACT. The strategy takes a data-driven approach to guide future justice reinvestment initiatives and to provide support for community-based programs. Specifically, the <i>RR25by25 and Beyond strategy</i> aims to reduce offending, reoffending and lower rates of incarceration by investing in evidence-based justice reinvestment programs. There are a number of initiatives underway as part of this strategy, including projects to improve data collection in the criminal justice sector, research identifying factors associated with desistance from offending and an evaluation on the effectiveness of current justice programs in the ACT (including housing and bail supports). You can find further information about these and other justice reinvestment initiatives delivered by the ACT Government on the ACT Government’s webpage: <a href="https://www.act.gov.au/open/Justice-reinvestment-strategy">https://www.act.gov.au/open/Justice-reinvestment-strategy</a></p> <p>Thank you for taking the time to write to the Attorney-General about the Government’s policy on justice reinvestment. Yours sincerely Dr Marisa Paterson MLA A/g Attorney-General</p>
LNP	Jeremy Hanson	<p>RECEIVED 13/10/25. Mr Hanson wrote:</p> <p><b><u>CANBERRA LIBERALS’ JUSTICE REINVESTMENT</u></b></p> <p>The Canberra Liberals have a strong commitment to prevention, diversion, and rehabilitation as part of a balanced approach to justice in the ACT.</p> <p>At the 2024 election, the Canberra Liberals made a pledge of \$3,000,000 for crime prevention, including education, prevention, and restorative justice programs.</p> <p>The Canberra Liberals are also leading the way with vital reforms in the areas of coercive control and domestic violence prevention, promising legislative reform and \$1,600,000 investment in education and prevention programs.</p>

		The Canberra Liberals continue to believe these programs work best with strong support for front line workers and remain committed to restoring the balance of justice using a combination of adequate, well-resourced front-line staff and a suite of programs to address the underlying causes of crime.
Greens	Shane Rattenbury	RECEIVED 02/05/25. Jo Higgins, Office Manager in Shane Rattenbury's office wrote:  Our 2024 community safety election initiative that speaks to justice reinvestment can be found below - <a href="https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2024-10/2024%20Initiative%20-%20Community%20Safety_0.pdf">https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2024-10/2024%20Initiative%20-%20Community%20Safety_0.pdf</a> And also, the second last page of the supply and confidence agreement between Labor and the Greens outlines further at Point 10, the Justice Reform and Gambling Harm commitments- <a href="https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2024-11/Supply%20and%20Confidence%20Agreement_0.pdf">https://greens.org.au/sites/default/files/2024-11/Supply%20and%20Confidence%20Agreement_0.pdf</a>
<b>PUBLISHED - NSW ELECTION (13 March 2027)</b> <b>Currently Premier Chris Minns of the Australian Labor Party</b>		
<b>Party</b>	<b>A-G (etc) Portfolio</b>	<b>Response</b>
ALP	The Hon. Michael Daley	RECEIVED 11/11/25. Georgie sent the following on 11/11/25:  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: <a href="https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/legal-and-justice/strategies-and-plans/justice-reinvestment.html#%3Cb%3EGovernment%E2%80%99s1">https://dcj.nsw.gov.au/legal-and-justice/strategies-and-plans/justice-reinvestment.html#%3Cb%3EGovernment%E2%80%99s1</a>
LNP	Alister Henskens	RECEIVED 19/05/25. Stephanie Le Bas, Alister's Office sent the following from Alister Henskens:  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.

		<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Greens	Sue Higginson	<p>RECEIVED 24/04/25. Jordan from Sue Higginson's office wrote:</p> <p>We have some great resources surrounding Justice Reinvestment available online.</p> <p><a href="#">Here</a> is a link to a 2016 paper published by the greens that outlined our stance on justice reinvestment</p> <p>I would also direct you to our up to date policies regarding criminal justice that include references to justice reinvestment <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>I draw your attention to principle 5.</p> <p>"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."</p> <p>And aim 23.</p> <p>"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."</p>
<p><b>PUBLISHED - NT ELECTION (26 August 2028)</b>  <b>Currently Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro of the Country Liberal Party</b></p>		
Party	A-G (etc) Portfolio	Response

CLP	Marie-Clare Boothby	<p>RECEIVED 10/09/2025. Kelly Hattam, Director Central Registry wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for your correspondence dated 19 April 2025, seeking information on the Northern Territory Government's position on Justice Reinvestment. The NT Government's commitment to community led initiatives recognises the importance of partnering with Aboriginal people to protect victims and hold people to account while developing longer term strategies that reduce offending and address the root causes of crime. While community safety is paramount, we recognise prevention and rehabilitation are vital to reducing offending and recidivism and are committed to diversionary measures and the continued implementation of key initiatives under the Aboriginal Justice Agreement, such as Law and Justice Groups, Community Courts and Alternatives to Custody.</p> <p>These initiatives align with the principles of justice reinvestment through a systems approach focusing on community engagement, addressing the root causes of criminal behaviour, promoting diversionary programs and alternative sentencing and using data driven approaches to monitor progress and ensure accountability. Law and Justice Groups and Community Courts Law and Justice Groups are community groups comprising Aboriginal elders and leaders designed to address local justice issues through participation in the Community Court process and the development and delivery of culturally informed justice responses. Community Courts are established under the Sentencing Act 1995 and seek to enable Aboriginal elders and leaders to work directly with judges to make culturally informed sentencing decisions and develop appropriate community-based sentencing and rehabilitation options.</p> <p>Law and Justice Groups provide guidance and support to offenders and victims in navigating the court process and operate to rebuild the authority of elders, including through assistance with in-community supervision and compliance monitoring of offenders with court orders (community work, good behaviour requirements etc.). Law and Justice Groups may also operate to prevent and manage conflict through peacemaking and mediation efforts, improving community safety and reducing the potential for offending and subsequent contact with the justice system. Together these initiatives seek to: engender a sense of strength and ownership among Aboriginal elders and leaders who are striving to rebuild cultural frameworks and create cohesive communities; and increase the opportunity for Aboriginal communities to play an active part in reducing offending and increasing community safety, including through addressing the root causes of crime. Re-engaging people in family and culture holds them in community enabling greater opportunity for involvement in pro-social activities including ceremonies, education and employment. Law and Justice Groups are operating in five communities across the Northern Territory: Kintore; Maningrida; Groote Eylandt; Ramingining; and Barunga / Wugularr. Community Courts are operating in all of these communities, expect for Barunga / Wugularr. It is anticipated Community Court will commence at Barunga / Wugularr in the second half of 2025. Further, the Attorney-General's Department will conduct an evaluation and review into the effectiveness of the Law and Justice Groups in November 2025.</p> <p>Alternatives to Custody Alternatives to Custody (ATC) provide Aboriginal Territorians with targeted programs tailored to their individual needs in addressing the root causes of their offending. People can be referred by the Courts, Police, Corrections,</p>
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		<p>legal services, other program providers, family or self-referred. The Attorney-General's Department funds the operation of two ATC facilities: the Life Skills Camp for Aboriginal Women in Alice Springs; and the Anindilyakwa Healing Centre for Aboriginal men on Groote Eylandt. Both facilities are currently operated by Drug and Alcohol Services Australia. The Life Skills Camp ATC in Alice Springs continues to operate at near full capacity to provide intensive support and tailored rehabilitation services to Aboriginal women in contact or at risk of contact with the justice system. In January 2025, the Anindilyakwa Healing Centre on Groote Eylandt was completed. The facility has residential capacity for 32 clients. Day programs commenced in August 2024, and residential programs commenced in May 2025.</p> <p>Other programs and initiatives There are a range of other programs and initiatives aimed at addressing the root causes of offending and recidivism being progressed by other Government agencies, including: The Circuit Breaker program - A cross-agency initiative to identify strategies, interventions, and support services to address the young person's behaviours and give families the tools they need to make positive changes, including referrals to specialist support services for more holistic support. Investment in programs targeting domestic violence prevention, early intervention and accountability for perpetrators. Increasing housing options for domestic violence victim survivors and investing in wrap around supports for crisis accommodation, tenancy support programs and place-based responses that address the needs of victim-survivors that extend beyond immediate shelter. Increased investment in rehabilitation and treatment options to combat alcohol harm and misuse, including increasing investment in alcohol and drug rehabilitation services. Ensuring effective data collection and information sharing systems are in place to support rigorous monitoring and evaluation to build the evidence-base of what works in the Northern Territory by collecting detailed data on crime reduction initiatives to support robust evaluation work, and deliver evaluations of initiatives that determine whether initiatives are delivering value for money. Thank you for your letter, and continued interest in justice reinvestment policies in the Northern Territory.</p> <p>Yours sincerely MARIE-CLARE BOOTHBY</p>
ALP	Chansey Paech	<p>RECEIVED 23/06/25. Chansey Paech replied with:</p> <p><b>Justice Reinvestment</b></p> <p>Territory Labor firmly believes in the principles of justice reinvestment and is committed to supporting initiatives that reduce offending, strengthen communities, and deliver better outcomes for all Territorians. We believe that by investing in Justice reinvestment we can address the root causes of crime by redirecting resources toward preventative measures and community-based solutions, rather than solely relying on punitive responses that have not and are not working.</p> <p>Evidence from all over the country demonstrates that Justice Reinvestment (JR) not only reduces recidivism but also creates stronger and more resilient communities. Territory Labor recognises the unique challenges faced by remote and regional areas</p>

		<p>and understands that a tailored, community-led approaches are essential to achieving success as communities hold many of the answers to local problems and one size does not fit all when it comes to addressing complex social issues.</p> <p>Territory Labor’s commitment to justice reinvestment is reflected in our work and advocacy to expand alternatives to custody programs, strengthen diversionary programs, and support rehabilitation initiatives that are grounded in evidence, therapeutic responses and support peoples lived experiences. We are particularly focused on addressing the overrepresentation of First Nations people in the justice system by investing in culturally safe and locally driven programs that deliver meaningful change.</p> <p>We believe that justice reinvestment is not just about reducing crime it’s about building opportunities, it’s about equity, and healing for individuals and communities. By supporting this approach, Territory Labor is working to build a brighter future for all Territorians.</p> <p>Territory Labor understands that Justice reinvestment is fundamentally about addressing the underlying social and economic issues that contribute to crime, making it far more than just a justice issue. It’s about preventative measures and early intervention, recognising that challenges such as poverty, unemployment, inadequate housing, poor education, and lack of access to health and systemic racism services play a significant role in driving criminal behaviour and Justice Reinvestment is one way to address these inequalities.</p> <p>Justice Reinvestment should be everyone’s business.</p>
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Greens	N/A	The Greens don’t hold any seats in the NT Legislative Assembly and therefore do not have an A-G spokesperson
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**PUBLISHED - QLD ELECTION (26 October 2028)**  
**Currently Premier David Crisafulli of the Liberal National Party**

Party	A-G (etc) Portfolio	Response
LNP	Deb Frecklington	<p>RECEIVED 03/06/25. Ben Murphy, Chief of Staff in Deb Frecklington’s office wrote:</p> <p>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</p>

		<p>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.</p>
ALP	Steven Miles	<p>RECEIVED 28/04/26. Received from Steven Miles:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Kind regards</p> <p>Office of The Honourable Steven Miles MP  <b>Leader of the Queensland Opposition</b>  <b>Ph 07 3004 2300   E <a href="mailto:TheLeader@opposition.qld.gov.au">TheLeader@opposition.qld.gov.au</a></b></p>
Greens	Michael Berkman	<p>RECEIVED 24/04/25. Greg Mackenzie from Michael Berkman's office wrote:</p> <p>Apologies, as the lone Greens MP in Qld Parliament, we don't have capacity to write you a bespoke response, but if it is helpful for your research please see</p> <p>QLD Greens Justice Policy: <a href="https://greens.org.au/qld/policies/crime-prevention-judicial-process">https://greens.org.au/qld/policies/crime-prevention-judicial-process</a> ;</p> <p>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: <a href="https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Work-of-Committees/Publications">https://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/Work-of-Committees/Publications</a></p>

		As well as a record of his speeches: <a href="https://www.michaelberkman.com.au/parliament">https://www.michaelberkman.com.au/parliament</a>
		If you have specific questions I can try to answer them.

**SA ELECTION (21 March 2026)**  
**Currently Premier Peter Malinauskas of the Australian Labor Party**

Party	A-G (etc) Portfolio	Response
ALP	Kyam Maher	<p>Received 14/10/25. Kyam Maher wrote:</p> <p><b>Justice Reinvestment</b></p> <p>I write in response to your correspondence on behalf of the Australian Prison Reform Journal regarding South Australia's work to strengthen justice reinvestment. Thank you for your interest in this promising area of reform. Justice reinvestment is a long-term, community-led approach that aims to prevent crime by addressing the drivers of contact with the justice system. The structure of justice reinvestment activities will look different from community to community, based on local knowledge and challenges. In 2022, the Australian Labor Party took to the federal election a commitment to fund 30 local justice reinvestment sites. In the 2022-23 Federal Budget, \$81.5 million was allocated to justice reinvestment as a part of First Nations justice measures, including funding for locally tailored initiatives that address the underlying causes of incarceration, and the establishment of a National Justice Reinvestment Unit. An additional \$10 million was later committed to support place-based initiatives in Central Australia. The Federal Government has since opened up a number of grant rounds and through open, non-competitive application processes, has identified successful sites. Two South Australian sites were successful in receiving funding: Ngarrindjeri Regional Authority in Murray Bridge and Healthy Dreaming Pty Ltd in Port Augusta.</p> <p>The Federal Government has indicated that state and territory governments have a role to play in ensuring the success of these justice reinvestment initiatives, and the South Australian Government is committed to providing practical support through actions that are identified and agreed in partnership with communities hosting justice reinvestment sites. This might include support such as data sharing to inform justice reinvestment activities.</p> <p>The South Australian Government, through the Department of Human Services, also provides support to the existing justice reinvestment site in Port Adelaide, Tiraapendi Wodli. Tiraapendi Wodli supports the local Aboriginal community at its 'Hub' by providing a community-led space for connection and support. It offers a range of programs and support services that promote cultural and educational engagement, including men's, women's and Elders yarning groups, life skills workshops, and post-release programs for people returning to community after prison.</p> <p>As both Minister for Aboriginal Affairs and Attorney-General, I am eager to see these initiatives succeed and have a meaningful impact on justice outcomes for First Nations people in South Australia.</p>

		<p>I trust that this information is of assistance.</p> <p>Yours sincerely  Hon Kyam Maher MLC  Deputy Premier  Attorney-General</p>
LNP	Josh Teague	<p>Received 05/05/26. Jake Fedczyszyn from Josh Teague's office wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for your email regarding justice reinvestment.</p> <p>The South Australian Liberal Party took a \$40 million "Breaking the Cycle" Fund policy to the recent state election. This fund would have provided a significant investment in gold standard early intervention programs to help break the cycle of offending. It would back programs that have proven themselves to be effective off-ramps for at-risk youths.</p> <p>The funding was applauded by a number of stakeholders, most recently referred to by the South Australian Law Society in the 2026-27 State Budget Submission, which asked for "a significant increase in funding for youth diversionary and early intervention programs that at least matches the \$40 million "Break the Cycle" Fund by the Liberal Party prior to the State Election".</p> <p>I trust that this information is of assistance.</p> <p>Kind regards,  Jake Fedczyszyn  Office of Josh Teague MP</p>
Greens	Robert Simms MLC	<p>RECEIVED 07/10/25. Sean Cullen-MacAskill, Office of the Hon Robert Simms MLC, sent:</p> <p>Letter by Robert Simms:</p> <p>Thank you for writing to me regarding the Greens' policy on justice reinvestment. The Greens believe that if we care about breaking the cycle of crime and inter-generational poverty, we need to reduce imprisonment rates. We would prioritise investment in justice reinvestment programs, where projected increases in imprisonment expenditure are re-directed, in advance, to programs which are demonstrated to address the root causes of crime. This could be supporting programs for single parents, educational activities for pre-school-aged children, or sports programs for school-aged children. We recognise that justice reinvestment has proved highly successful in other jurisdictions. Since a justice reinvestment initiative was introduced in Texas in 2007, they have closed 16 prisons, and their recidivism and crime rates are at historic lows. In the Australian context, justice reinvestment can help reduce the shameful over-representation of Aboriginal people in our prisons. Aboriginal young people in South Australia are 23 times more likely to be placed in detention than non-Aboriginal young people. These numbers are increasing. If this crisis of overrepresentation is not addressed, South Australia risks losing another</p>

		<p>generation of First Nations peoples to the criminal justice system. By investing in First Nations communities, we can end this cycle. I understand that at the moment there is only one justice reinvestment program in South Australia, which is in Port Adelaide, Tiraapendi Wodl. This receives a combination of funding from the South Australian Department of Human Services (DHS) funding from the Australian Red Cross (ARC). The cost of adult incarceration is approximately \$147,000 per year per prisoner. The Greens would redirect projected imprisonment cost increases into justice reinvestment, with a target of \$30 million over 4 years. We propose to open another 3 programs over 4 years, and for at least one of those to exist outside of Adelaide.</p> <p>Thank you once again for the opportunity to respond. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any further questions.</p> <p>Kind regards, The Hon. Robert Sim</p>
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**PUBLISHED - TAS ELECTION (no later than 3 June 2028)**  
**Currently Premier Jeremy Rockliff of the Liberal Party**

<b>Party</b>	<b>A-G (etc) Portfolio</b>	<b>Response</b>
Liberal	Guy Barnett	<p>RECEIVED 21/05/25. Guy Barnett wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for your email of 19 April 2025 regarding the Tasmanian Liberal Government’s position on the complex issue of justice reinvestment. I am pleased to provide information on the Tasmanian Government’s commitments in this important area. Justice reinvestment is a multifaceted issue that presents a number of challenges, particularly in a state like Tasmania which has a substantially lower imprisonment rate than, for example, some US jurisdictions which have highlighted the dramatic economic and social benefits of their justice reinvestment initiatives. Even so, the Tasmanian Government believes there are significant opportunities to build momentum in this area through strong governance, collaborative approaches, and innovative investment.</p> <p>A recent and significant example of this was in 2024 when the Government determined not to proceed with the construction of a new correctional facility in the north of the state, which had the potential to increase the numbers in custody, and to instead invest in rehabilitation to reduce recidivism. This decision provided a clear example of the government’s confidence that reducing reoffending and ensuring the safety of the Tasmanian community can be achieved through alternatives to custodial infrastructure. Other examples over the past 12 months include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding treatment options for prisoners experiencing drug and alcohol dependency through repurposing of an existing facility as a residential alcohol and drug treatment centre, where services will be delivered in cooperation with a specialist nongovernment service provider.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investment in in-cell technology and expansion of video-calling capability to help prisoners remain more closely connected to their families and support networks, improve access to legal representation, and to enable the Tasmania Prison Service to adopt a more flexible approach to the delivery of programs and education.</li> <li>• Employment of additional staff to offer more opportunities for training, education programs and activities with specific support services being made available for Aboriginal prisoners to help reduce the rates of incarceration of Aboriginal people. These initiatives reflect our commitment to supporting safer, more resilient communities across Tasmania, and to limiting the number of people who come into contact with the criminal justice system.</li> </ul>
ALP	Dean Winter	<p>RECEIVED 12/05/25. Dean Winter wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for your email and your interest in justice reinvestment policies.</p> <p>Tasmanian Labor is committed to ensuring we have the right policy settings that reduce crime and promote safer communities.</p> <p>In Tasmania we know we have a youth justice system that is failing – demonstrated by the fact that almost 100% of young people who spend time in our youth justice system not only reoffend while within the youth justice system, but also later go on to serve time at our adult prison. Many of these issues begin much earlier in particular for children in the out of home care or child protection system.</p> <p>Labor promotes policies that intervene early to divert young (and adult) offenders from a path of offending and that offer genuine rehabilitation programs that promote a reduction in recidivism.</p> <p>At the last election we committed to policies including a stand-alone youth court which would have operated on a community justice model, to hold young offenders accountable, but in a way that would provide genuine diversionary and rehabilitation options to prevent further offending.</p> <p>My team and I look forward to continuing to develop policies in this area during this period of opposition.</p>
Greens	Cassy O'Connor	<p>RECEIVED 08/10/25. Cassy O'Connor wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for your patience and persistence.</p> <p>Obviously, you're not looking for a yes/no answer.</p>

The Greens support evidence-based approaches to break the cycle of disadvantage that can cause crime, legislative reform to achieve this and increased funding for early intervention and prevention.

Regrettably, while Lutruwita/Tasmania has a Youth Justice blueprint which has an emphasis on trauma-informed, culturally-sensitive responses to addressing disadvantage and youth crime, government ministers still talk 'tough on crime'. The prison population has steadily increased under a Liberal government, in both adult and youth detention.

Persistent government neglect of at-risk communities, a punitive legal framework and detention system - the antithesis of justice reinvestment - have caused harm to children and young people in Tasmania since colonisation. Profound intergenerational trauma, particularly among First Nations people, is the result.

We have been calling for the closure of Ashley Youth Detention Centre, and investment in therapeutic, evidence-based responses to juvenile offending, for more than a decade in Tasmania. Under enormous political pressure due to clear evidence of harm to children, the Tasmanian Government has announced it will close Ashley, but it is now two years behind deadline.

The Greens supported the then Tasmanian Commissioner for Children and Young People's "Justice Reinvestment Framework for Tasmania" with its child centred approach and recognition of community led solutions.

With Palawa children and adults disproportionately represented within the justice and corrections systems here, we support the right and leadership role of the Tasmanian Aboriginal community in determining alternatives to incarceration and developing community-led responses for their children.

The Greens also strongly support improved parole options and increased funding for community corrections.

Our policy platform is strongly focussed on tackling poverty; health, educational and housing disadvantage; investment in early intervention and prevention.

Please let me know if there's any more you need or any clarification required.

Thanks again for your patience.

Best wishes,  
Cassy O'Connor MLC

		Tasmanian Greens' Justice spokesperson Member for Hobart
<b>VIC ELECTION (28 November 2026)</b> <b>Currently Premier Jacinta Allan of the Australian Labor Party</b>		
Party	A-G (etc) Portfolio	Response
ALP	The Hon. Sonya Kilkenny MLA	<p>SENT 19/04/25 SENT 22/06/25 SENT 02/09/25 SENT 03/10/25 SENT 11/11/25 (sent email and phoned – left message) <b>RECEIVED 27/11/25</b></p> <p>Good morning,</p> <p>Please find attached a letter from the Attorney-General, Sonya Kilkenny MP for your attention.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p><b>Office of the Hon. Sonya Kilkenny MP</b> Attorney-General</p> <p>Department of Justice and Community Safety 121 Exhibition Street, Melbourne VIC 3000</p> <p><b>The wrong letter was sent (it was related to exceptions to discrimination for religious bodies and schools), so wrote back on 27/11/25</b> SENT 28/04/26</p>
LNP	David Southwick	<p>RECEIVED 16/04/25. David Southwick wrote:</p> <p>Thank you for contacting my office to ask about justice reinvestment. The Liberals are committed to taking definitive action to resolve the growing crime crisis facing Victoria. It is essential that any</p>

		<p>successful criminal justice system or initiative balances the need for punitive measures to discourage criminal activity with the valuable long-term benefits that a rehabilitative system can bring.</p> <p>Within this context, justice reinvestment strategies must be examined on a case-by-case basis to determine how effective they will be in achieving the goal of reducing crime within the state. If any proposed community led justice programs were to be deemed likely to improve long-term outcomes for offenders, curb the crime rate, and reduce strain on the Victorian justice system, a Liberal State Government would be willing to consider it in formulating policy.</p> <p>I hope this answers your question.</p> <p>Regards, David</p> <p><b>David Southwick MP   Member for Caulfield</b> Shadow Minister for Police and Corrections Shadow Minister for Youth and Future Leaders Shadow Minister for Youth Justice 1/193 Balaclava Road, Caulfield North VIC 3161 Phone 03 9527 3866 Email david.southwick@parliament.vic.gov.au</p>
Greens	Katherine Copsey	<p>RECEIVED 28/04/26. Louise Sampson, Policy &amp; Parliament Lead, Office of Katherine Copsey wrote:</p> <p>Thanks for your email and apologies for the delay.</p> <p>The Greens are committed to Justice Reinvestment, which is Justice reinvestment is a community-led approach that shifts funding from prison systems to local, preventative strategies. Our policies align with targeting the root causes of crime, prioritizing community-led solutions, using data to inform decisions, and empowering local communities.</p> <p>Our Justice principles and policies are outlined here, <a href="https://greens.org.au/vic/policies/justice-policy">https://greens.org.au/vic/policies/justice-policy</a>, and I've copied the relevant items below.</p> <p>Victorian Greens Justice Reinvestment policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. To provide support for the establishment of community programs managed at local level to increase the community engagement of those at risk of committing crime.</li> <li>5. A comprehensive, multi-disciplinary and evidence-based approach to reducing crime by addressing the underlying causes of crime and recidivism.</li> <li>6. Justice reinvestment in targeted communities to create a fairer and more inclusive society and reduce crime, rather than</li> </ol>

politically motivated law and order campaigns that exploit and fuel public anxieties.

These are underpinned by the following principles, outlined in the same page link above

Principles:

4. Equality before the law can only be achieved when there is recognition of the way in which cultural, social, gender and economic structures and practices influence decision making processes and affect people's choices and opportunities.

6. Access to justice requires policies and resources that overcome social, economic and cultural inequalities to ensure equality before the law.

8. Victorian law must address the particular cultural and social needs of First Nations peoples.

9. Investing in preventing crime is more likely to result in a fairer and safer society than law and order campaigns

10. Victims of crime should receive the necessary support required to facilitate recovery.

11. Reducing access to guns in the community is essential to reducing crime.

12. Police should be focussed on maintaining a safe, peaceful and just society, be effectively trained, and have strong community links

13. Police should have adequate powers to protect the community but at the same time be accountable for the use of all powers.

14. Police should not be further militarised and militarisation that has occurred should be reversed.

15. Police should not investigate police.

16. Prison should be a last resort in the management of offenders.

Also relevant in support of justice reinvestment are the following policies:

Courts and Tribunals

10. Greater investment in dispute resolution and mediation services across Victoria.

Smart Sentencing

29. Expand and properly fund alternatives to imprisonment including community corrections, restorative justice, and diversionary programs.

30. Legislating diversion programs for young offenders.

31. Funding for Bail Support programs particularly in regional locations.

32. To uphold judicial discretion in sentencing and repeal mandatory sentencing legislation.

33. The reintroduction of suspended sentences and home detention.

		<p>34. Detention without charge powers, including those used in counter-terrorism law, to be abolished.</p> <p>36. Raise the age of criminal responsibility to at least 14 years old</p> <p>Corrections and Prisons</p> <p>37. Greater funding for services and staffing to support Community Corrections Orders.</p> <p>Police</p> <p>48. Training and support to assist all police officers and PSOs in dealing safely with difficult situations, such as those involving armed offenders, people with a mental illness and those under the influence of alcohol or drugs.</p> <p>49. Training for all police officers to engage respectfully and effectively with complaints of family violence, sexual offences and child abuse.</p> <p>51. To prohibit racial profiling, and the arbitrary use of racial descriptors by police or other government agencies.</p> <p>54. Review public indecency offences and how they are enforced with a view to addressing discrimination against marginalised groups.</p> <p>Please let us know if you need any more information or clarification. Again, apologies for the delay Louise</p> <p>Louise Sampson (she/her)   Policy &amp; Parliament Lead Office of Katherine Copsey, Victorian Greens Member of Parliament for the Southern Metropolitan Region P: (03) 9530 8399 E: <a href="mailto:louise.sampson@parliament.vic.gov.au">louise.sampson@parliament.vic.gov.au</a></p>
One Nation	Hon. Rikkie-Lee Tyrell MLC (VIC Parl)	SENT 11/11/25 [Have received all One Nation responses that may be obtained]
<b>WA ELECTION (13 March 2029)</b> <b>Currently Premier Roger Cook of the Australian Labor Party</b>		
<b>Party</b>	<b>A-G Portfolio</b>	<b>Response</b>

ALP	The Hon. Dr Tony Buti MLA	RECEIVED 13/11/2025: Office of Tony Buti wrote:  The WA Labor Platform can be located here: <a href="https://walabor.org.au/media/zqnenpig/2023-wa-labor-platform.pdf">https://walabor.org.au/media/zqnenpig/2023-wa-labor-platform.pdf</a> <a href="https://walabor.org.au/about/state-platform/">https://walabor.org.au/about/state-platform/</a>
Liberal = official opposition, with Nationals as coalition partner in Shadow Cabinet	Adam Hort MLA	SENT 10/09/25 SENT 03/10/25 SENT 11/11/25 Annette directed me to the Liberal Party of WA office: (08) 6436 3300, but they directed me to the office of the leader of the opposition Basil Zempilas on (08) 6185 5299. Demetrious is getting back to me. SENT 28/04/26 RANG office of the leader of the opposition on 05/05/26 and spoke with Catherine, who requested an email to be sent to <a href="mailto:leader.zempilas@loop.wa.gov.au">leader.zempilas@loop.wa.gov.au</a> Mr Zempilas forwarded the request to Adam Hort MLA, Shadow Minister for Corrective Services and Hon Nick Goiran MLC, Shadow Attorney General on 05/05/26.
Greens	Brad Pettitt	RECEIVED 24/06/25. Trish Cowcher, Volunteer for Brad, wrote:  For more information about the Australian Greens policies on justice, including justice reinvestment you can visit the Australian Greens website here <a href="https://greens.org.au/policies/justice">https://greens.org.au/policies/justice</a> David Shoebridge is our federal spokesperson, and you can find out more about him here <a href="https://greens.org.au/nsw/person/david-shoebridge">https://greens.org.au/nsw/person/david-shoebridge</a> In WA, our Greens (WA) policy in on our website here <a href="https://greens.org.au/wa/policies/justice">https://greens.org.au/wa/policies/justice</a> Brad is the spokesperson in WA.
One Nation	Hon. Rod Caddies MLC (WA Parl)	SENT 11/11/25 [Have received all One Nation responses that may be obtained]
One Nation	Hon. Philip Scott (WA Parl)	SENT 11/11/25 [Have received all One Nation responses that may be obtained]