

Office for Correctional Services Review

OVERVIEW

Mission

The Office for Correctional Services Review (OCSR) upholds the professional and ethical conduct of all employees for the Department for Correctional Services (DCS), while ensuring agency effectiveness and supporting operational security across the system.

Purpose

Reporting to the Chief Executive, the OCSR comprises three units: Intelligence, Audit and Investigations. The OCSR has a focus to reduce protective security threats, including from gangs, organised crime and violent extremism; to ensure adequate risk management strategies are in place and operating effectively; and to maintain the standards required by legislation, policy, procedure and best practice methodologies.

Through relevant reporting to key stakeholders, the OCSR will drive excellence to meet the objectives of the DCS Strategic Plan by:

- developing and implementing a strategic approach to correctional intelligence;
- planning, leading and conducting audits to certify compliance with legislation, policy and procedure;
- upholding the highest standards of professional conduct through investigations; and
- identifying opportunities for improvement.

Scope

The **Intelligence** section provides an intelligence gathering service to the Department and stakeholders in relation to possible illicit or illegal activity within the prison system, with particular reference to:

- patterned or syndicated criminal activity and radicalised or extremist behaviour involving prisoners, visitors or other persons;
- reducing levels of contraband entering prisons,
- the identification of gangs, organised crime and national security targets;
- the effective management of high risk offenders and visitors; and
- targeting criminal activity and offending behaviour by prisoners and offenders through intelligence reporting.

The **Audit** function of the OCSR is responsible for:

- maintaining a conflict of interest register;
- ensuring the Department meets the requirements of the Operational Compliance Framework;
- oversight of the departmental audit and risk functions, including any external support provided through contractual arrangements;
- membership at the Risk Advisory Group; and
- reporting to the Chief Executive and Audit and Risk Management Committee.

The **Investigations** section is responsible for the conduct of investigations into:

- all matters relating to employee misconduct as identified through the various departmental reporting mechanisms; and
- critical Incidents, including:
 - deaths in custody / under supervision;
 - escape / attempt escape from custody;
 - prisoner disturbances; and
 - incidents or matters as directed by the CE or Minister.

Investigations will be referred through a number of sources including the DCS intranet referral notice, the DCS internet complaints process, the Prisoner Complaints Line, Incident Recording, external agency referral and any other means. Matters relating to staff misconduct will be referred to the Complaints Assessment Panel for review and recommendation for relevant action (refer also Policy 00) and the Director OCSR will have oversight of all investigations relating to staff misconduct. All critical incident matters investigated will be referred through the CE to the DCS Investigations Review Committee.

The OCSR will have oversight of matters referred to the DCS for action and response from **external agencies**, such as the Ombudsman SA, ICAC-OPI, the Coroner's Office and SAPOL.

The OCSR will **analyse** data to establish patterns and themes to identify opportunities for improvement. Analysis will enable OCSR to proactively identify and report on:

- serious threats to life, safety and security of prisons;
- patterned or syndicated illegal activities in a correctional environment;
- organised crime and radical and extreme political ideologies; and
- risks to organisational compliance.

Contact

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