

**INQUIRY INTO COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCING  
OPTIONS FOR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS AND  
DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS**

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**Attorney General's**  
department of nsw

The Hon Christine Robertson MLC  
Committee Chair  
Standing Committee on Law and Justice  
Legislative Council  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Our Ref: 05/3064

24 AUG 2005

Dear Ms Robertson

The Attorney General recently referred your request for information in relation to the Committee's inquiry into community based sentencing options for remote areas and disadvantaged populations.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to the Committee's inquiry.

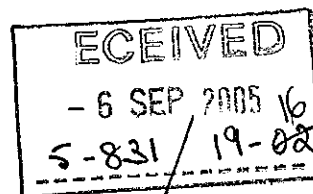
The NSW Attorney General's Department funds and administers a number of programs in the locations that you have specified. Details of these programs are provided in the attached table in the format that has been requested.

In regard to these programs I can advise that the Department administers the Circle Sentencing programs, currently in Brewarrina and shortly to commence in Bourke, directly employing an Aboriginal Project Officer within the Local Court to run the program in that community. The Crime Prevention Division through local auspice agencies funds Aboriginal Community Justice Groups and Aboriginal Community Patrols in a number of rural communities.

Should you require further information on these initiatives, please contact Mr Brendan Thomas, Acting Deputy Director General, on 9228 7017.

Yours faithfully

Laurie Glanfield  
Director General



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A/ID/ Program	Objectives	Target Group	Number of Children	Outcomes to be Evaluated	Phase of the Project
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Aboriginal Community Patrol	Reduce the risk of young people becoming involved in the criminal justice system, either as potential victims or offenders.	Young Aboriginal people 6 - 18 years	From 10 - 30 young people per patrol shift	Anecdotal evidence from Police and local services indicate that the patrol impacts on juvenile offending. We are seeking confirmation from DET as to whether the patrol can impact on truancy levels at schools.	Ongoing - Linked to the Bourke Shared Responsibility Agreement
Aboriginal Community Justice Group	Provide advocacy for Aboriginal people in regard to improving operation of the criminal justice system in their community	Aboriginal community Criminal justice agencies	N/A	2 year evaluation to be conducted in conjunction with circle sentencing	Ongoing
Circle Sentencing	Empower Aboriginal people to participate in the sentencing process, complement existing diversionary programs and	Convicted Adult Aboriginal offenders	Program will commence with the recruitment of the Project Officer in September 2005	2 year evaluation to be undertaken in 2005/2006	Ongoing

Brewarr	Aboriginal	Reduce the risk of	Young Aboriginal people	The patrol is not	Crime data will be sought	Ongoing
<p><b>Intensive Court Supervision</b></p>	<p>provide further sentencing options for magistrates</p>	<p>The trial will provide for participation by community members in supervising and facilitating the daily activity of participants, including their participation in an agreed program plan. Agencies will be involved in providing services identified as necessary at program assessment. The Court will supervise the young person's progress in the program plan, and reinforce the importance of ongoing participation.</p>	<p>Convicted young Aboriginal offenders</p>	<p>Program will commence following the establishment of the Aboriginal Justice Group and with the recruitment of the Circle Sentencing Project Officer</p>	<p>Evaluation is being undertaken through the Department of Juvenile Justice. Activity levels are monitored on an on-going basis.</p>	<p>Two year trial</p>

	Community Patrol	young people becoming involved in the criminal justice system, either as potential victims or offenders.	6 - 18 years.	currently operational. The patrol will become fully operational by November 2005. It previously engaged up to 20 young people per patrol shift.	From Police to support impact on offending. Anecdotal information from local businesses and youth service indicate that the patrol reduces offending.	
	Aboriginal Community Justice Group	Provide advocacy for Aboriginal people in regard to improving operation of the criminal justice system in their community	Aboriginal community Criminal justice agencies	N/A	2 year evaluation to be conducted in conjunction with circle sentencing	Ongoing
	Circle Sentencing	Empower Aboriginal people to participate in the sentencing process, compliment existing diversionary programs and provide further sentencing options for magistrates.	Convicted Adult Aboriginal offenders	6 in 2005	2 year evaluation to be undertaken in 2005/2006	Ongoing
	Intensive Court Supervision	Same as Bourke	Convicted young Aboriginal offenders	3	Same as Bourke	Two year trial

<b>Griffith</b>	Turkandi Inabura					
<b>Bega</b>	Safer Community Compact	A Safer Community Compact is the endorsement of a crime prevention plan. The plan's objective is to develop a co-ordinated multi-agency strategy that engages all relevant local services. Its purpose is to reduce specific crimes and incidences of reoffending. Once endorsed, councils are eligible to apply for grants to implement initiatives identified in the plan.	Youth "at risk". Bega community. In 2001 a Memorandum of Understanding was drafted between Bega Council and the Aboriginal Community to outline ways Council can work better with the community. Some community strengthening strategies that target the Aboriginal community have emerged but no strategies with crime reduction outcomes.	N/A	N/A	N/A