

## **Attachment A – Tasmania Prison Service and New Directions program**

The Tasmania Prison Service (TPS) has a sex offender treatment program (the program) available for prisoners called “New Directions”.

[Of the persons sentenced to imprisonment for sexual offences, how many have been offered a place in the New Directions program \('the program'\)?](#)

All prisoners that have committed a sexual offence are offered treatment deemed appropriate for this risk level by the Tasmania Prison Service (TPS). This is determined through a comprehensive assessment process using international validated assessment tools;

### *Static 99R*

The Static-99R is intended to position offenders in terms of their relative degree of risk for sexual recidivism based on commonly available demographic and criminal history information that has been found to correlate with sexual recidivism in adult male sex offenders. Static-99R has moderate accuracy in ranking offenders according to their relative risk for sexual recidivism and is widely accepted by the scientific community and by applied evaluators.

### *Violence Risk Scale – Sexual Offender Version (VRSSO)*

The VRSSO is a dynamic 24-item actuarial instrument comprised of seven static and 17 dynamic items empirically or theoretically linked to sexual recidivism. The tool is designed to assess changes in the level of risk pre and post treatment intervention and is structured around three factors: sexual deviance, criminality, and treatment responsivity. The instrument rates each item on a scale from 0 to 3 and generates pre and post composite scores on each of the three factors. The “Total Score” can be translated into one of five risk categories: Very Low, Below Average, Average, Above Average, Well Above Average.

[Of the persons sentenced to imprisonment for sexual offences, how many have been offered and refused a placement in the program?](#)

The TPS does not keep a historical record. For example, some prisoners may refuse placement in the program and then decide to participate later. However, the TPS has advised that four prisoners have refused to participate in the program during 2024.

[Is there a waiting list to participate in the program? If so, is it increasing/decreasing?](#)

There is no waiting list to participate in the program. Prisoners are approached to undertake an assessment where the outcome of which will determine program eligibility and/or treatment pathway. There are at present seven prisoners who have been assessed as suitable for the program participation with parole eligibility dates in 2025 who have not yet commenced.

[How many persons imprisoned in Risdon prison have commenced the program?](#)

The program is a “running program” which means it does not have a group start and end date but rather prisoners commence and complete at varying times. There are currently six prisoners in the program, they have all commenced the program this calendar year.

How many persons imprisoned in Risdon prison have completed the program?

	<b>Enrolled</b>	<b>Completed</b>	<b>Still participating</b>	<b>Not completed</b>
From 14 Jul 2023 – Jan 2024	25	14	11	0
From 31 March 2023 – 14 July 2023	7	1	6	0
July 2022 – 31 March 2023	16	6	10	0
Jan 2022-June 2022	12	4	6	2
June 2021-Dec 2022	10	8	2	0
May 2020-May 2021	26	17	9	0