



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

CORPORATE DIRECTION 2020-2022

OUR AIM

A safe, fair and just Tasmania

OUR PURPOSE

To promote the rule of law by ensuring an effective, efficient and accessible justice system; protecting and respecting rights; improving laws; and influencing positive behaviour and enforcing responsibilities.

FROM THE SECRETARY

This Corporate Direction captures high priority initiatives that the Department will progress in order to implement the Government's key deliverables, together with other key reforms and projects.

During 2019-20, the Department's work to deliver on significant infrastructure and technology programs continued and that work will be ongoing into 2021 and 2022.

An extensive law reform and policy agenda will also continue in order to implement Tasmanian Government priorities, including progressing the commitment to a State-based political donations disclosure scheme, establishing a single Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal and progressing the Government's planning reform agenda.

Following the establishment of a Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Response to Child Abuse in Institutional Settings, the Department will be responsible for the coordination and management of the Tasmanian Government's response to the Commission.

The Government has committed to keeping the community safe and free from the impact of crime, and will make a record investment to increase access to justice, reduce the court criminal backlogs and support the delivery of corrective services in Tasmania. As part of this, the Tasmania Prison Service continues to contribute to a safer Tasmania by ensuring the safe and secure containment of prisoners and by providing them with opportunities for rehabilitation, personal development and community engagement. Similarly, Community Corrections continues to work closely with offenders, providing a combination of support and accountability.

The Government will also increase its investment to deliver key planning and building reforms, reduce red tape and make Tasmanian workplaces safer.

Since the 2019-20 Corporate Direction, the Department has introduced new Agency Values to represent who we are and what we want to be known for in the Tasmanian community. Our Agency Values will influence policy, practices and service delivery; help form and strengthen our collective identity; influence how we engage with colleagues, clients and external organisations; create a productive and supportive work environment for all DoJ staff; and set an expected level of employee behaviour.

Following the finalisation of the Department's People Strategy and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy, annual actions plans will ensure we can provide the best possible workplaces for our staff, while we continue to prioritise workplace health and safety and wellbeing.

2019-20 delivered new challenges, with the COVID-19 pandemic impacting all areas of the Department. I am proud of the way all staff responded to ensure we adapted quickly and were able to continue to deliver services to the community.

I look forward to productive years ahead and thank all staff for the contribution they make to the Department and the community.

Ginna Webster, Secretary



OUR STRUCTURE

The Department delivers a range of services related to the administration of justice, legal services, corrections and enforcement and regulatory and other services.

The Department also supports the Supreme and Magistrates Courts, together with various legal Tribunals, Boards, Commissions and protective jurisdictions.

A complete organisational chart is available on our [website](#).

OUR VALUES



We act with **Integrity** **Respect** **Accountability** Our workplaces are **Inclusive** **Collaborative**

OUR MINISTERS

The Department is responsible to the following Ministers:

- Attorney-General, Minister for Justice and Minister for Corrections
- Minister for Workplace Safety and Consumer Affairs
- Minister for Local Government and Planning

OUR KEY PRIORITIES

Corrections 2020 and Beyond

- Continue work on the development of a new Strategic Plan for Corrections
- Commence recruitment of new therapeutic staff at the Tasmania Prison Service to provide drug and alcohol intervention and program delivery
- Continue work on the new Southern Remand Centre
- Continue work on due diligence to inform the planning application for construction of a Northern Regional Prison
- Introduce body scanning technology at the Hobart and Launceston Reception Prisons and Risdon Prison to increase safety and minimise personal searches
- Introduce changes to the laws governing searches of youth in custody
- Expand the use of electronic monitoring of offenders

Infrastructure to Support Recovery

- Progress the relocation of the Burnie Court Complex
- Enhance capacity in both the Office of the Crown Solicitor and the Office of the Solicitor-General to meet the needs of its clients and better meet the demands of the Government's extensive infrastructure program

Improving Access to Justice

- Continue to implement the Government's commitment to establish a single Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal
- Establish a legislative framework for the use of witness intermediaries in courts
- Introduce new legislation to provide for judge-alone trials in Tasmania



- Appoint a 7th Supreme Court Judge
- Progress installation of new video conferencing equipment at the Magistrates and Supreme Court facilities and the Tasmania Prison Service
- Manage the Tasmanian Government's response to the Commission of Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings

Protecting the Community

- Reform Tasmania's indefinite detention laws for dangerous criminals and introduce a second-tier scheme for the monitoring of high risk offenders
- Introduce legislation to guarantee prison time for serious child sex offenders and assaults on front line workers
- Provide access to legal representation for children and young people appearing in courts in the North and North West after-hours
- Implement the Government's commitment to remove police officers from court duties in the North-West of the State
- Strengthen family violence laws, including introducing a second-tier 'serial' family violence offender declaration
- Commence the establishment of a \$2 million Primary Producer Safety Rebate Scheme to provide cash-back rebates for farmers that implement safety measures that help reduce work-related injuries and deaths in farming
- Monitor compliance with the Government's COVID Safe Workplace Framework under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2012* following funding for an additional 6 inspectors for a 12 month period to support this strategy

Achieving Regulatory Reform

- Continue to implement the Government's planning reform agenda
- Implement the Government's commitment to deliver a State-based political donations disclosure scheme
- Implement the Government's commitment to reintroduce Workplace Protection laws
- Establish a statutory basis for Advance Care Directives in Tasmania
- Develop a real-time fuel price monitoring scheme in Tasmania

Coordination, stakeholder engagement and collaboration

- Create opportunities for the sharing of information and collaboration:
 - across government, particularly with key stakeholders
 - within and across the Department
- Explore the development of a departmental reporting 'dashboard', providing headline indicators and supporting statistics

Our people and systems

- Continue to implement our whole-of-agency People Strategy, with a focus on:
 - Recruitment and Retention
 - Leadership and management capability
 - Developing our people
 - Performance management
 - Managing significant change
- Implement our Agency Values by incorporating the Values into everything we do
- Implement the wellbeing support program
- Implement our ICT Strategy, including commencing development of the Astria digital solution