

2018-19 Public Accounts and Estimates Committee Budget Estimates Hearing

The Hon. Gayle Tierney MLC
Minister for Corrections

2018-19 Budget Initiatives

Total investment of **\$787.6 million** in the corrections portfolio:

- **Lara Prison Precinct expansion** – \$689m asset
- **Prison system capacity expansion and security upgrades** – \$68m output, \$22.8m asset
- **Promote offender wellbeing and reintegration to reduce reoffending** – \$4m output
- **Implementing counter-terrorism reforms** – \$2m output.

Reform

- Management of **serious offenders** and **parolees**
- Focus on **rehabilitation** and **recidivism**
- Prison **capacity expansion** to reduce overcrowding
- Safer, secure prisons and overhauled community corrections scheme
- Supporting the whole of government **family violence reforms**
- Significant **legislative reform agenda** including new post-sentence legislation, Australia's first anti-drone legislation, denying parole for police murderers, new contraband offences

Corrections System Performance

Performance Indicators	2011-2014	2015-2018
Prisoner-Staff Ratio	Peaked in 2012/13 @ 1.8 prisoners per staff member	Reduced every financial year Down to 1.4 in 2016/17
Offender-Staff Ratio (Community Corrections)	Peaked in 2014/15 @ 16.3 offenders per staff member	Reduced every financial year Down to 13.1 in 2016/17
Prison Recidivism Rate	Grew from 35.1% in 2011/12 to 44.1% in 14/15	Reduced from 44.1% in 14/15 to 42% in 17/18 (expected)
Offence Rate ¹ (offences per 100 prisoners)	Peaked in 2013 @ 22.0 offences per 100 prisoners	Lower each year than 2013 Down to 20.3 in 2017
Assault Rate ¹	Peaked in 2013 @ 14.3 offences per 100 prisoners	Reduced every year since 2015 Down to 7.6 offences in 2017
Prison Upgrades	\$523m	\$1,112m
Prison Occupancy	Peaked in 2013 at 96.8%	Currently below 90% ²
Escape Rate (per 100 prisoners in open prisons)	Peaked in 2013/14 at 0.77 escapes per 100 prisoners	Lower each year than 2013/14 Down to 0.22 escapes per 100 prisoners

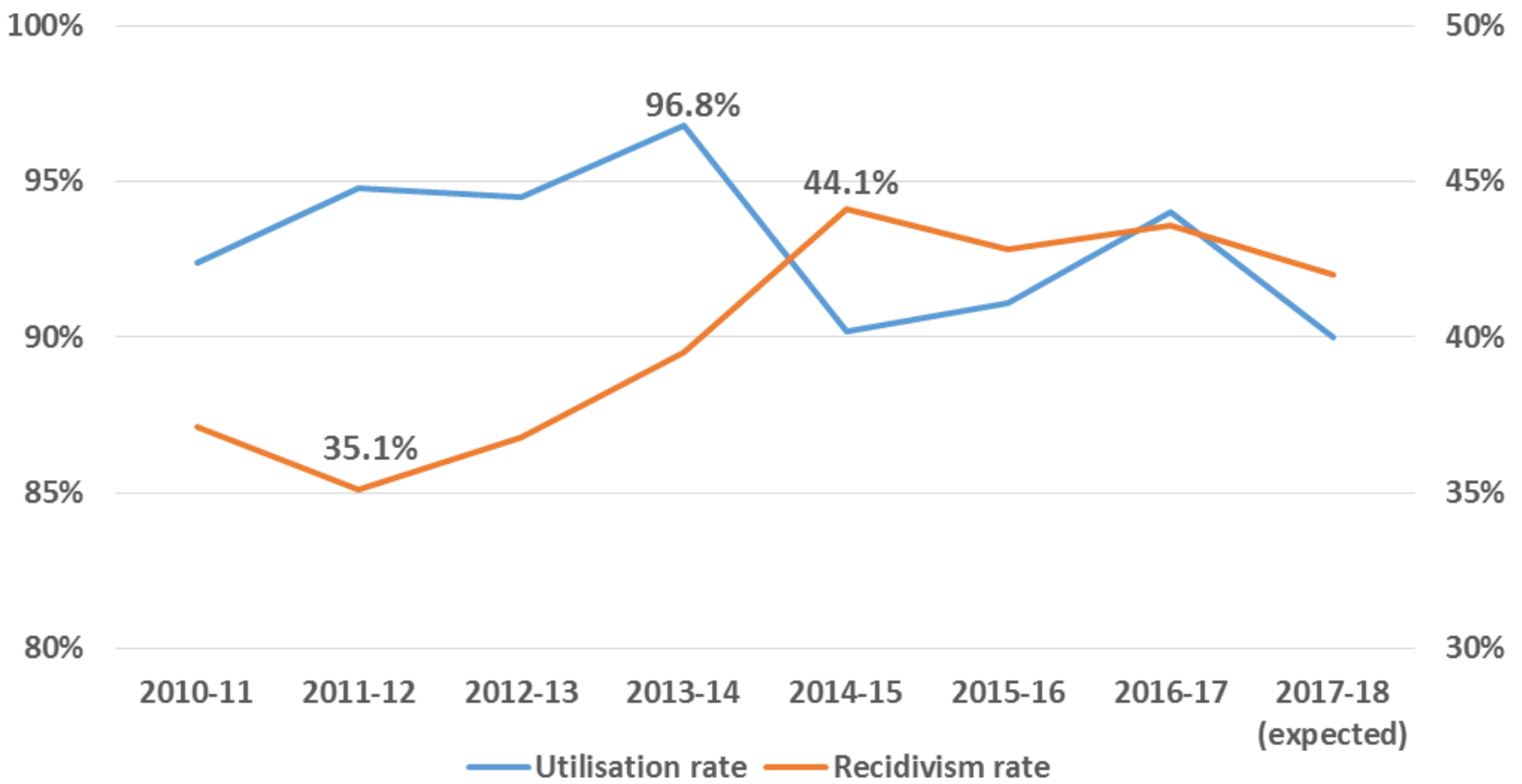
¹ Based on recorded offences at prison address (source: Crime Statistics Agency Recorded Crime data)

² Total mainstream/protection utilisation rate was 87.4% as at 4 May 2018

Corrections System Performance

- 2013/14 - Failure to manage demand
 - Reliance on temporary accommodation, such as mattresses and bunks, resulting in overcrowding
 - Compromise on ideal prisoner placement
 - Leads to more assaults and other incidents, impacting on rehabilitative efforts.

Capacity and Recidivism



Managing Demand, Rehabilitating Prisoners

- Proper planning, good government
 - around 1900 beds opened across the system
 - Funding over 1200 beds to open into the future, including 700 bed prison to be built at Lara.
- Ensuring the system is prepared for population growth
 - Prisons are safer for staff and prisoners.
 - Focussed on rehabilitation, driving down recidivism.
 - Contributing to a safer community.