

We're inviting Aboriginal people to share their experiences of Victoria's prison system

An independent Review is currently underway, examining Aboriginal cultural safety within the adult custodial corrections system in Victoria. It will draw on research, data and direct testimony to develop recommendations for a safer, fairer, more modern and more capable corrections system.

We hope that you can help us spread the word about the Review within your networks.



About the Review

Announced by the Minister for Corrections in June 2021, the Cultural Review of the Adult Custodial Corrections System is being led by an Expert Panel made up of three independent advisors and the Review Lead, Kristen Hilton, former Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner. The Expert Panel members are:

- ▶ Jill Gallagher AO – CEO, Victorian Aboriginal Community Health Organisation and former Victorian Treaty Advancement Commissioner
- ▶ Tim Cartwright APM – former Acting Chief Commissioner, Victoria Police
- ▶ Greg Smith AM – former Deputy President, Fair Work Commission.

The Review will run for approximately 12 months. During that time, we will talk to as many Aboriginal people as possible – both custodial staff and people in custody and their families, as well as stakeholders and advocates with specialist knowledge of the prison system.

Hearing their stories will help us understand their experiences in Victorian prisons and correctional centres and what changes can make them safer and more inclusive for everyone.

What the Review will examine

Cultural safety will be a central theme of the Cultural Review of Adult Custodial Corrections System. We will look at the cultural safety of both Aboriginal people working in prisons and correctional centres, and Aboriginal people in custody. We will also be looking at how prisons give effect to self-determination – making sure Aboriginal people have a say in decisions that affect them.

We are committed to ensuring any engagement you have with the Review will be respectful, supportive and culturally safe.

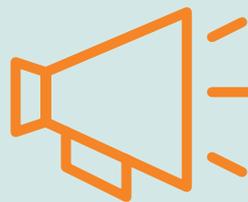
How you can help us promote participation in the Review

If you are in contact with Aboriginal people in custody or Aboriginal custodial staff, we would appreciate any support you can provide to encourage them to participate in the Review.

You might:

- ▶ publish a short news story about the Review in your newsletter or on your website
- ▶ mention the Review in any staff or volunteer briefings you hold
- ▶ post about the Review on your social media channels.

The kit includes some sample messaging and artwork you can use to promote the Review.



Who can participate in the Review

We want to hear from as many people as possible. Talking to us will help the Review make recommendations to make Victorian prisons and correctional centres safer for anyone who works there and for people in custody.

We hope to hear from:

- ▶ Aboriginal people working in custodial roles
- ▶ Aboriginal people who have spent time in custody, and members of their family
- ▶ community organisations and advocates with specialist knowledge about the experiences of Aboriginal people in Victorian prisons and correctional centres.

As an expert independent panel member, Aunty Jill Gallagher will guide the Review's focus on cultural safety and ensure it improves the experiences of Aboriginal people with Victoria's corrections system.

We are committed to ensuring any contact you have with the Review will be respectful, supportive and culturally safe.

Key information

Phone 1800 431 276

Website correctionsreview.vic.gov.au

Email correctionsreview@justice.vic.gov.au

How people currently in custody can contact the Review

- ▶ **Call the Review hotline**
Dial *#10 on the Prisoner Telephone System
- ▶ **Post a written submission**
Corrections Cultural Review, DX 210480, Melbourne VIC

Calls and mail to the Review will not be monitored by Corrections Victoria

Sample newsletter or website article

Share your story with the Corrections Cultural Review

If you've spent time in a Victorian prison, or if you've worked in one, the independent Cultural Review of the Adult Custodial Corrections System wants to hear your story.

The cultural safety of Aboriginal people working and living in prison is a central part of the Review's research. It will look closely at how prisons help Aboriginal people stay connected to culture and family, and how they protect Aboriginal people from racism, discrimination and challenges to their identity. The Review will also be looking at how prisons give effect to self-determination – making sure Aboriginal people have a say in decisions that affect them.

The Review is being led by an independent Expert Panel, which includes Aunty Jill Gallagher AO, CEO of the Victorian Aboriginal Community Health Organisation and former Victorian Treaty Advancement Commissioner. The Review team is committed to ensuring any engagement you have with the Review will be respectful, supportive and culturally safe.

If you want to share your story, you can call the Review hotline 1800 431 276 or email correctionsreview@justice.vic.gov.au.

If you know someone in prison who may want to participate, they can make a written submission or call the Review hotline (*#10 on the Prisoner Telephone System). From November to February, the Expert Panel and Review team will be visiting all prisons and correctional centres to speak directly with participants about the Review.

Find out more about the Review at correctionsreview.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-participants-and-cultural-safety.

Sample social media content

Post 1

If you've spent time in a Victorian prison, or if you've worked in one, the Cultural Review of the Adult Custodial Corrections System wants to hear your story. Led by an independent Expert Panel including Aunty Jill Gallagher, the Review is an important opportunity to help create a prison system that respects and values the culture and identity of Aboriginal people. Call 1800 431 276 or visit correctionsreview.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-participants-and-cultural-safety.

Post 2

Submissions are now open for the Cultural Review of the Adult Custodial Corrections System – an independent review into the culture in Victorian prisons. Share your story in writing or by calling 1800 431 276. correctionsreview.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-participants-and-cultural-safety

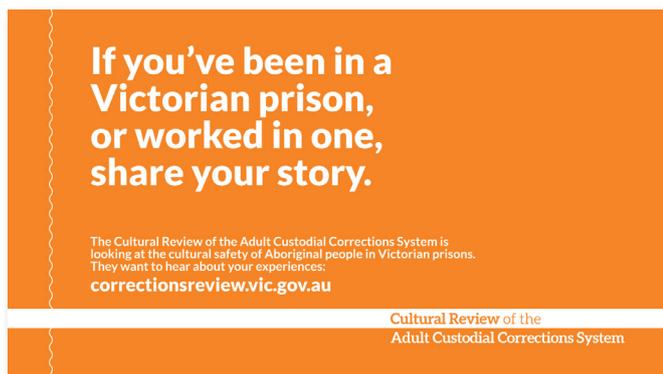
Post 3

Cultural safety will be a central theme of the Cultural Review of Adult Custodial Corrections System. If you have a story about the prison system – whether in custody or as staff – you're invited to share your experience. The Review will focus on ensuring the system is culturally safe for Aboriginal people and protects them from discrimination, racism and challenges to their identity. correctionsreview.vic.gov.au/aboriginal-participants-and-cultural-safety

Sample artwork

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