

# REDUCING CRIME

## Fact sheet

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The Territory Government is delivering real action for Territorians — safer streets and support where it's needed most.

The 2025 Budget invests a record \$1.5 billion in public order and safety to make the Territory safer — with more police, and strengthened laws.



### Supporting police

The Territory Government is committed to supporting police to restore law and order, make the territory safer and keep our communities secure, including through expanding police powers. The 2025 Budget provides \$608 million for police services, which includes:

- \$95 million to continue the police funding package
- \$10.2 million for the Remote Policing Implementation Plan.

### Strengthening corrections

The 2025 Budget is boosting funding for corrections to address pressures associated with rising prisoner numbers and make the community safer.

The 2025 Budget provides a record \$495 million for corrections, investing additional funding of \$126 million in 2025-26 and \$176 million ongoing, including:

- \$80 million in 2025-26 and \$120 million ongoing to address rising prisoner numbers through additional staffing and operational capacity
- \$40 million in 2025-26 and \$50 million ongoing held in contingency and drawn down to address corrections pressures as needed
- \$6 million ongoing from 2025-26 for additional electronic monitoring capacity.

### Restoring confidence in the justice system

The 2025 Budget provides additional funding of \$78 million over four years from 2024-25 and \$20.9 million ongoing to address pressures in the justice system, including:

- \$8.2 million over four years and \$1.6 million ongoing for the Crime Victims Support Unit, including additional grant funding for the victims fund, vehicle re-secure program and counselling for victims of crime
- \$3.5 million in 2024-25 and \$5.5 million ongoing for Legal Aid NT support
- \$3.1 million in 2024-25 and \$5.3 million ongoing for local courts
- \$2.4 million in 2024-25 for higher courts
- \$1.6 million in 2024-25 and \$8.5 million ongoing for the Director of Public Prosecutions
- \$1.3 million in 2025-26 to continue community courts.

As part of the ongoing investment into the court system, the Territory Government has:

- appointed an additional full-time Local Court judge, and recruited more court staff and prosecutors to boost prosecution capacity
- launched the Targeted Intervention Group – Early Resolution Taskforce to fast-track remand cases and reduce court backlogs.

## Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence

The 2025 Budget includes \$36 million per annum in additional ongoing funding to sustainably address domestic, family and sexual violence (DFSV) in the Territory. Key initiatives include:

- \$35.7 million over five years and \$7.9 million ongoing for DFSV co responder model
- \$32.8 million over five years and \$6.6 million ongoing for the Circuit Breaker program
- \$26 million over five years and \$5.2 million ongoing for DFSV specialist services for an integrated response
- \$19.8 million over five years and \$4 million ongoing for programs in prison settings for people committing DFSV
- \$18 million over five years and \$3.8 million ongoing for programs in community settings for people committing DFSV
- \$9.6 million over five years and \$2.6 million ongoing for specialist DFSV Courts
- \$8.6 million over five years and \$1.5 million ongoing to strengthen whole of government DFSV coordination
- \$7.5 million over five years and \$1 million ongoing for the DFSV training and resource centre
- \$6.1 million over five years and \$1 million ongoing to strengthen the Family Safety Framework
- \$3.9 million over five years and \$0.8 million ongoing for specialist DFSV prosecution and witness support
- \$3.3 million over five years and \$0.3 million ongoing for community-led prevention projects
- \$2.7 million over five years and \$0.4 million ongoing for DFSV counselling and healing for women prisoners
- \$2.1 million over five years and \$0.4 million ongoing for specialist DFSV health response
- \$2 million over five years and \$0.2 million ongoing for remote women's safe houses
- \$1.3 million over five years and \$0.3 million ongoing to continue implementing the Risk Assessment Management Framework by universal services
- \$0.8 million over five years and \$0.1 million ongoing to support community grants to raise DFSV awareness.

The Territory Government is further supporting early intervention through school attendance officers that will support holding parents to account for sending their children to school. Families who deprive their child of an education will also be referred to income management with the Commonwealth.

## Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre

The 2025 Budget includes \$9.55 million over three years from 2024-25, and \$1.5 million ongoing to relocate the Joint Emergency Services Communications Centre (JESCC) technology infrastructure to the Government Data Centre and upgrade the integrated computer aided dispatch system. A further \$6.6 million is provided to expand the JESCC and CCTV unit located at the Peter McAulay Centre.

The 2025 Budget also includes \$2 million to establish a dedicated police communications centre in Alice Springs, which will improve efficiency, enhance response capabilities and integrate seamlessly with the JESCC.

## Crime reduction

The Territory Government has introduced new laws to reduce crime and improve community safety. They include:

- the strongest bail laws in Australia including extending the presumption against bail for serious offences, such as assault with intent to steal and sexual offences, requiring the court to prioritise community safety when assessing bail, removing detention as a last resort for youth, making any breach of bail an offence and mandatory electronic monitoring for repeat offenders.
- mandatory minimum sentences for assaulting workers to enhance protection for frontline workers
- new offences for ram raids, and posting and boasting online to strengthen penalties and prevent these activities
- lowering the age of criminal responsibility to ensure young offenders get the help they need
- a new public drinking offence, giving police additional powers to fine, charge and arrest for nuisance drinking in prohibited public places
- more police powers to detect knife crime (Declan's Law) including expanded wandering powers.

Photograph courtesy of Northern Territory Police Force