

1.9 COMMUNITY EMPLOYMENT

Correctional Industry plays a pivotal role in the rehabilitation of inmates and facilitating the effective management of Correctional Centres. Correctional Industry Philosophy is covered within [section 1.1](#) - Correctional Industry Philosophy.

Community employment, through work experience, training and employment endeavours, plays a critical role in providing an overall hierarchy of development programs for inmates. In particular, community employment of inmates supports education, vocational and work programs provided to inmates in custody. Real world community based endeavours, towards the end of a sentence, consequently provides relevant and meaningful opportunities for inmates essential in preparing their return to the community.

The following specific policy objectives underpin community employment programs:

- a) To assist implementation of case management principles and provide a continuity of inmate development activity through community based 'real world' training and employment opportunities.
- b) To enhance the opportunity for inmate post-release employment and by extension reduce the likelihood of inmate recidivism.
- c) To facilitate the reduction of public sector infrastructure involved in the provision of inmate development services.
- d) To provide the opportunity for inmates to contribute to reducing the cost of their incarceration.
- e) To provide the opportunity for inmates to undertake approved community projects.
- f) To provide the opportunity to enhance the public perception and understanding of Corrections.

Participation of inmates within community employment programs must be viewed by Program Review Committees as representing the final development privilege for inmates prior to release. Inmate inclusion within community employment programs must arise from a history of positive participation in programs emanating from application of case management principles. Inmates with a chronically poor history of participation in education and work programs should not be permitted to participate in community employment programs.