



Corrections Amendment Bill

Amendment Paper - March 2024

Tirohanga Whānui | Overview

The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on this Corrections Amendment Bill. We support the kaupapa to continue to reframe the justice system in terms of rehabilitation and reintegration. In particular we support the use of language that maintains the distinction between those who have been found guilty and those still awaiting trial while in custody.

Taunakitanga | Recommendations

Our main points are:

Item One

We strongly support the language distinction between individuals in custody during their trial and following it. We support the reclassification of those in custody during their trial to be specifically excluded from the term 'offender' and the specific designation of 'accused prisoner' to preserve the distinction.

Item Two

We strongly support the focus on reintegration and rehabilitation through the principle introduced into section 6. We support the provision of rehabilitative and non-offence-based programmes to all in the custody of the Corrections system, including those awaiting trial.

Ko wai tātou | Who we are

NZCCSS has six foundation members; the Anglican Care Network, Baptist Churches of New Zealand, Catholic Social Services, Presbyterian Support and the Methodist and Salvation Army Churches.

Through this membership, NZCCSS represents over 230 organisations providing a range of social support services across Aotearoa. We believe in working to achieve a just and compassionate society for all, through our commitment to our faith and Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Further details on NZCCSS can be found on our website www.nzccss.org.nz.

Ingoa whakapā | Contact Name

Nikki Hurst

Rachel Mackay