# Corrections

Future directions in reducing re-offending

Tim Holding, MP

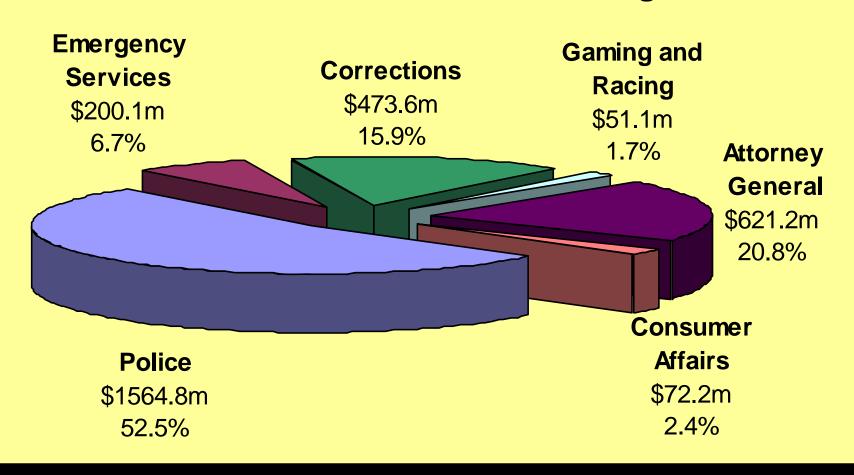
Minister for Corrections

Public Accounts and Estimates Committee 3 July 2006



## JUSTICE BUDGET

#### Share of \$2,983.0 million budget



# **Corrections Snapshot**



#### Offenders in the system

- 3,660 male / 245 female prisoners\*
- 1,312 on parole
- 7,116 community corrections offenders (includes parolees)

#### • 13 prisons in Victoria

- More than 2,000 staff
- 57 community corrections locations

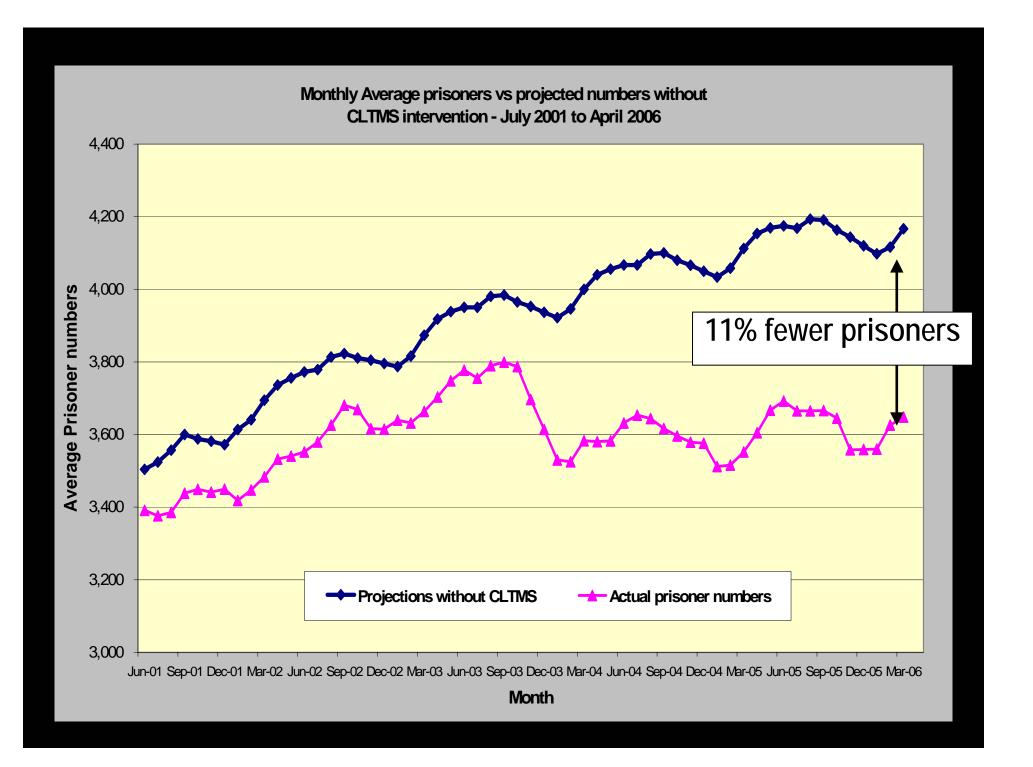


# Reducing Re-offending



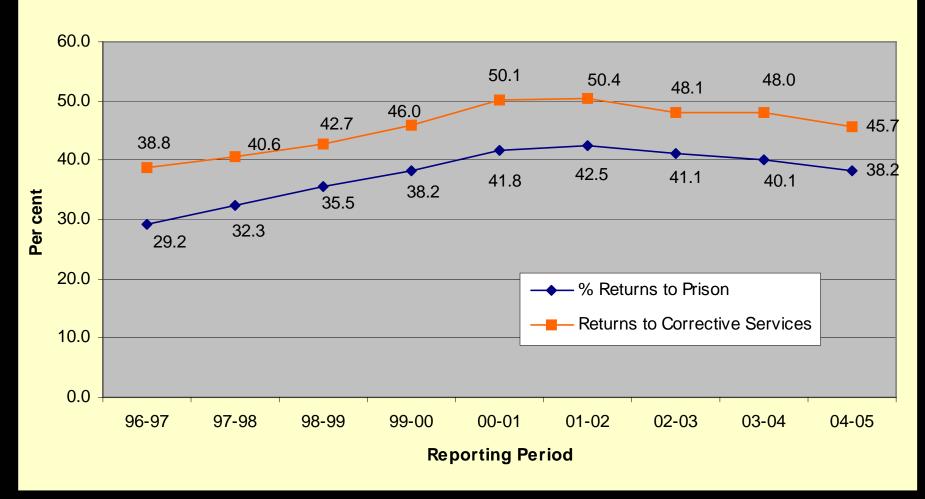
- \$20m to reduce re-offending
- New programs to help rehabilitate
  - Cognitive skills program
  - Sex Offender program
  - Violent offender program
  - Employment placement
  - Homeless program





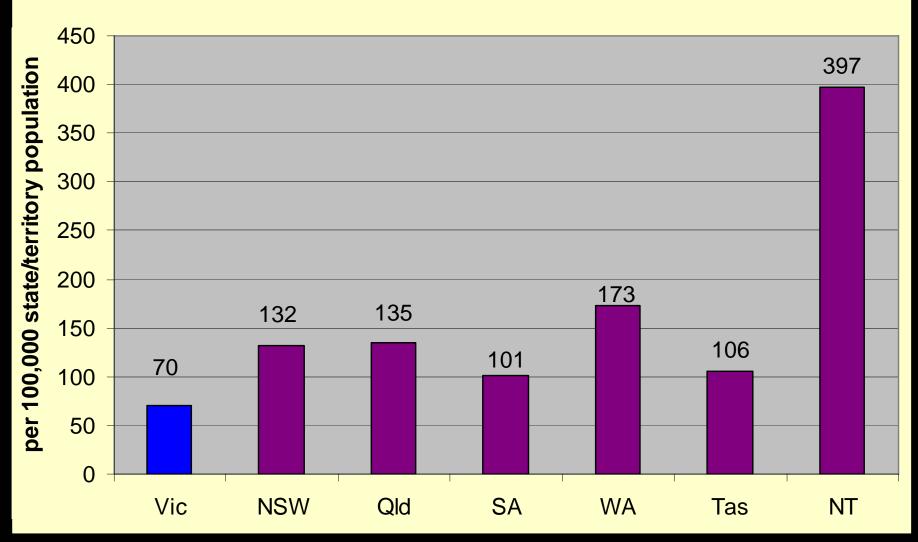
#### RECIDIVISM IN VICTORIA

Prisoners who return to prison and corrective services within two years (1996/97 to 2004/05)



#### IMPRISONMENT RATES

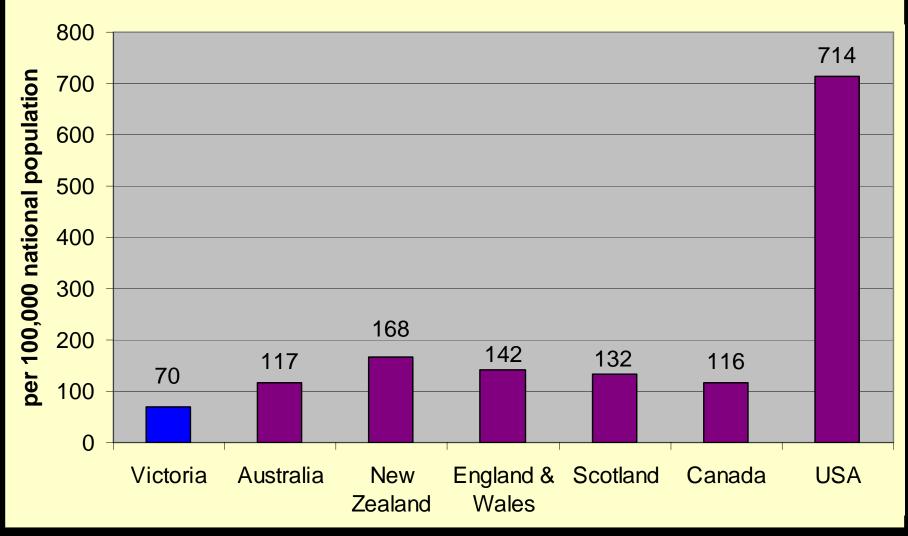
National comparison 2005



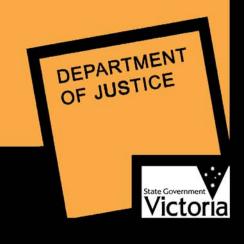
Source: Corrections Victoria June 2006

#### IMPRISONMENT RATES

International comparison 2005



# **Budget Initiatives for 2005/2006**



### • \$11 M for security upgrades

- Gatehouse redevelopment and perimeter upgrades at Barwon Prison
- Redevelopment of reception at Melbourne Assessment Prison

## • \$853,000 for new staff and security equipment

- 8 new Security and Emergency Service Group staff
- Security equipment and extra officer for Acacia Unit
- New high security escort van

# New Budget Initiatives for 2006/2007





- \$8.6 million to create a new high security unit
  - Upgrade Grevillia Unit at Barwon Prison
  - new 27-bed high security unit
  - High security for terror and gangland suspects
- \$12.1 million for extra security
  - 12 new escort staff
  - High security transport van
  - Kevlar vests and helmets
  - replacement firearms.



## **Conclusion**



- Reduced numbers returning to prison
  - Low-risk into community work or home detention
  - Prisons now help rehabilitate
  - Better life skills.
- Next phase to look at the new challenges
- Fewer career criminals safer for all

