

Australian Capital Territory

Corrections Management (At Risk Detainee) Policy 2018 (No 2)

Notifiable instrument NI2018-219

made under the

Corrections Management Act 2007, s14 (Corrections policies and operating procedures), s15 (Exclusions from notified corrections policies and procedures 2017)

1 Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Corrections Management (At Risk Detainee) Policy 2018 (No 2)*.

2 Commencement

This instrument commences on the day after its notification day.

3 Policy

I make this policy to facilitate the effective and efficient management of correctional services.

4. Revocation

This instrument revokes the *Corrections Management (At Risk Detainee) Policy 2018 [NI2018-192]*.

Jon Peach
Executive Director
ACT Corrective Services
30 April 2018

AT RISK DETAINEE POLICY

POLICY NO. 26

ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES



ACT
Government

Justice and Community Safety

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1 STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) is committed to providing appropriate care and support to detainees who are identified as 'at risk' of suicide or self-harm.

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to ACT correctional centres.

3 PRINCIPLES

The following principles apply:

- ACTCS manages the prevention of suicide and self-harm in custody as a key priority, and has implemented an integrated approach consistent with legislative requirements to manage at risk detainees.
- Suicide is a complex problem and requires a multidisciplinary approach. All employees will adopt a team approach and work together to share information, knowledge and skills in assessing and managing detainees.
- ACTCS is conscious that early identification and notification of 'at risk' detainees is an essential element of ensuring detainees' safety and wellbeing while in custody.
- Upon admission to an ACT correctional centre, detainees are assessed within 24 hours to establish a risk rating and identify any issues that could render them vulnerable and at risk.
- ACTCS staff are appropriately trained to promptly identify and manage at risk detainees.
- Staff will aim to make decisions on a team basis to enable officers and employees to take justified risks where appropriate.
- ACTCS provides an environment that is conducive to minimising self-harm and mitigates risk to detainees.
- ACTCS aims to provide an environment that minimises stress, loss of dignity, social isolation and all forms of bullying.
- Where appropriate, consideration is given to minimising detainees' isolation and maximising their interaction with others, while maintaining the safety of all parties.
- ACTCS ensures that all detainees are provided with access to appropriate and measured programs and assistance in resolving personal difficulties and crises.
- ACTCS ensures that there are strategies in place to support detainees with special needs and those that are statistically more susceptible to suicide or self-harm.

- ACTCS takes necessary precautions to ensure the safety and wellbeing of all at risk detainees who are being escorted.
- At risk detainees are managed through a framework of assessments and management strategies, including engagement in ongoing support and intervention.
- ACTCS works collaboratively with ACT Health to assess and care for at risk detainees.
- ACTCS shares relevant information with ACT Health to ensure consistent and appropriate care is provided to detainees.

4 DEFINITIONS

At Risk Detainee

A detainee identified or assessed as being at risk of suicide or self-harm, requiring immediate intervention and management.

Suicide

An unnatural, self-inflicted death in which the person had intent to die.

Self-Harm

The act of injuring oneself with non-fatal consequences. Rather than an attempt by a detainee to intentionally end their life, self-harm is most often used as a strategy to actually cope with life and deal with negative emotions such as anger, frustration, depression, anxiety or fear, hopelessness and loss.

5 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Induction Policy
- Induction Operating Procedure
- Detainee At Risk Operating Procedure
- Code Pink Operating Procedure



Jon Peach
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ACT Corrective Services
16 April 2018

Document details

Criteria	Details
Document title:	Corrections Management (At Risk Detainee) Policy 2018
Document owner/approver:	Executive Director, ACT Corrective Services
Date effective:	The day after the notification date
Review date:	Three years after the notification date
Compliance with law:	This policy reflects the requirements of the <i>Corrections Management (Policy and Operating Procedure Framework) Policy 2017</i>
Responsible officer:	Head of Accommodation
Version	1