



## Flourishing Communities

*Taking lessons from place-based approaches,  
justice reinvestment and social cohesion*

Position Paper

November 2017



Jesuit  
Social Services  
Building a Just Society

40  
years

## Table of Contents

Who we are .....	2
Our statement of principles .....	3
Introduction.....	4
Literature on three approaches.....	5
• Place-based disadvantage.....	5
• Justice reinvestment.....	9
• Social cohesion.....	13
Lessons to be drawn from the three approaches .....	16
References .....	18

For further information, contact:

Sally Parnell, Acting CEO, Jesuit Social Services

T: 03 9421 7600

E: [sally.parnell@jss.org.au](mailto:sally.parnell@jss.org.au)

## Who we are

Jesuit Social Services has been working for more than 40 years delivering practical support and advocating for improved policies to achieve strong, cohesive and vibrant communities where every individual can play their role and flourish.

We work with some of the most marginalised individuals and communities, often experiencing multiple and complex challenges. We work where the need is acute and there is the greatest capacity for change.

Our services span Victoria, New South Wales and the Northern Territory where we support more than 57,000 individuals and families.

Our service delivery and advocacy focus on the following key areas:

- **Justice and crime prevention** – people involved with the justice system
- **Mental health and wellbeing** – people with multiple and complex needs and those affected by suicide, trauma and complex bereavement
- **Settlement and community building** – recently arrived immigrants and refugees, and disadvantaged communities
- **Education, training and employment** – people with barriers to sustainable employment.

The promotion of **education, lifelong learning and capacity building** is fundamental to all our activity. We believe this is the most effective means of helping people to reach their potential and exercise their full citizenship. This, in turn, strengthens the broader community.

Research, advocacy and policy are coordinated across all program and major interest areas of Jesuit Social Services. Our advocacy is grounded in the knowledge, expertise and experiences of program staff and participants, as well as academic research and evidence. We seek to influence policies, practices, legislation and budget investment to positively influence participants' lives and improve approaches to address long term social challenges. We do this by working collaboratively with the community sector to build coalitions and alliances around key issues, and building strong relationships with key decision-makers and the community.

Our Learning and Practice Development Unit builds the capacity of our services through staff development, training and evaluation, as well as articulating and disseminating information on best practice approaches to working with participants and communities across our programs.

*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of all the lands on which Jesuit Social Services operates and pay respect to their Elders past and present. We express our gratitude for their love and care of the land and all life.*

## Our statement of principles

- **Principle 1:** Preventative approaches to addressing crime should be prioritised.
- **Principle 2:** Localised approaches to addressing crime should be embraced.
- **Principle 3:** Capacity-building and engagement with affected communities should be prioritised.
- **Principle 4:** Long-term strategies for addressing crime should be embraced.
- **Principle 5:** Investment into the data collection capacity of states and territories is required.
- **Principle 6:** Multi-sector involvement in approaches to addressing crime should be embraced.
- **Principle 7:** The building of social cohesion in Australian communities should be prioritised.

## Introduction

When thinking of how to respond to crime, we must begin with human beings and the communities in which they live. Human beings commit crime, are affected by crime and by the response to crime, and must find ways to live after crime. There is a large body of evidence that tells us what factors make it more likely that people will commit crime, what kinds of response make it more and less likely that they will reoffend, and what initiatives make it more likely that they will not offend at all.

One of the most significant factors affecting the chances that a person will come into contact with the criminal justice system is where that person lives. The majority of people who are convicted of crime come from relatively few geographical areas. Young people who grow up in an environment where stable family relationships are rare, who have little encouragement or preparation for education and work, suffer from poor physical and mental health, live in a world in which addiction is common, and who lack models of responsible relationships are more likely to be alienated from society and come into contact with the justice system. This may also be true of young people in minority cultural groups who have suffered trauma, have been caught between the different expectations of their culture of origin and those of Australian society, have disengaged from their education, and have otherwise found it difficult to engage with Australian society.

Making Australian communities safer in the long run requires something more than the current policies on offer. Through Jesuit Social Services' experience and research, we know that punitive approaches to justice are limited in their ability to address the complex and interconnected social determinants of crime, and most often fail to make communities safer. Responses based on incarceration separate individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds from their domestic relationships and place them in an environment where they do not have to take responsibility for many of the day-to-day decisions in their lives. They often leave prison with high hopes of making a new beginning, but with less realistic resources for connecting with society and building healthy, productive and crime-free lives. For these reasons among others, incarceration does little to reduce crime and may in fact galvanise a person's transition into chronic offending.

When we consider these factors together, it is plain that an effective policy to reduce crime must focus on areas of disadvantage in a concerted way that takes into account structural issues such as access to education, employment and health services. It must help families and children to overcome the conditions that hinder their connection with society. Similarly, it must address the causes of alienation in cultural minority groups in a way that encourages connection with society.

These are key messages that emerge from the research and literature on place-based approaches to addressing disadvantage, justice reinvestment, and social cohesion, all concepts that emphasise the ways in which broader social goods flow from investing in individual human beings and building flourishing communities. They have all gained lip service in Australia in recent years and, to varying extents, have contributed to ad hoc, short-term policies developed and implemented in a variety of states and territories. The evidence strongly suggests that the ever-increasing amount of money we spend on prisons is not making us safer and could, at a time of tightening government budgets and restrictions on public spending, be put to much better use.

**Overlapping lessons drawn from place-based approaches to addressing disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion strategies reveal the 'better use' to which we could put that money. By embracing effective solutions, state and territory governments could more effectively work towards lowering crime rates and protecting the Australian public. Effective solutions:**

- are preventative
- are targeted at geographically-defined communities
- engage with and build capacity in local communities
- are long-term

- **draw upon data**
- **allow for multi-sector involvement**
- **actively work to build local social cohesion.**

Beyond the community-focused solutions detailed in this paper, it is important to remember that the most effective methods of addressing criminality work at a number of levels. Community-focused approaches do not replace the need to embrace quality, person-centred interventions at the individual and family levels. At the broader social level, nothing can substitute for strong social policies ensuring high levels of employment and high quality education, transport infrastructure and industry performance, to mention a few key examples. Community-level solutions can only ever be part of the solution to addressing the social determinants of crime – though certainly an important part.<sup>1</sup>

Helping human beings and their local communities to flourish is key to making Australia a safer place.

## **Literature on three approaches**

### **Place-based disadvantage**

#### **What are place-based approaches?**

Place-based approaches work to tackle geographically concentrated social disadvantage by building stronger, more cohesive and resilient communities. They focus on the causes rather than the consequences of entrenched disadvantage, embracing prevention and early intervention in their effort to resolve issues before they escalate.<sup>2</sup> Place-based approaches aim to empower communities to develop and deliver local solutions to entrenched disadvantage over the long term by bringing together members of the community, community organisations, businesses, government and public services like schools and health centres. Following a place-based approach, these individuals and groups work together to design and implement innovative solutions to complex social issues specific to their community, drawing on local strengths, opportunities and goals.<sup>3</sup>

A useful starting point for understanding healthy community functioning is a framework developed by Vinson and Rawsthorne that identifies the attributes that influence the functioning of communities, and how these interact. The framework comprises four important clusters of activity:

- the substance and style of decision-making in a community
- the way in which resources are generated and allocated within a community
- the integration of people, groups and community organisations
- how direction, energy and motivation is maintained within a community.<sup>4</sup>

**The Victorian Council of Social Service identifies 13 factors which, when combined, contribute to the success of place-based approaches in combating entrenched disadvantage:**

- A focus on specific geographic communities
- Support for groups within communities facing disadvantage
- Roles for community members and service users in designing and implementing services so as to enhance community ownership of local solutions
- Effective engagement and communication with and between stakeholders
- Local decision-making by a variety of community stakeholders, including those with lived experience of disadvantage
- Shared vision and a joint approach to addressing the challenge
- Innovation
- Flexible service delivery capable of accommodating community needs, and a flexible approach to funding
- Capacity development within the community
- Backbone funding and support
- Outcomes-focused measurement
- Good governance ensuring accountability and responsibility
- Long-term timeframes.

*Victorian Council of Social Service 2016, 'Communities Taking Power: Using Place-Based Approaches to Deliver Local Solutions to Poverty and Disadvantage', pp.12-20.*

Central to the concept of place-based approaches is the idea that disadvantage tends to become entrenched in certain geographical locations, an idea confirmed as fact by our series of research reports examining locational disadvantage (e.g. *Unequal in Life* (1999), *Community Adversity and Resilience* (2004), *Dropping Off the Edge* (2007) and, most recently, the *Dropping off the Edge* (DOTE) 2015 Report). Geographically concentrated disadvantage is tied to socio-economic factors including intergenerational unemployment, lower levels of educational achievement and higher rates of criminal convictions. The causes and effects of disadvantage tend to be diverse and interrelated.

The existence of such localised disadvantage highlights the failure of current approaches to address the problem.<sup>5</sup> National or state-wide policies and centrally designed services are less effective at tackling the interrelated causes of place-based disadvantage than policies targeted to the needs of a specific community.<sup>6</sup> By tailoring solutions to specific disadvantaged locations, place-based approaches are better equipped to deal with the complex nature of localised disadvantage.<sup>7</sup>

One key advantage of place-based approaches is the way they facilitate coordination and linkages across policy, services and delivery so as to improve the accessibility of services to members of the community.<sup>8</sup> They also leverage local insights, skills and resources, all of which are invaluable in improving the effectiveness of policy instruments.<sup>9</sup> There is a growing consensus that effective place-based solutions require the affected community to be deeply invested in them.<sup>10</sup>

We would however emphasise that some solutions to localised disadvantage lie outside the power of local communities. Achieving real and lasting change involves empowering local groups to enact positive change, as well as improving the structural factors that perpetuate disadvantage. For example, in *Moving From the Edge* (2010), Tony Vinson identifies poverty and lack of access to the job market as two key contributors to social exclusion<sup>11</sup> – both of which are structural problems requiring significant social reform, and which therefore cannot be solved at the local community level.

## Place-based disadvantage in Australia

Certain locations in Australia experience significantly more social disadvantage than others. In 2015, Jesuit Social Services along with Catholic Social Services Australia released the findings of its fourth DOTE Report,<sup>12</sup> which found that complex and entrenched disadvantage continues to be experienced by a small but persistent number of locations in each state and territory across Australia. These communities experience a web-like structure of disadvantage, with significant problems including unemployment, a lack of affordable and safe housing, low educational attainment, and poor quality infrastructure and services.<sup>13</sup>

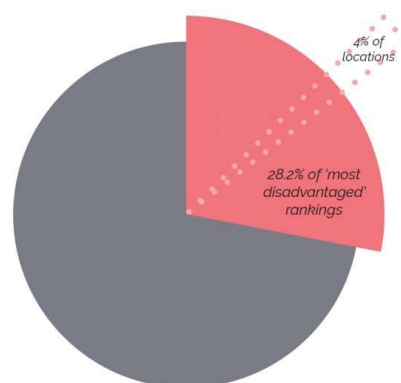
Across Australia, this entrenched disadvantage is exemplified by:

- Those living in the 3 per cent most disadvantaged post codes in New South Wales being 3 times as likely to experience long term unemployment.<sup>14</sup>
- An individual in the 3 per cent most disadvantaged post codes in Tasmania being 50 per cent more likely to have had some form of personal contact with the criminal justice system.<sup>15</sup>

Taking Victoria as an example, just 27 Victorian postcodes (4 per cent of total) account for 28.2 per cent of the highest rank positions across 22 indicators of disadvantage (see graphic on right).<sup>16</sup>

Disadvantage tends to occur in a web-like structure of factors that constrain individual life opportunities.<sup>17</sup> Our research found that those living in the 3 per cent most disadvantaged postcodes in Victoria are:

- twice as likely to have criminal convictions
- 3 times more likely to be experiencing long-term unemployment
- 2.6 times more likely to have experienced domestic violence
- 2.4 times more likely to be on disability support.<sup>18</sup>



The persistent nature of locational disadvantage becomes obvious when we compare the findings of our 2015 study with previous studies undertaken in 2007, 2004 and 1999. For example, 25 of Victoria's 40 most disadvantaged postcodes in DOTE 2015 were also found to be 'most disadvantaged' in the 2007 study<sup>19</sup> (the other 15 postcodes did not show significant increases or decreases) and the postcodes in the most extreme categories have been quite consistent over the past 15 years (in 1999, eight of the 12 names in the top two bands were the same for 2015).

DOTE 2015 identified concentrated disadvantage across a broad variety of locations, from remote and rural communities to regional and metropolitan areas.<sup>20</sup> The Brotherhood of St Lawrence warns that the growth corridors of our major cities are also at risk of entrenched disadvantage.<sup>21</sup>

## How place-based approaches could address crime in Australian communities

There is a clear link between locational disadvantage and high crime rates.<sup>22</sup> Taking Victoria as an example once more, DOTE 2015 revealed the prominence of criminal justice indicators in the profile of Victoria's disadvantaged areas.<sup>23</sup> It found that 6 per cent (42) of postcodes in Victoria accounted for half of all prison admissions (see graphic on right). This highlights the often localised nature of crime, as well as the role of disadvantage as an underlying cause of offending. By working to produce solutions targeted at the needs of specific disadvantaged communities, place-based approaches can help reduce crime.

Place-based approaches have been recognised as an appropriate response to complex policy problems that have multiple interacting causes requiring a range of responses and that go beyond the capacity of any one stakeholder to address.<sup>24</sup> Such problems include the causes of crime in particular



communities.<sup>25</sup> As effective solutions for localised criminality involve changing the behaviour of and gaining commitment from individual community members, it is crucial that they involve and engage the affected community.<sup>26</sup>

Without a sustained, collaborative, long-term commitment across the government, community and business sectors, there is a significant risk that some of the state's most severely disadvantaged communities will continue to 'drop off the edge'. The web of disadvantage can only be broken effectively by a multi-layered, cooperative and coordinated strategy that is owned and driven by the community. It must involve all layers of government and the business and community sectors, reflecting shared responsibility and joint commitment to resolve this entrenched problem. This strategy must take account of the unique characteristics and circumstances of local communities and be sustained over the long term. It should be:

- **Targeted** – Concentrated to specific areas of the most severe disadvantage
- **Tailored** – Meet the community's needs and responding to the unique mix of issues facing the community
- **Integrated**– Recognising the web of multiple and interconnected causes of disadvantage
- **Cooperative** – Responses are founded on a strong relationship between government and departmental portfolios, integrated community initiatives and coordination between different levels of government
- **A long term horizon** – A long-term commitment of 20 years to address complex, entrenched disadvantage
- **Community owned and driven** – Community leaders drive the agenda, recognising the strength within communities and work with them to build capacity, generate action, attract external resources, and maintain direction and energy
- **Engaged at the individual, community and national levels** – Recognising the complex interplay of the individual, their family circumstances, their community, and the broader social and economic environment in causing and addressing disadvantage.

Collaborative governance arrangements, devolution of power and decentralised decision-making are prerequisites for enabling the meaningful local community involvement and ownership required by effective place-based approaches. The most effective mechanism for improving the responsiveness of services and effectiveness of outcomes is to increase the involvement of, and control by, communities and locally-based organisations in the planning, coordination and provision of services. The degree to which this is facilitated will determine the success of any future reforms.

## Go Goldfields Alliance in the Central Goldfields Shire, Victoria

Since 2012, the Go Goldfields alliance has applied a place-based approach to respond to complex social health needs in the Central Goldfields community that have been insufficiently addressed by traditional funding and policy responses. The Central Goldfields Shire suffers from entrenched social disadvantage. The Victorian Government funded the initiative for the purpose of reducing child protection reporting, improving communication, numeracy and literacy skills, increasing positive social connections, and connecting youth to education and training in order to achieve employment outcomes.

The multi-agency partnership – which includes representatives from health, education, training, justice, disability, employment, the arts, the community, local government and other strategic groups – works from the basis that effective solutions to the community’s complex issues are only achievable through a collaborative and coordinated response. The alliance has sought to address the community’s social needs by harnessing local resources, identifying and implementing localised solutions, and working to build capacity within the community. It has prioritised initiatives aimed at prevention and early intervention.

The alliance has measured positive community outcomes, including: a reduction in notifications to child protection; improved language and literacy skills; improved community connectedness; improved youth connection to training and education; and increasing breastfeeding rates.

*Brotherhood of St Laurence 2015, ‘What Next For Place-Based Initiatives to Tackle Disadvantage? A Practical Look at Recent Lessons for Australian Public Policy’, viewed 2 August 2017, <<http://youthlaw.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/What-Next-for-Place-Based-Initiatives-to-Tackle-Disadvantage.pdf>>, pp.12, 14 & 29-30.*  
*Centre for Community Child Health 2012, ‘Place-Based Reform: Shaping Change’, viewed 2 August 2017, The Royal Children’s Hospital Melbourne, <[http://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/ccch/CCCH%20Shaping%20Change%20Roundtable%20Report\\_web.pdf](http://www.rch.org.au/uploadedFiles/Main/Content/ccch/CCCH%20Shaping%20Change%20Roundtable%20Report_web.pdf)>, p.16.*  
*Go Goldfields 2014, A Community’s Place-Based Response to Family Violence & Violence Against Women & Their Children, viewed 2 August 2017, <[http://www.aic.gov.au/media\\_library/conferences/2014-crimeprevention/presentations/wed-105-1520-Margaret-Augerinos.pdf](http://www.aic.gov.au/media_library/conferences/2014-crimeprevention/presentations/wed-105-1520-Margaret-Augerinos.pdf)>.*

Justice reinvestment and social cohesion strategies have a common focus on addressing crime in specific geographic communities. Their methodologies therefore intersect with place-based approaches, as explored in greater detail below.

## Justice reinvestment

### What is justice reinvestment?

Justice reinvestment is a criminal justice policy approach that prioritises prevention and diversion over detention. It is a form of preventative financing in which governments redirect resources that are currently spent on incarcerating offenders into community-based programs and services that aim to address underlying causes of criminality.<sup>27</sup> The intended purpose of justice reinvestment is therefore to simultaneously reduce penal budgets and offending rates.<sup>28</sup> It aims to prevent offending, break the

cycle of recidivism and increase community safety by working to more effectively rehabilitate and reintegrate offenders.<sup>29</sup>

Justice reinvestment is a place-based approach, focusing on local solutions and community-led initiatives.<sup>30</sup> While encouraging the use of pre-existing local infrastructure, knowledge and resources, it demands investment and capacity-building in communities that produce the most offenders, and that the communities themselves take ownership of the process.<sup>31</sup> By focusing on social drivers of crime such as unemployment, homelessness, health and education issues, justice reinvestment has the potential to deliver profound benefits to individuals and build stronger, safer and more cohesive communities over the long term.<sup>32</sup>

**The justice reinvestment approach follows a specific methodology:**

- Collecting and analysing data to identify vulnerable communities (including those with high rates of recidivism);
- Identifying drivers of crime and developing policy options aimed at reducing offending and generating savings
- Quantifying the likely savings, implementing the options, and then reinvesting the savings in the identified communities
- Rigorously measuring and evaluating the extent to which savings and community justice outcomes have been realised.

*Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', p.137.*

Justice reinvestment has become accepted practice in many cities across the United States, its country of origin.<sup>33</sup> Importantly, some commentators have questioned whether US success would translate to an Australian context.<sup>34</sup> This concern is explored in more detail below.

### Justice reinvestment in the United States

The concept of justice reinvestment was conceived as a means of addressing the unsustainably high imprisonment rates, recidivism rates and spiralling costs that characterised US incarceration practices.<sup>35</sup> Local services aimed at addressing entrenched social causes of criminality tended to be poorly resourced and coordinated, in stark contrast to the vast funds poured into incarcerating offenders from specific US postal codes.<sup>36</sup>

Justice reinvestment policies have been implemented in 33 US states since 2007, contributing to a decline in imprisonment rates. They are expected to result in the saving of billions of dollars.<sup>37</sup> These policies have generally fallen into four categories: sentencing laws, laws concerning the conditions on which prisoners leave prison, supervision laws guiding the monitoring of those on probation or parole, and oversight laws tracking the progress of these reforms.<sup>38</sup>

Notably, a justice reinvestment program in Texas helped to decrease prisoner numbers by 1,125 between 2008 and 2010 by expanding pre- and post-release treatment and diversion programs, increasing access to transitional support, improving parole and probation practices, and making significant alterations to the criminal statutory framework.<sup>39</sup> The resultant savings were redirected to additional treatment and diversion programs, expanding capacity in treatment facilities, and related social welfare programs.<sup>40</sup>

### Justice reinvestment in Australia

Several parliamentary committee reports have recommended that state governments consider or trial justice reinvestment projects.<sup>41</sup> In 2011, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs expressed its support for justice reinvestment principles.<sup>42</sup> In 2013, the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee also recommended that the Federal Government commit to a trial of justice reinvestment in Australia using a place-based approach and actively involving the community concerned.<sup>43</sup>

The Federal Government recently responded to the Senate's 2013 report by expressing broad support for justice reinvestment projects in Australia; however, it sought to minimise its funding and leadership commitments.<sup>44</sup> The Government identified its role as limited to supporting state and territory governments to implement a justice reinvestment approach to funding programs.

The approach has received more enthusiastic political backing elsewhere, with the Australian Labor Party and the Australian Greens both expressing strong support for the principle of justice reinvestment.<sup>45</sup> In the context of closing the gap in ATSI incarceration and victimisation rates, Labor has pledged to:

- Establish three new launch sites in a major city, regional town and remote community to explore the role of justice reinvestment in preventing crime and reducing incarceration
- Resource a long-term study of the effectiveness of the justice reinvestment project in progress in Bourke, New South Wales (discussed below)
- Establish a national coordinating body to build the evidence base, collect data and measure progress to monitor the effectiveness of justice reinvestment in the Australian context.<sup>46</sup>

#### Maranguka Justice Reinvestment Project in Bourke, New South Wales

Bourke – a remote township with a large Aboriginal community, a record of persistent economic and social disadvantage, and high imprisonment rates – is a pioneer in trialling justice reinvestment. Since 2013, a grass roots coalition of local Aboriginal Bourke residents called Maranguka has been working with not-for-profit organisation Just Reinvest NSW to implement a justice reinvestment project. The project aims to decrease the rate of contact of Aboriginal children and young people with courts and custodial detention in Bourke. As of 2012, 21 per cent of Bourke's 223 Aboriginal youths were sentenced or on remand, costing a total of \$2.2 million.

To date, the Bourke project has engaged and consulted with the community, collected necessary data, mapped out the community's needs and developed policy options. The next stage will involve trialling and implementing the supports and infrastructure necessary for responding to these needs.

*Just Reinvest NSW 2013, Justice Reinvestment in Bourke: Briefing Paper, viewed 26 July 2017,*

*<[http://www.justreinvest.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Justice-Reinvestment-in-Bourke\\_Briefing-paper-Aug-2013.pdf](http://www.justreinvest.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Justice-Reinvestment-in-Bourke_Briefing-paper-Aug-2013.pdf)>, p.5.*

*KPMG 2016, 'Unlocking the Future: Maranguka Justice Reinvestment Project in Bourke – Preliminary Assessment', p.i;*

*National Children's Commissioner 2016, 'Children's Rights Report 2016', Australian Human Rights Commission, <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC\\_CRR\\_2016.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC_CRR_2016.pdf)>.*

*National Children's Commissioner 2016, 'Children's Rights Report 2016', Australian Human Rights Commission, <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC\\_CRR\\_2016.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/AHRC_CRR_2016.pdf)>, pp.26-7.*

*The Canberra Times 2017, 'Canberra's Indigenous Incarceration Shame Calls for Bold New Solutions', 27 April, viewed 3 May 2017, <<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/comment/ct-editorial/canberras-indigenous-incarceration-shame-calls-for-bold-new-solutions-20170426-gvslqs.html>>.*

Several justice reinvestment trial projects are currently being undertaken or have been announced in Australia. So far, these projects have focused on ATSI communities with high incarceration rates.

In April 2017, the ACT Government announced the territory's first justice reinvestment-based trial program, Yarrabi Bamirr. This 12-month program, which has been co-designed with ATSI service

providers and community groups, aims to achieve reductions in ATSI offending rates and improvements in accommodation, education and employment opportunities.<sup>47</sup> The ACT Government intends to measure the trial's results by:

- observing changes in health, stable accommodation, improved school learning outcomes and employment opportunities, and
- determining whether it affects participants' contact with the justice system by measuring arrests and charges, referrals to diversion, access to legal advice, support when dealing with statutory agencies and support while serving a sentence.<sup>48</sup>

The South Australian Government has committed to conducting two justice reinvestment trials.<sup>49</sup> While a three-year ANU research project has explored the potential for a justice reinvestment program in the NSW town of Cowra, the NSW Government has not yet committed to funding such a project.<sup>50</sup>

To date, Victoria has not implemented any justice reinvestment trials or programs. However, the Victorian Government provides some (insufficient) funding for programs that possess some limited features of a justice reinvestment approach, such as the Place-Based Targeted Grants program (which aims to increase community safety in areas experiencing high rates of crime and disadvantage) and the Communities That Care program (which aims to address risk and protective factors for young people).

### How justice reinvestment could be implemented in Australian communities

By reducing prison populations across Australia, justice reinvestment initiatives stand to produce significant cost savings for prisons, mental health units, hospitals, police and other community support services, as well as would-be victims of crime. However, it is important to acknowledge the potential limitations of justice reinvestment in Australia. Successful US approaches to justice reinvestment would not necessarily translate into success in the Australian context.

Key differences between the US and Australian jurisdictions include the following:

- US justice reinvestment programs started from a lower base due to high incarceration rates and generally low investment in community-based rehabilitation programs, meaning that the US possessed greater scope for significant immediate reductions in imprisonment rates
- Immediate savings, achieved by US justice reinvestment strategies through closing prisons or deciding against building new ones, are unlikely in Australian jurisdictions due to:
  - the likelihood of new prisons being built in response to current state and territory policies and legislative settings
  - the fact that some diversionary programs already exist
- Government agencies across Australian jurisdictions currently lack adequate processes for data collection and information sharing to help support justice reinvestment programs.<sup>51</sup>

Any future justice reinvestment programs established in Australian communities must take these local conditions into account. Such programs will also require a significant level of upfront investment – although, as noted above, preliminary costs would likely be recouped in the long term.<sup>52</sup>

When implementing a justice reinvestment approach, Australian state and territory governments should adopt a whole-of-government approach that ensures strong coordination across their departments while also facilitating close collaboration between the government and the community sector in addressing drivers of crime.<sup>53</sup>

Smart Justice for Young People, the Victorian youth justice advocacy coalition, has recently published a report advocating for the adoption of justice reinvestment as an approach to youth crime prevention in Victoria.<sup>54</sup> Jesuit Social Services supports the key recommendations for developing a justice reinvestment approach that are set out in this report.<sup>55</sup> These recommendations apply beyond the Victorian youth justice context and are relevant to justice approaches in all Australian jurisdictions.

## Social cohesion

### What is social cohesion?

While there is no conclusive definition of social cohesion in the literature, the term can be understood as referring to positive social relationships at all levels.<sup>56</sup> The United Nations describes a socially cohesive society as one in which diversity is respected and all groups have a sense of belonging, participation, inclusion, recognition and legitimacy.<sup>57</sup>

**Following an influential definition set out in the Scanlon Foundation's *Mapping Social Cohesion 2016* report, the social cohesion model can be understood to encompass five domains:**

- *Belonging*: Shared values, identification with Australia, trust
- *Social justice and equity*: Perceived adequacy of national policies facilitating economic opportunity, supporting people on low incomes and addressing the gap between high and low incomes
- *Participation*: Voluntary work, political and cooperative involvement
- *Acceptance and rejection, legitimacy*: Experience of discrimination, attitudes towards minorities and newcomers
- *Worth*: Life satisfaction and happiness, future expectations.

Markus, A 2016, 'Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation Surveys 2016', Scanlon Foundation, <[http://www.monash.edu/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/697748/mapping-social-cohesion-national-report-2016.pdf](http://www.monash.edu/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/697748/mapping-social-cohesion-national-report-2016.pdf)>, pp.11-12.

Neglecting any of these domains risks creating and enhancing feelings of isolation and rejection amongst migrant communities in Australia, which in turn risks increasing crime rates as explained below.

### Social cohesion in Australia

Australian attitudes towards multiculturalism are largely positive.<sup>58</sup> However, as the Scanlon Foundation reveals in its *Mapping Social Cohesion 2016* report, there has been a "consistent increase" in negative responses to questions related to cultural diversity, though these remain the views of a small minority.<sup>59</sup> Between 2015 and 2016, there has also been a marked upsurge in reported experiences of discrimination on the basis of skin colour, ethnicity or religion.<sup>60</sup>

Members of migrant groups have reported substantial disengagement from Australian society. Several overlapping factors contribute to this sense of disengagement, including trouble adapting to the Australian education system, an inability to find employment, a lack of supporting programs, poverty, the traumatic backgrounds of many migrants, and discrimination from the broader community.<sup>61</sup> Psychologically distressing pre-arrival experiences impact on migrants' and refugees' ability to connect with family and friends and to develop a sense of belonging in their new community.<sup>62</sup> Past experiences of corruption amongst and distrust towards authorities and organisations may make engaging with law enforcement agencies particularly challenging, and low literacy levels can lead to difficulty understanding new legal, social, economic and political structures.<sup>63</sup> Limited knowledge of the English language is a significant barrier to social integration for some recently arrived migrants.<sup>64</sup>

Looking at specific migrant groups, Arabic-speaking migrant youth have reported experiencing a heightened sense of marginalisation since 9/11, while African youth tend to be labelled as particularly problematic and incapable of integrating.<sup>65</sup> Direct experience of overt racism has been found to be a leading cause for the social withdrawal of migrant youths from an African or Arabic-speaking background.<sup>66</sup>

Participants in Jesuit Social Services' Settlement Program and African Visitation and Mentoring Program, which provides mentoring for African-Australians involved with the criminal justice system, have reported feeling discriminated against across multiple domains including engaging with police, accessing services, travelling via public transport, seeking employment and securing stable housing.

### How social cohesion could reduce crime by improving migrant settlement outcomes

Individuals who live in communities that experience high levels of social exclusion or low levels of social cohesion are at greater risk of becoming involved in crime.<sup>67</sup> By increasing the social engagement of migrants and reducing levels of discrimination against migrant groups in the broader community, social cohesion could reduce criminality within migrant communities.

Social cohesion results in social capital, the glue that binds those within a society together.<sup>68</sup> As a concept paper from the South African Department of Social Development explains, social cohesion has become globally recognised as an "essential ingredient of the social fabric of society, community and group life".<sup>69</sup> A cohesive society is well-placed to promote universal well-being, trust and a sense of belonging, and works against exclusion and marginalisation.<sup>70</sup> Social cohesion is particularly important in the context of migrant settlement issues due to its capacity to bind together people of diverse identities into an overarching national bond.<sup>71</sup>

Strategies aimed at building social cohesion should have a local focus. In this way, they can be effectively targeted to the needs of a specific community.<sup>72</sup> In addition, effective social cohesion strategies require community engagement in order to understand the issues particular to that community and to build on current strengths and resources. Community engagement includes the building of long-term partnerships with business, community groups, local agencies such as the police, and local governments.<sup>73</sup>

Increasing social cohesion in real terms requires that some measures or benchmarks for optimal social cohesion first be established. Such benchmarks could be based on measurable domains such as feelings of belonging, acceptance and rejection, legitimacy and worth. Outcomes must be capable of being evaluated and shared within and outside the relevant community.<sup>74</sup>

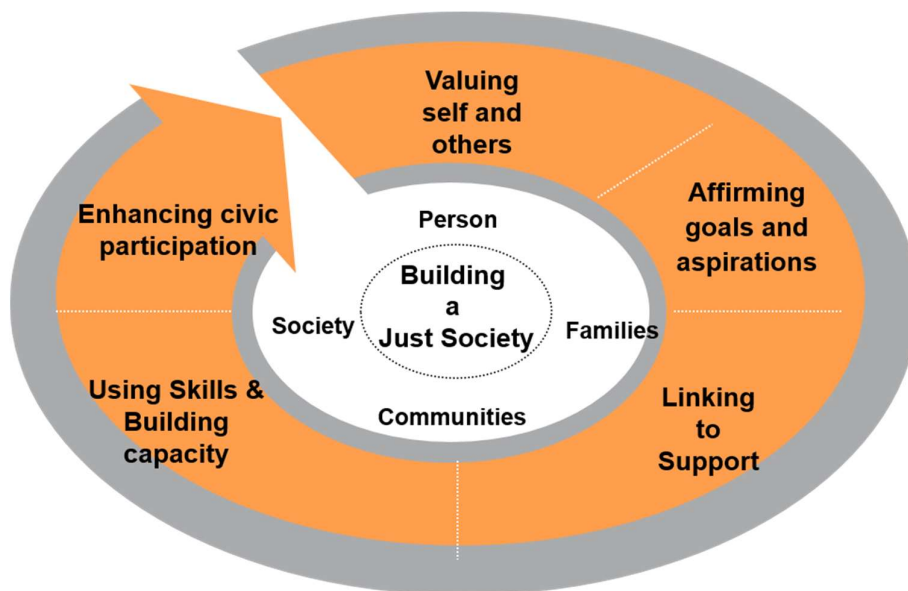
### How social cohesion strategies could be implemented in Australian communities

The Australian Human Rights Commission published a resource in 2015 aimed at supporting local governments to build socially cohesive communities. These could act as a guide for implementing social cohesion strategies in Australian communities. The Commission highlighted five elements that it considers necessary for building social cohesion:

- Ensuring local governments are committed to building social cohesion and capable of implementing the policies and processes to support this
- Engaging the community to understand the issues, facilitating an inclusive and representative cross-section of views, and ensuring sufficient understanding of the community and potential tensions that could undermine social cohesion
- Building long-term partnerships across a range of sectors including business, community groups, the police, other local agencies and local governments in order to identify and respond to issues of concern to the community
- Taking place-based action targeted at meeting the community's specific needs while building the capacity of the community to help plan and implement activities
- Developing a framework for measuring and evaluating the appropriateness, effectiveness and efficiency of social cohesion efforts, and sharing outcomes.<sup>75</sup>

Jesuit Social Services has developed a practice framework, **Our Way of Working**, which works to improve outcomes at the personal and community levels within participating communities. This practice framework underpins all Jesuit Social Services' work with individuals and communities. It speaks to the inherent dignity of each individual and their capacity to envisage and achieve a more positive and engaged future, no matter the current circumstances. It articulates the dynamic interplay of five components, which work together to help people reach their full potential and become active participants in their communities:

- **valuing self and others** by fostering respect so that our participants can further develop the capacity to establish and maintain meaningful and respectful relationships
- **affirming goals and aspirations** through engendering hope and the establishment of supportive and mutually participatory relationships
- **linking individuals and communities with support** to realise their potential by working with them to remove the barriers they face in achieving social and economic inclusion
- **using skills and building capacity** through the delivery of education, training and therapeutic programs for individuals, and strengthening initiatives at a community level that promote skill development and assist in accessing employment and other pathways
- **enhancing civic participation** through sustained involvement, and partnering with others to develop communities of justice and increase access to opportunities.





**Examples of initiatives that have embraced aspects of the Australian Human Rights Commission's 'good practice' framework include:**

- New South Wales: The City of Sydney's adoption and use of a Community Wellbeing Indicators framework to measure societal wellbeing and resilience
- Queensland: Logan City Council's Pacific Islander Community Engagement Project in partnership with Queensland Rugby Union, which aims to improve school attendance and use sport to build meaningful and more cohesive relationships between Pacific Islander communities and other cultural groups
- Victoria: Hindmarsh Shire's collaboration with a local employer to increase access to jobs for the Karen community of refugees from Myanmar.

*Australian Human Rights Commission 2015, 'Building Social Cohesion in our Communities: A Summary of the Online Resource for Local Government', viewed 23 August 2017, <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB\\_Building\\_social\\_cohesion\\_A4\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB_Building_social_cohesion_A4_brochure.pdf)>.*

*City of Sydney 2016, 'Community Wellbeing Indicators: Understanding Our Changing Communities', viewed 23 August 2017, <[http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/264887/Community-Wellbeing-Indicators-Report-2016.pdf](http://www.cityofsydney.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0008/264887/Community-Wellbeing-Indicators-Report-2016.pdf)>.*

*Logan City Council 2014, 'Queensland Rugby Union Partners with Logan City', viewed 23 August 2017, <<http://www.logan.qld.gov.au/community-support/city-of-choice/news-and-achievements/city-of-choice-news/queensland-rugby-union-partners-with-logan-city>>.*

*Simons, M 2017, The Karen Road to Nhill, viewed 26 July 2017, <<http://www.sbs.com.au/topics/life/culture/feature/karen-road-nhill>>.*

## **Lessons to be drawn from the three approaches**

Traditional approaches to lowering crime rates within Australian jurisdictions fail to effectively address entrenched disadvantage. Each of the three strategies set out in this paper proposes methods of improving upon current approaches. More useful for shaping future policy than any one of these strategies by itself, however, are the factors common to all three.

There are significant areas of overlap between the solutions proposed in literature concerning place-based approaches to tackling disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion. Justice reinvestment and social cohesion strategies are place-based approaches, and as such will directly align with efforts to address place-based disadvantage in specified communities. All three approaches press for solutions that:

- are preventative
- are targeted at geographically-defined communities
- engage with and build capacity in local communities
- are long-term
- are data-driven
- facilitate multi-sector involvement
- build local social cohesion.

We believe policies aimed at enhancing community safety in Australian jurisdictions must take account of the intersecting lessons emerging from literature regarding place-based approaches to tackling

disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion. By drawing on these common factors, state and territory governments can implement evidence-based and flexible policy solutions to crime in local communities.

**Principle 1: Preventative approaches to addressing crime should be prioritised.**

Place-based approaches to addressing disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion all underscore the utility of implementing preventative approaches to crime. A strong society invests its efforts and resources first and foremost in preventing crime. The underlying causes of crime, which include social disadvantage and disengagement, must be addressed before they have time to escalate into crises.

**Principle 2: Localised approaches to addressing crime should be embraced.**

Geographically concentrated social disadvantage and disengagement are most effectively addressed by adopting place-based approaches. Strategies that target the complex and overlapping social issues specific to a geographically defined community, and that draw upon local skillsets and resources, are best placed to provide successful long-term solutions.

**Principle 3: Capacity-building and engagement with affected communities should be prioritised.**

Place-based approaches to addressing disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion all underscore the importance of empowering communities to tackle the local drivers of criminality. The most effective place-based solutions are those in which the affected community is deeply invested. Policies must therefore ensure that local community stakeholders are engaged and given ownership of the process. Capacity-building within the affected community to enable local community members to meet their own needs is key.

**Principle 4: Long-term strategies for addressing crime should be embraced.**

In order to maximise local community engagement and produce real results, policies aimed at tackling social disadvantage and disengagement must have long-term timeframes. This enables the building and maintenance of effective long-term partnerships with community members and groups. A long-term political and administrative commitment also ensures that sufficient time is allocated to allow for the gradual process of changing the behaviour of and gaining commitment from individuals within the community. Implementing policies over shorter timeframes risks seeing funding removed from a project before measurable outcomes are achieved.

**Principle 5: Investment into the data collection capacity of states and territories is required.**

Effective solutions to addressing localised factors that cause criminality must be evidence-based. They are therefore reliant on available and accessible data regarding the specific communities that are the subject of place-based policies. Investment into the data collection capacity of states and territories is necessary in order to facilitate planning at the state and federal levels, and to increase the availability of data for local communities. Data is a crucial prerequisite for identifying the communities most in need of efforts to redress social disadvantage and disengagement. It is also needed for the purpose of accurately measuring outcomes of policies and thereby ensuring their progress and accountability. Outcomes should be capable of being shared within and between communities.

**Principle 6: Multi-sector involvement in approaches addressing crime should be embraced.**

Place-based approaches to addressing disadvantage, justice reinvestment and social cohesion all highlight the need to ensure multi-sector involvement in strategies aimed at tackling social

disadvantage and disengagement. Collaborative whole-of-government approaches that allow for devolved and decentralised decision-making (while holding federal and state governments to account for their policy areas) are key to facilitating meaningful community engagement and ownership.

### Principle 7: The building of social cohesion in Australian communities should be prioritised.

Addressing the criminal behaviour of disengaged members of migrant communities falls squarely within the overlapping ambit of the three approaches. The optimal solution for these communities will therefore embrace aspects of all three solutions. For example, justice reinvestment programs targeted at the needs of specific communities could go far in addressing underlying drivers of crime, such as social disadvantage. However, addressing social disengagement among recently arrived migrant groups ultimately requires the building of social cohesion.

## References

- 
- <sup>1</sup> Vinson, T & Rawsthorne, M 2013, *Lifting Our Gaze*, Common Ground Publishing, p.5.
- <sup>2</sup> Victorian Council of Social Service 2016, 'Communities Taking Power: Using Place-Based Approaches to Deliver Local Solutions to Poverty and Disadvantage', pp.7-9.
- <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, pp.5-6.
- <sup>4</sup> Vinson, T, and Rawsthorne, M 2013, *Lifting Our Gaze*, Common Ground Publishing.
- <sup>5</sup> Victorian Council of Social Service 2016, 'Communities Taking Power: Using Place-Based Approaches to Deliver Local Solutions to Poverty and Disadvantage', pp.7-10.
- <sup>6</sup> Brotherhood of St Laurence 2015, 'What Next For Place-Based Initiatives to Tackle Disadvantage? A Practical Look at Recent Lessons for Australian Public Policy', <<http://youthlaw.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/What-Next-for-Place-Based-Initiatives-to-Tackle-Disadvantage.pdf>>, p.3.
- <sup>7</sup> Victorian Council of Social Service 2016, 'Communities Taking Power: Using Place-Based Approaches to Deliver Local Solutions to Poverty and Disadvantage', p.10.
- <sup>8</sup> *Ibid.*, p.6.
- <sup>9</sup> Brotherhood of St Laurence 2015, 'What Next For Place-Based Initiatives to Tackle Disadvantage? A Practical Look at Recent Lessons for Australian Public Policy' <<http://youthlaw.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/What-Next-for-Place-Based-Initiatives-to-Tackle-Disadvantage.pdf>>, p.4.
- <sup>10</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>11</sup> Vinson, T 2010, *Moving From the Edge: Stories of Achieving Greater Social Inclusion*, p.10.
- <sup>12</sup> Vinson, T & Rawsthorne, M 2015, *Dropping Off the Edge 2015: Persistent Communal Disadvantage in Australia: Summary*.
- <sup>13</sup> Vinson, T. and Rowsthorne, M. (2015). *Dropping of the edge 2015*. Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia, Richmond and Curtin.
- <sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>16</sup> Vinson, T & Rawsthorne, M 2015, *Dropping Off the Edge 2015: Persistent Communal Disadvantage in Australia: Summary*, p.5.
- <sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, p.6.
- <sup>19</sup> Vinson, T 2007, *Dropping Off the Edge: The Distribution of Disadvantage in Australia*, Jesuit Social Services and Catholic Social Services Australia, <<http://k46cs13u1432b9asz49wnhcx-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/DOTE2007.pdf>>.
- <sup>20</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>21</sup> Brotherhood of St Laurence 2015, 'What Next For Place-Based Initiatives to Tackle Disadvantage? A Practical Look at Recent Lessons for Australian Public Policy' <<http://youthlaw.asn.au/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/What-Next-for-Place-Based-Initiatives-to-Tackle-Disadvantage.pdf>>, p.3.
- <sup>22</sup> Australian Social Inclusion Board 2011, 'Governance Models for Location Based Initiatives', Australian Government, <<http://communitydoor.org.au/sites/default/files/Governance%20Models%20for%20Location%20Based%20Initiatives.pdf>>, p.21.
- <sup>23</sup> Vinson, T & Rawsthorne, M 2015, *Dropping Off the Edge 2015: Persistent Communal Disadvantage in Australia: Summary*, p.3.
- <sup>24</sup> Australian Public Service Commission 2007, 'Tackling Wicked Problems: A Public Policy Perspective', Commonwealth of Australia, <[http://www.apsc.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/6386/wickedproblems.pdf](http://www.apsc.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/6386/wickedproblems.pdf)>, pp.1-4.
- <sup>25</sup> *Ibid.*, p.20.
- <sup>26</sup> Australian Public Service Commission 2007, 'Tackling Wicked Problems: A Public Policy Perspective', Commonwealth of Australia, <[http://www.apsc.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/6386/wickedproblems.pdf](http://www.apsc.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/6386/wickedproblems.pdf)>, pp.20 & 27.
- <sup>27</sup> Lanning, T, Loader, I & Mui, R 2011, 'Redesigning Justice: Reducing Crime Through Justice Reinvestment', 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Institute for Public Policy Research, viewed 15 March 2017, <<http://www.ippr.org/publications/redesigning-justice-reducing-crime-through-justice-reinvestment>>, p.4.
- <sup>28</sup> *Ibid.*
- <sup>29</sup> Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', p.136.
- <sup>30</sup> Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, p.68.

- <sup>31</sup> House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs 2011, 'Doing Time – Time For Doing: Indigenous Youth in the Criminal Justice System', <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House\\_of\\_Representatives\\_Committees?url=atsia/sentencing/report.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=atsia/sentencing/report.htm)>, p.317; Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, pp.43-7 & 68.
- <sup>32</sup> Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, p.81.
- <sup>33</sup> Lanning, T, Loader, I & Mui, R 2011, 'Redesigning Justice: Reducing Crime Through Justice Reinvestment', 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Institute for Public Policy Research, viewed 15 March 2017, <<http://www.ippr.org/publications/redesigning-justice-reducing-crime-through-justice-reinvestment>>, p.4.
- <sup>34</sup> Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, pp.57-9.
- <sup>35</sup> Ibid., p.137.
- <sup>36</sup> Lanning, T, Loader, I & Mui, R 2011, 'Redesigning Justice: Reducing Crime Through Justice Reinvestment', 2<sup>nd</sup> ed, Institute for Public Policy Research, viewed 15 March 2017, <<http://www.ippr.org/publications/redesigning-justice-reducing-crime-through-justice-reinvestment>>, p.4.
- <sup>37</sup> The Pew Charitable Trusts 2016, '33 States Reform Criminal Justice Policies Through Justice Reinvestment', Fact Sheet, <[http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2016/11/33\\_states\\_reform\\_criminal\\_justice\\_policies\\_through\\_justice\\_reinvestment.pdf](http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2016/11/33_states_reform_criminal_justice_policies_through_justice_reinvestment.pdf)>, p.1; Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', p.8.
- <sup>38</sup> The Pew Charitable Trusts 2016, '33 States Reform Criminal Justice Policies Through Justice Reinvestment', Fact Sheet, <[http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2016/11/33\\_states\\_reform\\_criminal\\_justice\\_policies\\_through\\_justice\\_reinvestment.pdf](http://www.pewtrusts.org/~media/assets/2016/11/33_states_reform_criminal_justice_policies_through_justice_reinvestment.pdf)>, p.1.
- <sup>39</sup> Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', p.137.
- <sup>40</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>41</sup> Smart Justice 2015, 'Justice Reinvestment: Investing in Communities not Prisons', <[http://www.smartjustice.org.au/resources/SJ\\_JusticeReinvest.pdf](http://www.smartjustice.org.au/resources/SJ_JusticeReinvest.pdf)>, p.2.
- <sup>42</sup> House of Representatives Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs 2011, 'Doing Time – Time For Doing: Indigenous Youth in the Criminal Justice System', <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House\\_of\\_Representatives\\_Committees?url=atsia/sentencing/report.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=atsia/sentencing/report.htm)>, p.321.
- <sup>43</sup> Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, p.xi.
- <sup>44</sup> Parliament of Australia 2017, Hansard transcript - Senate on 17/10/2017, viewed 18 October 2017, <[http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/chamber/hansards/7fdeec09-88ec-4d59-8472-4ddb33a62d38/toc\\_pdf/Senate\\_2017\\_10\\_17\\_5605.pdf;fileType=application%2Fpdf](http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/download/chamber/hansards/7fdeec09-88ec-4d59-8472-4ddb33a62d38/toc_pdf/Senate_2017_10_17_5605.pdf;fileType=application%2Fpdf)>, pp.60-63.
- <sup>45</sup> Labor 2017, Closing the Gap: Justice Targets for Safer, Stronger Communities, viewed 12 July 2017, <<http://www.alp.org.au/closingthegapjusticetargets>>; The Greens 2017, Justice Reinvestment, viewed 12 July 2017, <<https://greens.org.au/justice-reinvestment>>.
- <sup>46</sup> Labor 2017, Closing the Gap: Justice Targets for Safer, Stronger Communities, viewed 12 July 2017, <<http://www.alp.org.au/closingthegapjusticetargets>>.
- <sup>47</sup> Dingwall, D 2017, 'Govt Adopts Justice Trial to Reduce Offending Rate Among Indigenous People', *The Age*, 25 April, viewed 3 May 2017, <<http://www.theage.com.au/act-news/govt-adopts-justice-trial-to-reduce-offending-rate-among-indigenous-people-20170425-gvrvb1.html>>.
- <sup>48</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>49</sup> Attorney-General's Department 2017, Justice Reinvestment, Government of South Australia, viewed 24 May 2017, <<https://www.agd.sa.gov.au/projects-and-consultations/justice-reinvestment>>.
- <sup>50</sup> McInerney, M 2017, 'The Small Town Trying to Shift Spending from Punishment to Prevention', *The Guardian*, 23 February, viewed 24 May 2017, <<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/feb/23/the-small-town-trying-to-shift-spending-from-punishment-to-prevention>>.
- <sup>51</sup> Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', pp.137-8.
- <sup>52</sup> Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee 2013, 'Value of a Justice Reinvestment Approach to Criminal Justice in Australia', Parliament of Australia, <[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal\\_and\\_Constitutional\\_Affairs/Completed\\_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Legal_and_Constitutional_Affairs/Completed_inquiries/2010-13/justicereinvestment/report/index)>, p.91.
- <sup>53</sup> Victorian Ombudsman 2015, 'Investigation into the Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Prisoners in Victoria', pp.143-4.
- <sup>54</sup> YouthLaw 2017, 'Investing in Communities Not Prisons: Exploring the Application of Justice Reinvestment in the Victorian Context'.
- <sup>55</sup> Ibid., p.9.
- <sup>56</sup> Cloete, P & Kotze, F 2009, 'Concept Paper on Social Cohesion/Inclusion in Local Integrated Development Plans', Department of Social Development, Republic of South Africa, <<https://www.presidentsaward.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Social-Cohesion-Final-Draftcorrect-IDP-DSD.pdf>>, p.4.
- <sup>57</sup> United Nations 2007, E-Dialogue 'Creating An Inclusive Society: Practical Strategies to Promote Social Integration', <[http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/sib/inclusive\\_society/social%20cohesion.html](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/sib/inclusive_society/social%20cohesion.html)>.
- <sup>58</sup> Markus, A 2016, 'Mapping Social Cohesion: The Scanlon Foundation Surveys 2016', Scanlon Foundation, <[http://www.monash.edu/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/697748/mapping-social-cohesion-national-report-2016.pdf](http://www.monash.edu/__data/assets/pdf_file/0005/697748/mapping-social-cohesion-national-report-2016.pdf)>, p.4.
- <sup>59</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>60</sup> Ibid.
- <sup>61</sup> Akerman, T 2016, 'Inequality Blamed for African Youth Crime', *The Australian*, 9 November, viewed 5 July 2017, <<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/immigration/inequality-blamed-for-african-youth-crime/news-story/b8cb51f8d2ddd2fda05822961b6b3da0>>.

- 
- <sup>62</sup> Correa-Velez, I & Gifford, S. & Barnett, A 2010, 'Longing to Belong: Social Inclusion and Wellbeing Among Youth with Refugee Backgrounds in the First Three Years in Melbourne, Australia', *Social Science and Medicine*, vol.71, pp.1399-1408.
- <sup>63</sup> Olliff, L, Mohamed, F 2007, 'Settling In: How do Refugee Young People Fair Within Australia's Settlement System?', Centre for Multicultural Youth.
- <sup>64</sup> Mansouri, F & Skrbis, Z 2013, 'Migrant Youth in Australia: Social Networks, Belonging and Active Citizenship (Summary Report)', Deakin University, <[http://www.deakin.edu.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0020/91307/Migrant-Youth-in-Australia.pdf](http://www.deakin.edu.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/91307/Migrant-Youth-in-Australia.pdf)>, p.10.
- <sup>65</sup> Ibid., p.5.
- <sup>66</sup> Ibid., p.14.
- <sup>67</sup> Australian Institute of Criminology 2015, 'Crime Prevention Approaches, Theory and Mechanisms', Australian Government, <[http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rpp/100-120/rpp120/07\\_approaches.html](http://aic.gov.au/publications/current%20series/rpp/100-120/rpp120/07_approaches.html)>.
- <sup>68</sup> Cloete, P & Kotze, F 2009, 'Concept Paper on Social Cohesion/Inclusion in Local Integrated Development Plans', Department of Social Development, Republic of South Africa, < <https://www.presidentsaward.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Social-Cohesion-Final-Draftcorrect-IDP-DSD.pdf>>, p.4.
- <sup>69</sup> Ibid., p.6.
- <sup>70</sup> OECD 2011, 'Perspectives on Global Development 2012: Social Cohesion in a Shifting World: Executive Summary', <<http://www.oecd.org/site/devpgd2012/49067839.pdf>>, p.7.
- <sup>71</sup> Cloete, P & Kotze, F 2009, 'Concept Paper on Social Cohesion/Inclusion in Local Integrated Development Plans', Department of Social Development, Republic of South Africa, < <https://www.presidentsaward.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Social-Cohesion-Final-Draftcorrect-IDP-DSD.pdf>>, p.7.
- <sup>72</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission 2015, 'Building Social Cohesion in our Communities: A Summary of the Online Resource for Local Government', <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB\\_Building\\_social\\_cohesion\\_A4\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB_Building_social_cohesion_A4_brochure.pdf)>, p.6.
- <sup>73</sup> Ibid., pp.4-5.
- <sup>74</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission 2015, 'Building Social Cohesion in our Communities: A Summary of the Online Resource for Local Government', <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB\\_Building\\_social\\_cohesion\\_A4\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB_Building_social_cohesion_A4_brochure.pdf)>, p.3.
- <sup>75</sup> Australian Human Rights Commission 2015, 'Building Social Cohesion in our Communities: A Summary of the Online Resource for Local Government', <[https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB\\_Building\\_social\\_cohesion\\_A4\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/document/publication/WEB_Building_social_cohesion_A4_brochure.pdf)>.