1. In 2009, Queensland Corrective Services engaged the services of Professor Stephen Smallbone, from Griffith University’s School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, to independently evaluate the effectiveness of its sex offender treatment programs with particular reference to their impact on recidivism rates.
2. The evaluation considered the recidivism data of 409 adult males who had served a term of imprisonment in Queensland for a sexual offence and had been discharged between 4 April 2005 and 30 June 2008. Of the 409 offenders, 158 had participated in a sexual offending program in custody and 251 had not.
3. The evaluation report found that all types of recidivism were lower for treated offenders than for untreated offenders, including sexual and non sexual violent offences. Treated offenders were less likely to reoffend in any way.
4. The evaluation report, *Outcomes of Queensland Corrective Services Sexual Offender Treatment Programs*, documents the findings from the evaluation and makes six recommendations for the continuation or enhancement of program practices.
5. The six recommendations are aimed at:
* strengthening the identification and selection of offenders for participation in programs;
* enhancing assessment processes;
* ensuring that offenders are allocated to the right intensity program;
* engaging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders in treatment;
* improving accessibility of post release supervision for both treated and non treated sexual offenders; and
* validating recidivism outcomes for offenders included in the present evaluation.
1. The Queensland Government accepts the six recommendations.
2. Cabinet endorsed the release of the Report - *Outcomes of Queensland Corrective Services Sexual Offender Treatment Programs.*
3. Cabinet endorsed the Queensland Government response to the Report.
4. *Attachments*
* [The evaluation report *Outcomes of Queensland Corrective Services Sexual Offender Treatment Programs*](Attachments/Final%20Report.pdf)
* [Government Response to the evaluation report *Outcomes of Queensland Corrective Services Sexual Offender Treatment Programs*](Attachments/Govt%20Response%20to%20Final%20Report.pdf)