

Justice and Community Safety Directorate

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Experience Court Reports

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The ACT Government is seeking feedback from the community about a model for a new type of court report for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. The reports will be called "Ngattai" reports (pronounced "Nartay"), which means "listen" in Ngunnawal language. This name has been gifted by the United Ngunnawal Elders Council. The purpose of this name is to highlight the process of the justice system listening to the stories and lived experiences of offenders.

On 26 June 2018, [Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Experience Court Consultation Report](#) prepared by Legal Aid was released by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate. In the coming weeks, further material will be provided as part of a formal consultation process to help guide the community and stakeholders in their comments on the court report. The directorate is releasing the consultation report before launching the consultation to give the community and stakeholders more time to consider the report and identify the best model for the ACT.

The proposed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander experience court reports will be prepared to assist courts in sentencing for criminal offences. The reports will include information about the background and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander offenders, and culturally appropriate rehabilitation options.

It is well known that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are over-represented at every stage of the criminal justice system. One purpose of the reports is to provide the sentencing court with information linking the experiences of the individual offender to the collective experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that have resulted in over-incarceration. A second purpose of the reports is to develop and present to the court practical options for culturally appropriate community-based rehabilitation.

Please send any initial feedback to:

Email: JACSLPP@act.gov.au

Post: Ngattai Court Reports Trial - Submissions

Legislation, Policy and Programs

Justice and Community Safety Directorate

ACT Government

GPO Box 158