



Stronger sentencing

Tough and smart justice for safer communities

The NSW Government has legislated to make the community safer by holding offenders to account and reducing reoffending.

What do the changes mean?

Improved community sentences

- The Intensive Correction Order (ICO) has been strengthened and replaces suspended sentences and home detention orders. Suspended sentences are ineffective as they do not punish an offender unless they commit a further crime or breach their order.
- Supervision by Community Corrections is a mandatory condition for all ICOs. Offenders can also be subject to home detention, electronic monitoring, curfews or community service work.
- ICOs can only be issued if the court is satisfied that the community will be safe.
- ICOs are not available for offenders guilty of murder, manslaughter, sexual assault, any sexual offence against a child, offences involving the discharge of a firearm, terrorism offences or organised crime.
- Community Correction Orders (CCOs) and Conditional Release Orders (CROs) have replaced other community-based sentences.
- There is a presumption that domestic violence (DV) offenders either receive a supervised community-based sentence or are imprisoned. If a DV offender is sentenced to an ICO with a home detention condition, they cannot live with their victim.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Intensive Correction Order
Community Correction Order (CCO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Service Orders • Good Behaviour Bonds
Conditional Release Order (CRO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-Conviction Bonds

Increased supervision

- Evidence shows that combining supervision with rehabilitation is the most effective way of reducing reoffending among offenders at risk of returning to crime.
- Courts now have better information about offenders at the time of sentencing. This is assisting courts to tailor sentences and impose conditions that hold offenders to account and address their risk of reoffending.
- Community Corrections Officers have clear authority to deal with breaches of conditions in real time.
- New guidelines, based on international best practice, have been implemented to improve supervision.

These changes are part of a package of reforms announced in May 2017 to reduce reoffending, improve community safety and support victims.

Tough and smart justice – safer communities

Early Appropriate Guilty Pleas	Sentencing	Parole	Management of high risk sex and violent offenders
			

Strengthened orders	Replaces
Intensive Correction Order (ICO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home Detention Orders • Suspended Sentences