MINISTER FOR CORRECTIONAL SERVICES

YOUTH BOOT CAMPS A STEP CLOSER
February 19th, 2013

Consultation with non government organisations regarding youth boot camps will commence in Darwin this week.

The Youth Boot Camps are part of the Mills Government's Law and Order Policy that will provide firm but fair rehabilitation for young offenders. This is the policy the Country Liberals took to the last general election.

Minister for Correctional Services John Elferink said young offenders need to take responsibility for their actions but they also need to be supported to be able to turn their lives around.

"To assist this process, two models of youth boot camps will be trialled, one aimed at young people at risk of offending, and the other at those young offenders with entrenched offending behaviours," Mr Elferink said.

"The camps will focus on structure, discipline and physical activity; allow for personal development and building self esteem; address offending behaviour; and provide ongoing support for the young people and their families.

"Consultation has already been held with non government organisations in Alice Springs and further consultation will be held in Darwin on Friday. The feedback gathered will be used to set the parameters of the pilot Youth Boot Camps.

"The tender process will begin in early March and it’s anticipated the trial boot camps will start operation in May 2013.

"The Country Liberals are committed to addressing the issue of juvenile crime as well as the contributing factors to make the Territory a safer place for families," Mr Elferink said.

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