Media Release

John Elferink
Minister for Correctional Services

Gearing up for the rollout of electronic monitoring of offenders

20 August 2014

The first round of Corrections staff are this week being trained up in the use of electronic monitoring technology ahead of its rollout next month.

The technology will be used to locate and track an offender’s movements and keep crime down in the community.

Minister for Correctional Services John Elferink said low-security prisoners at the Barkly Work Camp are expected to be fitted with the technology next month.

“Electronic monitoring technology is able to quickly alert agencies when the offender is in an unauthorised location,” Mr Elferink said.

“This allows us to keep a close eye on offenders while they transition back into the community towards the end of their sentence.

“This will also enable more prisoners to begin employment or volunteer work and participate in the Country Liberals Government’s Sentenced to a Job program.

“We are able to track an offender’s movements 24 hours a day, without the need for costly routine check-ups by Police and Correctional Services’ staff.

“The technology has the potential to create significant long-term savings in the corrections system, with tracking technology costing as little as $45 per person per day compared to more than $200 to keep an offender in a Northern Territory prison.

“Electronic monitoring is another tool in our suite of measures to tackle crime in the Northern Territory."
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