



Republic of South Africa
Judicial Inspectorate for Correctional Services

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STAKEHOLDER SUBMISSION: DCS STRATEGIC PLAN AND BUDGET 2012/2013

The Judicial Inspectorate wishes to express its delight at the manner in which it seems that the Department of Correctional Services has comprehensively aimed to include on its agenda in the Strategic Plan¹ for 2012/13, the appropriate protection of human rights of inmates, and its relationship with the Judicial Inspectorate. The Department also makes particular mention of the special categories of inmates, such as children, women, mentally ill inmates, and inmates with disabilities. The Department, however, in the Strategic Plan, noted that the above concerns cuts across budget programmes, so there is no clear-cut or measurable targets on which to assess performance in the area of children, women, and inmates with disabilities.

The Inspectorate supports the Department's ongoing efforts to manage overcrowding, its commitment to improving the remand detention system, and in particular the innovative introduction of halfway houses.

Of particular interest, in the analysis of the Departments expenditure estimates for 2012/13, the following should be highlighted:

- a. the very low allocation of the 2012/2013 budget² for rehabilitation (R 961,027,000), care (R 1,555,966,000) and social reintegration (R 733,104,000) as individual budget programmes which collectively only constitute 14% of the overall budget, whereas,

¹ Department of Correctional Services Strategic Plan 2012/13-2016/17

² Department of Correctional Services Annual Performance Plan 2012/2013

number of natural deaths within correctional centres, and taking into consideration the very nature of incarceration and its effects on physical and mental well-being, a critical focus should be placed on adequate healthcare as the most fundamental step to successful rehabilitation of inmates.

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