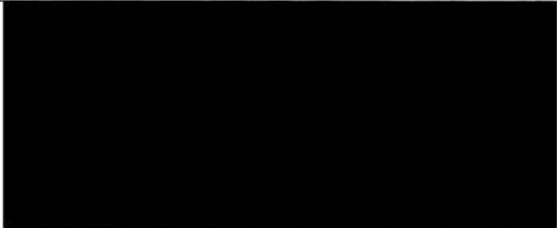


**IN THE MATTER OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION  
INTO FAMILY VIOLENCE**

**ATTACHMENT AR-12 TO STATEMENT OF ANDREW REAPER**

Date of document: 17 July 2015  
Filed on behalf of: the Applicant  
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This is the attachment marked '**AR-12**' produced and shown to **ANDREW REAPER** at the time of signing his Statement on 17 July 2015.

Before me: ...



**An Australian Legal Practitioner within  
the meaning of the Legal Profession Uniform Law (Victoria)**

Attachment AR-12

# Corrections Victoria Intervention Accreditation

## Intervention Accreditation Information

### Introduction

Corrections Victoria (CV) has a commitment to enhance public safety and reduce crime through the effective administration of prison sentences and the enforcement of community correction orders. A critical means by which this commitment is achieved is through its investment in Offending Behaviour Programs (OBP), targeting offence specific and offence related factors that influence offending behaviour.

CV delivers evidence based offender centric rehabilitation pathways within the corrections system that are responsive to the risk and needs of all offenders. OBP, a statewide service across prisons and community corrections (CCS), aims to reduce the risk of reoffending and maximise community safety through the provision of evidence based, responsive and integrated interventions that balance the interface between best practice and operational service demands.

### CV Intervention Accreditation

The CV Intervention Accreditation Model (CVIAM) was developed to establish minimum standards for all interventions delivered across the Victorian justice system, thereby ensuring the ongoing integrity of programs by certifying their alignment with standards that represent best practice in the forensic environment. The objective of intervention accreditation is to ensure that all programs delivered by CV:

- Inspire confidence in the CV rehabilitation effort
- Maximise opportunities for offenders to achieve positive behaviour change and reduce their risk of reoffending as part of their successful transition and reintegration into the community
- Adhere to a minimum standard of service integrity and ongoing quality assurance process
- Respond to the special needs of prisoners and offenders.

### Accreditation Criteria

Intervention accreditation standards constitute a series of criteria against which each intervention delivered within the Victorian justice system are assessed. CV selected nine accreditation criteria endorsed by the Corrective Services Administrator's Council (CSAC) to accredit CV interventions.

Table 1: Corrections Victoria Intervention Accreditation Criteria

Criteria	Description	Accreditation Requirements
		<b><u>Clinical Panel</u></b>
		<i>To meet this criterion the Panel will endorse the following elements of the intervention design:</i>
<b>Clear model of change backed by research evidence</b>	The intervention must be based on an explicit model of change to address criminogenic needs evidenced by peer publications.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theoretical model of change on which the intervention is based</li> <li>• Evidence base supporting this model of change</li> <li>• Criminogenic needs and dynamic risk factors targeted by the intervention</li> <li>• Measurable goals and expected outcomes</li> </ul>

Criteria	Description	Accreditation Requirements
<b>Selection of offenders</b>	The target cohort of the intervention is clearly specified, including the referral pathway to access the intervention.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Define the target group in terms of risk of reoffending</li> <li>Identify the tools to be used in determining intervention suitability / eligibility, including contribution to the selection of offenders</li> </ul>
<b>Targeting dynamic risk factors</b>	The intervention facilitates the development of key skills associated with reducing the risk of reoffending and addresses dynamic risk factors evidenced to be associated with reoffending.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dynamic risk factors to be targeted and how these collectively are evidenced to reduce the risk of reoffending</li> <li>The domains of skills development which will be targeted by the intervention and evidence supporting the association between these domains and offending behaviour</li> <li>How the targeted dynamic risk factors will be addressed by the intervention (directly / indirectly)</li> <li>Psychometric assessment tools that will be utilised to measure short term change in dynamic risk factors and skill development</li> </ul>
<b>Responsivity / effective methodology</b>	Methods used in the delivery of the intervention are documented to be effective in addressing dynamic risk factors and reducing reoffending.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Specific tools to identify learning styles and responsivity areas</li> <li>Activities, materials and aids used in the delivery of the intervention and how these materials / aids support the delivery methods</li> <li>The appropriateness and capacity of the program to be modified to meet participants specific needs</li> <li>How the integrity and cohesiveness of the program is maintained during the adaptation of the intervention to particular cohorts and learning styles</li> </ul>
<b>Sequencing, intensity &amp; duration</b>	The intervention demonstrates an appropriate intensity and duration relative to the stipulated goals and in accordance with the risk/need principles and is cohesive in its sequence of delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The length of the intervention (number of sessions and hours) and the link between program duration, targets and objectives of the intervention</li> <li>How the intensity of the intervention meets / aligns with the eligibility criteria for participation</li> </ul>
<b>Engagement &amp; motivation</b>	The intervention maximises engagement of its participants and includes methods to sustain motivation across its duration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Methods used to assess, generate and maintain motivation and engagement of participants throughout the duration of the intervention and the evidence base for supporting the use of these methods</li> <li>Processes for identification of treatment readiness</li> <li>Processes around exiting offenders from the intervention</li> </ul>
<b>Continuity of programs and services</b>	The intervention aligns with the CV Offender Management Framework and can be integrated within offender /prisoner case management and/or sentence planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stipulated privacy / confidentiality requirements of the intervention</li> </ul>
<b>Intervention integrity</b>	The implementation of the intervention includes provision for the monitoring of its delivery to ensure the maintenance of the integrity and standards of service delivery.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Audit protocols for monitoring compliance with the intervention manuals, eligibility criteria, intervention structure and content</li> <li>Protocols around staff selection for the delivery of the intervention, including minimum expertise, skills and knowledge required</li> <li>Management and supervision arrangements for intervention facilitators</li> <li>Minimum standards for the resources and facilities required to deliver the intervention, including provisions for dealing with facilitation changes during the intervention</li> </ul>
<b>Ongoing evaluation</b>	The implementation of the intervention includes an evaluation strategy for monitoring short, medium and long term intervention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An evaluation framework including program logic, for monitoring the ongoing operation and delivery of the program to inform ongoing service and quality improvement, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes in dynamic risk factors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Recidivism rates</li> <li>○ Associations between intervention completion / non-completion &amp; recidivism</li> </ul>
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## Accreditation Process

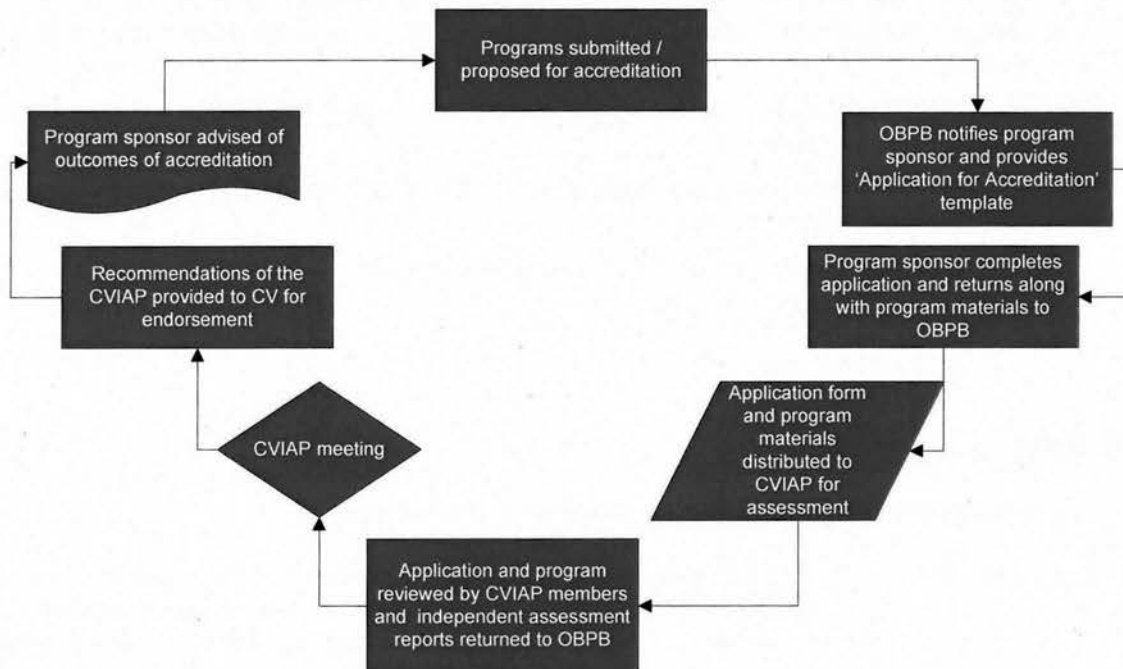
Accreditation of CV interventions centres on endorsement provided by an appointed clinical panel. The Intervention Accreditation Panel – Clinical (CVIAP) focuses on the endorsement of program design, in particular the evidence base for the development of the intervention and best practice clinical standards for delivery. The CVIAP is comprised of community professionals with expertise in forensic mental health, disability and the justice system, and representatives from CV and Justice Health. CVIAP review interventions against accreditation criteria and provide the Deputy Commissioner, Offender Management, with a recommendation on the status of the program.

The CVIAP meets quarterly. Review activities of the CVIAP include:

- Programs presenting for accreditation prior to implementation
- Programs currently delivered across the correctional system
- Programs that have completed recommended amendments.

Accreditation is a 12-week process that commences with the identification of a program to be reviewed by the CVIAP and concludes with communication of the accreditation status by the Deputy Commissioner, Offender Management. The accreditation process is described below

Figure 1: Corrections Victoria's Intervention Accreditation Process



## Applying for program accreditation

Applying for intervention accreditation is a staged process that includes:

1. The Offending Behaviour Programs Branch (OBPB) identifies programs submitted or proposed for review by the CVIAP. Once identified, program developers / sponsors are provided with an 'Application for Intervention Accreditation' and completion instructions.
2. The program sponsor returns the completed application and relevant program materials to the CVIAP Secretariat within three weeks.  
The application outlines key information such as
  - Program description
  - Area of need targeted by the program and how this relates to offending behaviour, personal/skills development or reintegration
  - Program objective/s
  - Evidence to support the development of the program
  - Reporting of program participation and outcomes
  - Workforce requirements to deliver the program
  - Alignment of the program against the accreditation standards
3. CVIAP members review the application information and program manuals and complete a detailed 'Intervention Assessment Report' within four weeks that indicates:
  - Alignment of the program with each criteria including evidence to support the endorsement of the criteria
  - Recommended amendments to the program to achieve minimum standards required for program implementation
  - Recommended program accreditation status
4. The CVIAP meets ten weeks from provision of accreditation applications, to review the independent assessment findings and determine the recommended accreditation status of the program.
5. Recommendations from the CVIAP are provided to the Deputy Commissioner, Offender Management for endorsement
6. The accreditation status and recommendations of the CVIAP are distributed to the program sponsor. Outcomes of the Panel include:
  - Recommended amendments and further program review
  - Recommended accreditation status.

### Accreditation Outcomes

Outcomes for programs reviewed by the Accreditation Panel include:

<i>Fully Accredited</i>	This rating applies to a program that achieves 'full endorsement' for each of the nine criteria and has undergone program evaluation resulting in findings that support the ongoing delivery of the program.
<i>Accredited – Monitored</i>	This rating applies to a program that achieves 'full endorsement' of eight criteria but requires the program to undergo evaluation in order to achieve 'Fully Accredited' status.
<i>Provisionally Accredited</i>	This rating applies to a program that rates 'partial' or 'full endorsement' for each of the nine criteria. Critical elements of the program are identified as requiring further information or amendment

and further review by the Panel is required to achieve 'Accredited Monitored' status and ongoing program delivery.

*Not Accredited*

The intervention does not meet sufficient criteria for accreditation or ongoing program delivery.

## Intervention Accreditation Panel

In order to provide for robust program accreditation, the CVIAP consists of a balance between Department of Justice & Regulation members and independent members from the community with expertise in the forensic setting. Appointment of community panel members is based on professional qualifications, relevant experience, research relevant to the correctional environment and experience in program evaluation and/or program development. Designated 'Terms of Reference' guide the activities of the Panel and panel members.

## OBP Programs Reviewed by CVIAP

During the initial stages of the CVIAP, the OBPB identified key programs for review during the first year of operation. As the accreditation process becomes embedded, CV aims to review and accredit all programs delivered across the correctional environment.

A list of OBP programs accredited by the CVIAP for delivery across prisons and CCS is provided in the table below.

*Table 2: OBP Programs reviewed by CVIAP during 2014*

Program name	Program description
High Intensity Violence Intervention Program	The HI-VIP is designed to reduce the risk of reoffending by violent offenders assessed at high risk of reoffending.
See Change for Women	The See Change program is designed to improve the motivation to change behaviour and support the acquisition of skills to manage the risk of violent offending. Two versions of the program have been developed to account for specific gender characteristics of violent offenders.
See Change for Men	
Talking Change Program	Talking Change aims to promote higher levels of engagement in offending behaviour programs by assisting prisoners and offenders to develop the required motivation to change offending and other anti-social behaviours.
U Turn Program	The U Turn Program is designed for offenders who demonstrate significant barriers to engagement in offending behaviour programs (such as disruptive or other treatment interfering behaviours). The program has an explicit focus on developing a therapeutic alliance and engaging offenders to enhance participation in offence focussed programs.
Maintaining Change	The Maintaining Change program is delivered to offenders who have completed an intensive intervention whilst in custody. It is designed to enhance treatment gains and support participants to maintain positive behaviour change.
Inside Out	This program aims to decrease the risk of reoffending in male prisoners through increasing motivation to change behaviour and supporting the acquisition of skills to manage acute risk. The program is a 'through care' program that commences in prison and is completed in the community.
Real Understanding of Self Help	The RUSH program is designed to address psychological distress and reduce the incidence of suicide and self harm.

## Contact information for the CVIAP

For further information regarding intervention accreditation or making an application to have a program accredited, contact:

CVIAP Secretariat	<a href="mailto:teri.vangeelen@justice.vic.gov.au">teri.vangeelen@justice.vic.gov.au</a>	03 8684 6641
A/M, PACU	<a href="mailto:marni.woods@justice.vic.gov.au">marni.woods@justice.vic.gov.au</a>	03 8684 6762