



5. Developing and Delivering Programs



Dr. Jill Guthrie, Research Fellow at the Australian National University will present her case study on “*Reducing Incarceration Using Justice Reinvestment: an exploratory case study*”.

Abstract

Cowra, NSW, is the site of exploratory research that is testing how Justice Reinvestment (JR) could be adopted as a policy approach. JR is a framework for rethinking the criminal justice system so that taxpayer monies are not spent on imprisoning people for low level criminal activity. Australian National University researchers are working with the community to explore the theory and methodology of JR as a way of reducing incarceration. The research is guided by a Research Reference Group that includes representatives of the Cowra Shire Council, Cowra Aboriginal Land Council, the President of NSW Children's Court, and US-based JR academic. Several community forums have been held over the past 2 years: the local police, PCYC, judiciary, education, health, mental health, community service and non-government sectors, worked together to develop a locally relevant questionnaire and recruitment process for inviting young people to self-refer to the research to explore issues of concern to them, and to build a case for obtaining services or resources that may help prevent young people from contact with the criminal justice system.

At a recent forum, co-facilitated by Professor Mick Dodson and Councillor Ruth Fagan, community members assessed that some \$23 million had been spent on incarcerating their citizens over the past 10 years for crimes which participants judged as were amenable to a JR approach, if such a policy was in place. More broadly, the research will potentially result in recommendations for addressing high levels of incarcerated young people, through developing a place-based JR informed model.



Robert Prestipino, Co-founder Regional Solutions and Director at Vital Places Pty Ltd will present on “*Has Place Been Hacked by the Hipsters?*”

Abstract

We know place is the foundation of local identity, regional character and the economic opportunities of the 21st century but, are we prepared to create the places that will thrive in this rapidly changing world. Could our love of place be our greatest weakness? Do we really understand the true nature of the experiential economy? This presentation explores the typical journey of well-meaning placemaking and shines light on the deeper motivations needed to solve the 'wicked problems' confronting the future social and economic vitality of regional communities.



Alexis Guillot, Deputy CEO at Pilbara Regional Council will present his case study on “*Activating Tourism in Difficult Times*”.

Abstract

The Pilbara is well-known for its contribution to the national economy through the extraction of minerals and resources. Less well known are its stunning regional attractions and iconic huge distances between them. Attracting tourists via flights filled with fluoro vests to stay in the most accommodation in the country has offered some unique challenges for regional tourism authorities. Join this session to discover how a resolute partnership between diverse public and private sector organisations has kept tourism alive (and flourishing) even under these difficult circumstances.