

New South Wales

Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Bill 2021

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to amend the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999 as follows—

- (a) to update the provisions relating to the Victims Register, including—
 - (i) to allow any victim of an offender sentenced to full-time detention to request to be recorded in the Victims Register, instead of only victims of an offender with a sentence that includes a parole period, and
 - (ii) to allow a victim of a personal violence offence to request to be recorded in the Victims Register if the offender is sentenced to intensive correction in the community, and
 - (iii) to make further provision for victims who are less than 18 years of age, and
 - (iv) to allow for a victim to nominate an individual to act and receive information on the victim's behalf in relation to the Victims Register, and
 - (v) to allow the Commissioner of Corrective Services (the *Commissioner*) to notify a victim recorded in the Victims Register if the offender is transferred into the custody of another State, a Territory or the Commonwealth, and
 - (vi) to allow the Commissioner to notify a victim of an adult offender serving a sentence of imprisonment by intensive correction for a personal violence offence if the offender is returned to custody,
- (b) to require the State Parole Authority, when considering whether to release an offender on parole, to have regard to a recommendation from the High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee that an application for an extended supervision order or continuing detention

- order be made in relation to the offender under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 or the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017,
- (c) to allow the Chief Executive of the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network to delegate the Chief Executive's right to free and unfettered access to correctional centres, records and offenders in custody.

The Bill also amends the *Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006* to authorise certain information about an offender that is provided to the Attorney General under that Act to be used by the State and the Commissioner in the offender's parole proceedings.

The Bill makes minor consequential amendments to other legislation.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999 No 93

Victims Register

Schedule 1[13] omits the existing provisions relating to the Victims Register and **Schedule 1[14]** inserts new provisions. The new provisions include the following changes—

- (a) any victim of an offender sentenced to full-time detention may request to be recorded in the Victims Register, instead of only a victim of an offender with a sentence that includes a parole period,
- (b) a victim of a personal violence offence may request to be recorded in the Victims Register if the offender is sentenced to intensive correction in the community,
- (c) if a victim is less than 18 years of age, a family representative of the victim must be recorded in the Victims Register instead of the victim,
- (d) the Commissioner may, in certain circumstances, record a victim who is 16 or 17 years of age in the Victims Register instead of a family representative of the victim,
- (e) an individual nominated by the victim may, with the approval of the Commissioner, act and receive information on the victim's behalf in relation to the Victims Register,
- (f) the Commissioner may notify a victim recorded in the Victims Register if the offender is transferred into the custody of another State, a Territory or the Commonwealth,
- (g) the Commissioner may notify a victim of an adult offender serving a sentence of imprisonment by intensive correction for a personal violence offence if the offender is returned to custody.

Schedule 1[2], [4] and [9] are consequential amendments. Schedule 1[15] inserts savings and transitional provisions.

Other amendments

Schedule 1[6] requires the State Parole Authority, when considering whether to release an offender on parole, to have regard to a recommendation from the High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee that an application for an extended supervision order or continuing detention order be made in relation to the offender under the *Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006* or the *Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017*. Currently the State Parole Authority must not have regard to the fact that an application for an extended supervision order or continuing detention order may be made in relation to the offender. **Schedule 1[7]** is a consequential amendment.

Schedule 1[8] and [10] are consequential on the amendment to the *Crimes (High Risk Offenders)* Act 2006, section 25 in Schedule 2[2]. Schedule 2[2] allows information obtained by the Attorney

General about a high risk offender to be used by the State and the Commissioner in the offender's parole proceedings.

Schedule 1[12] provides that the Chief Executive of the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network may delegate the Chief Executive's right to free and unfettered access to correctional centres, records and offenders in custody.

Schedule 1[1], [3], [5] and [11] update references to the statutory health corporation named Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network and its Chief Executive. Previously, the statutory health corporation was called Justice Health and had a Chief Executive Officer.

Schedule 2 Amendment of Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 No 7

Schedule 2[2] authorises certain information about an offender that is provided to the Attorney General under the *Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006* to be used by the State and the Commissioner in the offender's parole proceedings under the *Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999*. This is similar to an existing provision about information about offenders under the *Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017*. **Schedule 2[3]** is a transitional provision.

Schedule 2[1] is a amendment to a cross-reference that is consequential on the amendments made by Schedule 1[14].

Schedule 3 Consequential amendments to other legislation

Schedule 3 makes amendments to cross-references in the *Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009* and the *Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017* that are consequential on the amendments made by Schedule 1[14].



Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Bill 2021

Contents

			Page
	1	Name of Act	2
	2	Commencement	2
Schedule 1		Amendment of Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999 No 93	3
Schedule 2		Amendment of Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 No 7	10
Schedule 3		Consequential amendments to other legislation	11



Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Bill 2021

No , 2021

A Bill for

An Act to amend the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999, the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 and other Acts in relation to the Victims Register and high risk offenders; and for related purposes.

The	Legislature of New South Wales enacts—	1
1	Name of Act	2
	This Act is the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Act 2021.	3
2	Commencement	4
	This Act commences on the date of assent to this Act.	5

Sch	nedule 1		mendment of Crimes (Administration of entences) Act 1999 No 93	1 2
[1]	Section 3 Int	terpr	etation	3
	Omit the define section 3(1).	initio	ns of Chief Executive Officer, Justice Health and Justice Health from	4 5
) (<i>Chiej</i> office Ment	phabetical order— f Executive, Justice Health means the person for the time being holding e or acting as the chief executive of the Justice Health and Forensic al Health Network under the Health Services Act 1997.	6 7 8 9
]	Healt	ce Health means the statutory health corporation named the Justice th and Forensic Mental Health Network constituted under the Health ces Act 1997.	10 11 12
[2]	Section 3(1)	, defi	nition of "Victims Register"	13
			of the names of victims of offenders who have requested that they be e possible parole of the offender concerned".	14 15
	Insert instead	l "Paı	t 16 in which certain victims of offenders are recorded".	16
[3]	Sections 410 (3) and (5), 2	C(6), 36D(73(1) and (4), 106F(3), 106G(3), 106U(2), 154A(3)(a), 236B, 236C(1), 1), and 244(1) and (2)(a)	17 18
	Omit "Chief	Exec	utive Officer" wherever occurring. Insert instead "Chief Executive".	19
[4]	Sections 67((1) ar	nd 276(4)(b)	20
	Omit "whose	nam	e" wherever occurring. Insert instead "who".	21
[5]	Sections 106	6F(3)	, 106G(3) and 236D(1)	22
	Omit "Chief	Exec	utive Officer's" wherever occurring. Insert instead "Chief Executive's".	23
[6]	Section 135	Gene	eral duty of Parole Authority relating to release of offender	24
	Insert after se	ection	ı 135(3)(i)—	25
	((i1)	that the High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee under the <i>Crimes</i> (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 has recommended that an application be made for an extended supervision order or continuing detention order under that Act or the <i>Terrorism</i> (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017 in relation to the offender,	26 27 28 29 30
			Note— Under the <i>Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006</i> , section 24AC(a) and the <i>Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017</i> , section 63(a) the High Risk Offenders Assessment Committee may make recommendations to the Commissioner about the taking of action by the State in relation to offenders under those Acts.	31 32 33 34 35
[7]	Section 135((7)		36
	Omit the subs	sectio	on. Insert instead—	37
	1	purpo for a	Parole Authority, and the Review Council when giving advice for the oses of subsection (5), must not have regard to the fact that an application continuing detention order under the Commonwealth Criminal Code, 5.3, Division 105A may be made in relation to the offender.	38 39 40 41
[8]	Section 141	A Sul	bmissions by Commissioner	42
_	Insert after se	ection	141A(1)—	43

			Comr	mission	Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 authorises the use by the er of certain information obtained under that Act in parole proceedings ct, but only with the consent of the provider of the information.	1 2 3
[9]	Secti	ons 1	45(1) a	and 14	.6(5)(b)	4
	Omit	"those	e victii	ms of t	he offender (if any) whose names" wherever occurring.	5
	Inser	t instea	ad "the	e victin	ns of the offender who".	6
[10]	Secti	on 15	3 Sub	missic	ons by State	7
	Omit	the no	Note Offer unde	— The nders) A r those	153(1). Insert instead— Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 and the Terrorism (High Risk Act 2017 authorise the use by the State of certain information obtained Acts in parole proceedings under this Act, but only with the consent of the ne information.	8 9 10 11 12
[11]	Secti	ons 2	36B, 2	236D a	nd 244, headings	13
	Omit	"CEC)" whe	erever (occurring. Insert instead "Chief Executive".	14
[12]	Secti	on 23	6D(2)			15
	Omit	the su	bsecti	on.		16
[13]	Secti	ons 2	56, 25	6A and	d 256B	17
	Omit	the se	ctions			18
[14]	Part	16				19
	Inser	t after	Part 1	5—		20
	Par	t 16	Vic	tims	Register	21
	277	Defir	nitions	5		22
			In th	is Part-	_	23
					<i>der</i> means an offender who is an adult, whether or not the offender the relevant offence as an adult.	24 25
					NSW terrorist offender has the same meaning as in the Terrorism Offenders) Act 2017.	26 27
			Terr	orism (WSW underlying terrorism offender has the same meaning as in the High Risk Offenders) Act 2017.	28 29
			_	-	ffender means an offender referred to in section 278(1)(b) or (c).	30
					e section 278.	31
	278		_	f "vict		32
		(1)			, victim means the following—	33
			(a)		tim, in relation to an offender within the meaning of this Act, of—	34
				(i)	an offence for which the offender is serving a sentence of imprisonment, or	35 36
				(ii)	an offence taken into account under the <i>Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999</i> , Part 3, Division 3 at the time the offender was sentenced for the offence referred to in subparagraph (i),	37 38 39
			(b)	a vic	tim of a serious offence, if the offender is—	40

		(1)	Offenders) Act 2006, and	1 2
		(ii)	serving, or has at any time served, a sentence of imprisonment for the serious offence,	3 4
	(c)	a vict	tim of an offence of a sexual nature, if the offender is—	5
		(i)	an offender within the meaning of the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006, and	6 7
		(ii)	serving a sentence of imprisonment for the offence of a sexual nature,	8 9
	(d)	being	tim of an indictable offence, if the offence resulted in the offender g a convicted NSW terrorist offender or convicted NSW underlying rism offender.	10 11 12
(2)	appa		ncludes a person who, as a direct result of an act committed, or committed, by an offender or high risk offender in the course of an	13 14 15
	(a)	suffe	ers actual physical bodily harm, mental illness or nervous shock, or	16
	(b)	has p	property deliberately taken, destroyed or damaged.	17
(3)	of in	nprison	ion, a reference to a sentence of imprisonment includes a sentence imment served by intensive correction, whether or not subject to a attion condition.	18 19 20
(4)	In th	is secti	on—	21
			a sexual nature has the same meaning as in the Crimes (High Risk Act 2006.	22 23
		ous offe 2006.	ence has the same meaning as in the Crimes (High Risk Offenders)	24 25
Victi	ms Re	gister		26
(1)	Ther	e is to	be a Victims Register.	27
(2)	The	followi	ing are to be recorded in the Victims Register—	28
()	(a)		tim of an offender within the meaning of this Act if—	29
	,	(i)	the offender is serving a sentence of imprisonment by full-time detention, and	30 31
		(ii)	the victim requests to be recorded in the Victims Register,	32
	(b)		tim of an offender within the meaning of this Act if—	33
		(i)	the offender is serving a sentence of imprisonment for a personal violence offence by intensive correction, whether or not subject to a home detention condition, and	34 35 36
		(ii)	the victim requests to be recorded in the Victims Register,	37
	(c)	appli	tim of a high risk offender who requests to be given notice if an exation for an order is made in relation to the offender under the tes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006,	38 39 40
	(d)	under appli	etim of a convicted NSW terrorist offender or convicted NSW rlying terrorism offender who requests to be given notice of an eation for an order in relation to the offender under the <i>Terrorism th Risk Offenders</i>) Act 2017, Part 2 or 3.	41 42 43 44
(3)	In th	is secti	on—	45

279

			<i>ponal violence offence</i> has the same meaning as in the <i>Crimes (Domestic Personal Violence) Act 2007</i> .	1 2
280	Fam	ily rep	resentatives of victims	3
	(1)		family representative of a victim must be recorded in the Victims Register ad of the victim—	4 5
		(a)	if the victim is dead or under an incapacity, or	6
		(b)	if the victim is less than 18 years of age, or	7
		(c)	in circumstances prescribed by the regulations.	8
	(2)	victii	victim is 16 or 17 years of age, the Commissioner may direct that the m is recorded in the Victims Register instead of the family representative e victim.	9 10 11
	(3)	subse	etermining whether to record the victim in the Victims Register under ection (2), the Commissioner must consider the victim's individual mstances.	12 13 14
	(4)	unde	e family representative of a victim is recorded in the Victims Register r this section, a reference in this Part, other than in this section and section to a victim is to be read as a reference to the family representative.	15 16 17
281	Victi	ims ma	ay nominate representatives	18
	(1)		etim who is recorded in the Victims Register under this Part may nominate e Commissioner an individual who, for the purposes of this Part, may—	19 20
		(a)	act on the victim's behalf, and	21
		(b)	receive information on the victim's behalf.	22
	(2)	Com	Commissioner may refuse to accept the nomination of an individual if the missioner considers it is not appropriate in the circumstances, taking into unt the following—	23 24 25
		(a)	the security, discipline and good order of a correctional centre,	26
		(b)	the safety and welfare of offenders and other persons,	27
		(c)	the risks of unauthorised disclosure of information,	28
		(d)	the safety of the community.	29
282	Adm	ninistra	ation of Victims Register	30
	(1)	Subje	ect to the regulations, the Victims Register must be kept by a government cy as directed by the Minister.	31 32
	(2)		abers of staff of the government agency that keeps the Victims Register assist—	33 34
		(a)	the Review Council and the Parole Authority to give notices to victims under this Part or section 67 or 145, and	35 36
		(b)	the Parole Authority to give a victim of a serious offender or a victim's authorised agent access to documents specified by the Parole Authority for the purposes of section 193A, and	37 38 39
		(c)	the Review Council and the Parole Authority to carry out other ancillary functions relating to the matters referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b).	40 41
	(3)	of the	Review Council or the Parole Authority may delegate to members of staff e government agency that keeps the Victims Register the functions of the ew Council or the Parole Authority specified in subsection (2), but only	42 43 44

		in relation to the victim of an adult offender, whether or not the offender committed the relevant offence as an adult.	1
283	Reg	ulations	3
	(1)	The regulations may provide for the following—	4
		(a) the keeping of the Victims Register,	5
		(b) the way in which notice to victims may or must be given under—	6
		(i) this Act, or	7
		(ii) the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006, or	8
		(iii) the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017,	9
		(c) the circumstances, if any, in which notice referred to in paragraph (b) is not required to be given,	10 11
		(d) the identification of persons who are victims for the purposes of this Act, the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 or the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017, including—	12 13 14
		(i) the determination of the persons who are family representatives of victims, and	15 16
		(ii) the provision, by a person claiming to be a victim, of evidence of the person's identity and the circumstances by which the person claims to be a victim.	17 18 19
	(2)	A regulation under subsection (1) must not be inconsistent with—	20
		(a) the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006, section 21A, or	21
		(b) the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017, section 51.	22
284	Noti	ce to victims of re-integration home detention and parole consideration	23
	(1)	The Parole Authority must give notice to a victim of an offender who is recorded in the Victims Register if—	24 25
		(a) the offender is due for consideration of whether the offender should be released under a re-integration home detention order or on parole, or	26 27
		(b) the offender is eligible for or has applied for release on parole.	28
	(2)	The notice must be given subject to and in accordance with the regulations.	29
	(3)	Without limiting subsection (2), the notice must contain the following information—	30 31
		(a) the matter being notified,	32
		(b) that the victim may make a submission to the Parole Authority about the matter,	33 34
		(c) the form a submission may take,	35
		(d) the period within which a submission must be made,	36
		(e) that the Parole Authority will consider a submission made before the end of that period.	37 38
	(4)	The Parole Authority must consider submissions made in accordance with this section.	39 40
	(5)	The Parole Authority is not required to give notice to a victim under this section of a matter if the matter is included in another requirement to give notice to the victim under this Act.	41 42 43

	(6)	A failure by the Parole Authority to comply with this section does not affect the validity of a decision or order made by the Parole Authority.	1 2
285	Info	rmation to be given to victims by Commissioner	3
	(1)	The Commissioner may give written notice of the following to a victim of an adult offender who is recorded in the Victims Register—	4 5
		(a) a change to the offender's earliest possible release date,	6
		(b) the death of the offender while serving a sentence or released on parole,	7
		(c) the name of the correctional centre in which the offender is serving a sentence,	8 9
		(d) the escape of the offender while serving a sentence,	10
		(e) the security classification of the offender,	11
		(f) a decision by the Commissioner to reclassify a serious offender to a low security classification,	12 13
		(g) a decision by the Commissioner to issue a local leave permit for the offender,	14 15
		(h) the exercise, by the Governor, of the prerogative of mercy in relation to the offender,	16 17
		(i) a transfer of the offender into the custody of another State, a Territory or the Commonwealth.	18 19
	(2)	The Commissioner may also give written notice of the following to a victim of a high risk offender who is recorded in the Victims Register—	20 21
		(a) if the offender is the subject of an extended supervision order under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 or the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017—the release of the offender from custody at the commencement of the extended supervision order or the return of the offender to custody following a failure to comply with the requirements of the order,	22 23 24 25 26 27
		(b) if the offender is the subject of a continuing detention order under the Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 or the Terrorism (High Risk Offenders) Act 2017—the expiry of the order and the release of the offender from custody.	28 29 30 31
	(3)	The Commissioner may also give written notice to a victim of an adult offender who is recorded in the Victims Register under section 279(2)(b) if the offender is returned to custody while serving a sentence of imprisonment by intensive correction.	32 33 34 35
	(4)	The Commissioner may exercise the Commissioner's functions under subsections (1)–(3)—	36 37
		(a) at the request of the victim, or	38
		(b) at the Commissioner's discretion.	39
	(5)	The Commissioner is not required to give notice to a victim under this section of a matter if the matter is included in another requirement to give notice to the victim under this Act.	40 41 42
286	Info	mation to be given to victims by Parole Authority	43
	(1)	The Parole Authority must give written notice to a victim of an adult offender who is recorded in the Victims Register of the following matters relating to the offender—	44 45 46

	(a)	that the Authority has made a re-integration home detention order releasing the offender and the date of the release,	1 2
	(b)	any additional conditions placed on the re-integration home detention order,	3 4
	(c)	that the conditions of the re-integration home detention order have been changed, and particulars of the change,	5 6
	(d)	that the offender's re-integration home detention order has been revoked.	7 8
(2)	who	Parole Authority must give written notice to a victim of an adult offender is recorded in the Victims Register of the following matters relating to the ider—	9 10 11
	(a)	that the Parole Authority or the Governor has made a parole order releasing the offender on parole and the date of the release,	12 13
	(b)	any additional conditions placed on the parole order,	14
	(c)	that the conditions of the parole order have been changed, and particulars of the change,	15 16
	(d)	that the offender's parole has been revoked.	17
(3)		ce of the revocation of an order is not required to be given under this on until a review of the order has been finally determined.	18 19
(4)	section	Parole Authority is not required to give notice to a victim under this on of a matter if the matter is included in another requirement to give e to the victim under this Act.	20 21 22
Schedule 8	5 Savir	ngs, transitional and other provisions	23
Insert at the	e end o	f the Schedule, with appropriate Part and clause numbering—	24
Part		visions consequent on enactment of Crimes	25
		ministration of Sentences) Amendment Act	26
	202	1	27
Victi	ms Re	gister	28
(1)	amen	Victims Register constituted under section 279, as inserted by the ding Act, is a continuation of the Victims Register in force immediately the the repeal of section 256 by the amending Act.	29 30 31
(2)	amen	rson is a victim for the purposes of the Act, Part 16, as inserted by the ading Act, whether the relevant offence was committed by the offender re or after the insertion of Part 16.	32 33 34
(3)	In thi	is clause—	35
	amen Act 2	nding Act means the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment 1021.	36 37

[15]

Scł	nedule 2	Amendment of Crimes (High Risk Offenders) Act 2006 No 7	1
[1]	Section 21	A Victim statements	3
	Omit "in 1 (Administra	espect of the offender for the purposes of section 256(2)(b) of the <i>Crimes ation of Sentences</i>) Act 1999" from section 21A(8), definition of victim.	4
		ad "in relation to the offender under the Crimes (Administration of Sentences) ection 279(2)(c)".	6 7
[2]	Section 25	Provision of certain information to Attorney General	8
	Insert after	section 25(3)—	9
	(4)	The State and the Commissioner of Corrective Services are authorised to use information provided to the Attorney General under this section in proceedings before the State Parole Authority under the <i>Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Act 1999</i> concerning the parole of an offender, but only with the consent of the provider of the information.	10 11 12 13 14
	(5)	Subsection (4) applies despite anything to the contrary in this or another Act.	15
[3]	Schedule	2 Savings, transitional and other provisions	16
	Insert at the	e end of the Schedule, with appropriate Part and clause numbering—	17
	Part	Provision consequent on enactment of Crimes	18
		(Administration of Sentences) Amendment Act	19
		2021	20
	Арр	lication of amendments	21
		Section 25(4), as inserted by the <i>Crimes (Administration of Sentences) Amendment Act 2021</i> , extends to information that was provided to the Attorney General before the commencement of the subsection.	22 23 24

Sch	edule 3	Consequential amendments to other legislation	1
3.1	Governme	ent Information (Public Access) Act 2009 No 52	2
		Information for which there is conclusive presumption of overriding est against disclosure	3 4
		n 256 (Victims Register)" from clause 1(1), matter relating to the <i>Crimes ion of Sentences</i>) Act 1999.	5 6
	Insert instead	1 "section 283 (Regulations)".	7
3.2	Terrorism	(High Risk Offenders) Act 2017 No 68	8
	Section 51 V	/ictim statements	9
		spect of the offender for the purposes of section 256(2)(c) of the <i>Crimes</i> ion of Sentences) Act 1999" from section 51(12), definition of victim.	10 11
		"in relation to the offender under the <i>Crimes (Administration of Sentences)</i> etion 279(2)(d)".	12 13