

Am I eligible to join the program?

- ◆ The program is aimed at defendants who have a **medium to high risk** of offending and who can be supported by the program team.
- ◆ You will be assessed by program staff, who will look at your risk of re-offending as well as the causes of your offending. Your case manager will provide a report to the court detailing your supports.
- ◆ Eligibility Criteria:
 - ◇ You must have been charged with an offence. How you intend to plead or whether a plea has been entered is not important.
 - ◇ You require support and/or treatment to reduce your risk of re-offending and address your needs.
 - ◇ Mental health issues, drug/alcohol dependency and misuse, or lack of social, family and economic support have contributed to your offending.
 - ◇ You must give your consent to be involved in the program.



Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, such as large print or audio, please contact Department of Justice's Courts and Programs Development Unit on (03) 9603 9096 or email cpdu@justice.vic.gov.au. This document is also available in PDF format at www.justice.vic.gov.au



Hearing Impaired (TTY)

National relay telephone service 13 36 77

How does the program work?

- ◆ Once accepted into the program, you will be assigned a case manager who will look at your individual circumstances and develop a case management plan.
- ◆ The treatment/support plan will outline your needs and provide linkages to community and treatment agencies.
- ◆ Your case manager will also monitor your progress and provide regular reports to the court throughout your time on the program.

Where can I go for more information?

www.magistratescourt.vic.gov.au



Magistrates' Court
of Victoria

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Artwork by Clive 'Bidja' Atkinson, 2007

Court Integrated Services Program (CISP)



If you are appearing before the Magistrates' Court on summons or bail you may be eligible for the Court Integrated Services Program (CISP).

CISP is designed as a 'self help' program and aligns with Aboriginal cultural practices where program staff and defendants work closely together.

The program will be of most benefit to defendants who are motivated to help themselves.



What is CISP?

- ◆ CISP is a new service established by the Department of Justice and the Magistrates' Court of Victoria.
- ◆ Program staff are experienced in working with Indigenous service-users and are sensitive to cultural issues.
- ◆ CISP builds on the Aboriginal Liaison Program and CREDIT/Bail Support Program and offers you short term support and access to many services (both Indigenous-specific and mainstream) before your sentence date.
- ◆ The program addresses your individual needs and aims to work on the causes of offending and reduce the chances of you re-offending in the future.

Which courts have the program?

- ◆ CISP is currently available at Melbourne, Sunshine and Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Courts.

What services does the program include?

- ◆ Assessment and referral to treatment
- ◆ Support in accessing:
 - ◇ Crisis and Support Accommodation
 - ◇ Mental Health and Acquired Brain Injury services
 - ◇ Drug and Alcohol including detox and counselling services
 - ◇ Disability services
- ◆ Referrals to outreach services offering intensive or ongoing support
- ◆ Progress reports to the court

How do I access CISP?

- ◆ You can be referred to the program by any one of the following:
 - ◇ Police
 - ◇ Family and friends
 - ◇ Office of the Public Advocate
 - ◇ Office of Public Prosecutions
 - ◇ Support services
 - ◇ Self
 - ◇ Lawyers
 - ◇ Court staff
 - ◇ Judiciary
- ◆ A referral form will need to be completed, which is available from the CISP counter at Melbourne, Sunshine and Latrobe Valley Magistrates' Courts.
- ◆ Assistance to complete the referral form is available from the CISP counter or the ALO, if required.