

Submission 11. Reboot Australia

Reboot Australia, www.rebootaustralia.com, would like to be involved in the recently released discussion paper to seek views from interested parties who want to help shape services for First Nations people who are incarcerated.

We are particularly active and successful in increasing numbers of First Nations people making successful transitions from prison to work.

Given our stretched resources and proximity to the discussion deadline we only wish to make the below comment.

From our 6 years working in this space in prisons around Australia, advising government, workforce Australia, employers and reintegration services along with direct employment of over 180 reintegrating individuals, we believe that the breaking down of the stigma or employer bias is the single biggest challenge. Much of the support and other points are actually sufficient but fall flat with no employment outcomes.

So to Question 5, How can the service help employers to hire First Nations people who have been incarcerated? By a collaborative approach to educating industry and by a bold marketing strategy targeting industry ESG compliance.

As a social enterprise delivering national reintegration throughcare employment outcomes, we believe while the individual is one part of the equation the breaking down of the stigma within industry and broader education of the reintegration process and community benefits is paramount to success.