

COMMUNITY SERVICE WORK CREDIT SCHEME

POLICY NO. C11

ACT CORRECTIVE SERVICES



ACT
Government

Justice and Community Safety

Contents

1 PURPOSE3

2 SCOPE3

3 PRINCIPLES3

4 RELATED DOCUMENTS4

1 PURPOSE

ACT Corrective Services (ACTCS) is committed to ensuring that offenders have access to community service work to fulfil their obligations under Intensive Corrections Orders and Good Behaviour Orders.

This policy statement outlines the temporary adjustments and considerations that will be implemented to minimise the risk of transmission or infection with COVID-19 relating to community service work in accordance with the Crimes (Sentence Administration) Act 2005 (ACT).

2 SCOPE

This policy applies to Community Corrections staff members.

Where required, the Assistant Commissioner Community Operations will establish operational procedures under this policy.

3 PRINCIPLES

- 3.1 ACTCS is committed to ensuring that the requirements to maintain social distancing and minimise non-essential travel and work due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, are in place for offenders and staff members.
- 3.2 Where necessary to minimise the risk of infection or transmission of COVID-19, the Commissioner may temporarily suspend the community service work scheme.
- 3.3 Under section 3.2, offenders may receive up to eight (8) hours credit per week for community service work that cannot be completed due to the suspension.
- 3.4 Where an offender cannot attend community service work due to the COVID-19 emergency, such as:
 - a. experiencing flu like symptoms, where medical advice is being or has been sought;
 - b. where advice from a medical practitioner or health services provider has been to self-isolate;
 - c. where an offender has recently returned from overseas and is required to self-isolate;

- d. where an offender meets the criteria for an 'at risk' person, as prescribed by ACT Health; or
- e. where an offender maintains paid employment in aged care, schools or hospitals,

the offender may also be considered for up to eight (8) hours of credited community service work.

- 3.5 Collateral checks must be undertaken under section 3.4 to support any claims.
- 3.6 When the public health emergency for COVID-19 has been revoked, the community service work credit scheme will cease, and normal obligations will resume.
- 3.7 The Assistant Commissioner Community Operations will ensure that offenders are informed of decisions under section 3.2 and 3.6 regarding the community service work credit scheme.

4 RELATED DOCUMENTS

- A – COVID-19 Community Service Work Credit Scheme Instruction

Jon Peach
 Commissioner
 ACT Corrective Services

17 April 2020

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