Question: Is there a requirement set out as to how the program is monitored?

Answer: The department’s Psychological Support Program (PSP) policy is detailed at Chapter Six of the Detention Services Manual.

The following excerpt details how the PSP is to be monitored.

31 EVALUATION & QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

The DSP is responsible for providing the department with formal incident reports on all threats, attempts or occurrences of self-harm and suicide.

Where a serious self-harm attempt or incident occurs, the HSP has primary responsibility for post-incident response, one function of which is to identify triggers and contributing factors. The HSP must provide written documentation of these to the PSP team and the department for input to quality improvement processes.

The PSP team, with appropriate support from the department, is responsible for conducting regular case reviews and analysis of incident reports to identify issues that need to be addressed in order to improve self-harm prevention, identification and response arrangements. The adequacy of the arrangements documented in this policy should be a regular item for review as part of PSP quality improvement arrangements.

Note that ‘DSP’ is Detention Services Provider, ‘HSP’ is Health Services Provider and that a PSP team will be formed at each facility when required. A PSP team is led by an HSP senior clinician and includes representatives from the DSP and the department.