Community safety will be enhanced under a Northern Territory Government initiative to expand electronic monitoring of offenders and detainees.

The Country Liberals Government has committed additional funding of almost $4.2 million over two years to evaluate and expand the electronic monitoring program in the Northern Territory.

The additional funding will enhance surveillance and monitoring capacity by Northern Territory Department of Correctional Services and continues to deliver on the Government's “Pillars of Justice” framework.

Minister for Correctional Services John Elferink said the electronic monitoring system was introduced to deter offenders from reoffending, improve monitoring, and prevent crime.

“The Country Liberals Government is delivering on its plan for a safer and more secure Territory,” Mr Elferink said.

“The expansion of the electronic monitoring program will enhance the ability of the Department to track the movements and whereabouts of both adult and youth offenders that are subject to a number of Court and Parole Orders.

“This will enable a much faster response to a range of breaches with much more accurate information.”

Chief Minister Adam Giles said that electronic monitoring is part of a suite of measures aimed at tackling crime in the Northern Territory.

“The Country Liberals Government is committed to using this crime fighting tool to reduce offending in the community and create a safer place for Territorians,” Mr Giles said.

“This Government is getting on with the job of implementing real initiatives to create positive changes for Territorians.”
The opportunities for employing electronic monitoring continue to increase and enhance community safety by increasing the ability of the Department to detect and respond to a range of breaches.

Since the commencement of electronic monitoring in 2014, there have been over 300 community-based offenders wearing an electronic monitoring device. All prisoners at work camps across the Territory are also required to wear one of these devices. The two year funding also includes the provision for an evaluation of the program.

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