



About Mr Desmond Chin

Mr Desmond Chin (陈金淡), 55, joined the Singapore Prison Services (SPS) in 1990 after graduating with a Bachelor of Social Science (Hons) degree in Social Work from the National University of Singapore.

- Desmond was appointed Commissioner of Prisons on 1 Oct 2016. Prior to that, he held several key positions in Ministry of Home Affairs, among them was Head Joint Operations and Emergency Planning, Deputy Commissioner of Prisons and Chief-of-Staff. He also served as the Chief Executive Officer of the Singapore Corporation of Rehabilitative Enterprises from 2005 to 2010. He was awarded the Public Administration Medal (Gold) in 2020.
- Desmond led the SPS to break new ground. New regimes were implemented, leading to improvements in recidivism rates of young offenders and drug inmates over time. Under his leadership, SPS is widely acknowledged to be a leading employer in Singapore, with strong branding and recognition for its Captains of Lives initiative.
- Desmond is a firm believer in collaboration. As a board member of the International Corrections & Prisons Association, Desmond developed ties with international correctional experts. SPS also strengthened its relationships with a diverse range of partners, including community organisations, religious groups, halfway houses, volunteers and befrienders. This helped garner their support in aiding the reintegration of ex-offenders into the community.
- 5 With his leadership skills and ability to work with multiple stakeholders, Desmond is well-placed to lead our charities, co-operatives and mutual benefit organisations in emerging stronger from COVID-19.