

Response by Youth Justice to the BYDC & CYDC Inspection Report, March 2020

Youth Justice welcomes the March 2020 quarterly Youth Detention Inspectorate update for the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre (BYDC) and Cleveland Youth Detention Centres (CYDC).

Rigorous and transparent oversight is essential to ensuring young people in detention are managed appropriately, safely, and securely in accordance with the *Youth Justice Act 1992* and the *Youth Justice Regulation 2016*. Youth Detention Inspectorate recommendations provide critical insights and evidence-based advice to ensure youth detention services evolve with contemporary best practice.

The focus areas this quarter included:

- Education and training
- Restorative practice and trauma-informed practice, and
- Connection to culture and community.

Youth Justice welcomes and accepts all four recommendations made this quarter. Immediate actions have been taken in response including:

- Strengthening on-centre collaboration processes with the Department of Education to ensure integrated planning about accommodation management and program allocation, and
- Establishing a 'Community of Practice' to support and strengthen the work of the on-centre Restorative Practice Coordinators and to ensure practice consistency across the state.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the Youth Detention Inspectorate for their important work to improve the youth justice system. Also acknowledged are the youth detention staff who work in these challenging environments on a daily basis and their tireless commitment to improving the lives of young people and ensuring the safety of youth detention centres.

Darren Hegarty
Senior Executive Director, Youth Justice Services
Department of Youth Justice

Recommendation 1	Accepted/Not Accepted
The Inspectorate recommends that the Department of Youth Justice work with all relevant stakeholders to conduct an analysis of the current education and training opportunities available to youth detention centres with a particular focus on transition from detention and provide a gap analysis to the Inspectorate by 30 September 2020.	Accepted in principle
Recommendation 2	Accepted/Not Accepted
It is recommended that increased communication occur between multi-agency stakeholders involved in transitional planning to ensure all elements, particularly educational content of Transition/Reintegration plans are communicated effectively, and where appropriate, uploaded onto the relevant departmental client information sharing system (e.g. ICMS, iDocs, Unify).	Accepted
Recommendation 3	Accepted/Not Accepted
It is recommended that centralised oversight is established to enable strategic direction and formalisation of processes and monitoring to ensure outcomes are achieved, integrity and best practice is maintained and Restorative Practice is fully implemented within the detention centres.	Accepted
Recommendation 4	Accepted/Not Accepted
It is recommended that Restorative Practice and Trauma Informed Practice training is prioritised to ensure all staff, including executive and management at BYDC and CYDC attend the Two day Restorative Practice General Training at a minimum, and Trauma Informed Practice training when available.	Accepted