

## **Response by Youth Justice to the West Moreton Youth Detention Centre Inspection Report,**

**March 2021**

On behalf of the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs, Youth Justice welcomes the Youth Detention Inspectorate's March Quarter 2021 report of the inaugural inspection of the new West Moreton Youth Detention Centre (WMYDC).

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. Inspection recommendations provide critical insights and evidence-based advice to ensure youth detention services evolve with contemporary best practice.

I am pleased to note the positive observations made by Inspectors regarding the values and operating model of the WMYDC and the way both staff and young people have been putting these into practice so far. Our close partnerships with other agencies, both on-site and in the community, are an integral part of the WMYDC approach. I commend all involved for the relationships they have forged together to help create viable life pathways for young people and keep them out of detention.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the Youth Detention Inspectorate for their important work to improve the youth justice system. I also acknowledge 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.

Michael Drane

**Senior Executive Director, Youth Detention Operations and Reform  
Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs**