

Executive Summary

June 2024 Inspection Report

Delegated Inspectors (the Inspectorate) within the Systems, Quality Review and Support Unit, Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support, conduct statutory detention centre inspections each quarter, pursuant to [Section 263](#) of the [Youth Justice Act 1992](#). This report describes the outcomes of the quarterly statutory inspections conducted across June and July 2024 for the Youth Detention Centres (YDCs), namely Brisbane YDC (BYDC), Cleveland YDC (CYDC), and West Moreton YDC (WMYDC).

The focus area for the April to June 2024 quarter was *Cultural Responsivity*.

Based on the strengths and challenges identified during inspections, the following recommendations were made:

- YDOR to implement processes to ensure ongoing partnership and building of shared language with Cultural Capability team. Regular consideration and consultation to occur regarding development and amendment of any policies and procedures that directly relate to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people and staff in detention, including Suicide Risk Policy. Feedback to be consistently sought from Cultural Capability team, other central office teams and YDC Cultural Units where appropriate.
- YDOR and YDCs to work in partnership with Cultural Capability team to review LOA Policy and Appendix 1-5 – Grief and Loss: Understanding Sorry Business and Sad News, to determine whether the existing guidance sufficiently supports local application around responses to young people experiencing Sorry Business and Sad News. Procedures to clearly outline team roles and responsibilities, communication expectations (including staff, young people, and stakeholders), and support options for staff and young people.
- L&D to work with YDOR and YDCs to prioritise and increase Client Services, Leadership and Operational staff engagement in foundational Departmental cultural training, namely Cultural Capability and Cultural Responsivity training. YDCs to consider whether Operational staff are afforded sufficient time to access cultural training, including refresher localised training and other Departmental training opportunities. Regular rostering of staff specifically for cultural training to be evaluated
- YDC Cultural Units and Programs teams to review the delivery of YBP and BCT across centres, working in partnership with the Cultural Capability team and Service Improvement Support team. This will include record keeping practices and exploration of how to increase frequency of program delivery. Staff to explore if and how programs are modified for a detention centre environment and differing cohorts. L&D to assist with implementation of appropriate record keeping practices. This recommendation is in alignment to a related YDC Operational Performance Review action.

Existing Youth Justice recommendations and actions relevant to this inspection cycle:

- YDCs to explore whether staffing of Cultural Units is currently meeting the needs of First Nations young people. This may include seeking feedback from Cultural Unit staff and consideration of findings from 3E, Operational Performance Review (OPR), and inspection processes. Opportunities for expansion may be considered.
- Cultural considerations are embedded in all decision-making processes from the time a young person is admitted to YDCs.

Observations and findings were discussed with relevant Executive Directors (ED) at the conclusion of the inspection and with the Senior Executive Director (SED), Youth Detention Operations and Reform during a post-inspection briefing.

The status of active recommendations from previous Inspectorate reports are detailed in a Recommendations Register. A copy of the Recommendations Register can be obtained by making a request through the Office of the Executive Directors ACOO_YJSWS@cyjma.qld.gov.au.