

## **Executive Summary to Inspection Report Cleveland Youth Detention Centre September quarter 2015**

The *Youth Justice Act 1992* requires that each youth detention centre is inspected at least once every three months. The on-site inspections are conducted independently of Youth Justice Services by Principal Inspectors of the Youth Detention Inspectorate, Ethical Standards Unit, Office of the Director-General.

The Cleveland Youth Detention Centre (CYDC) in Townsville was inspected from 14 to 18 September 2015. The primary inspection focus areas were, Centre Facilities and Environment, Management of Detention Centres and Pre-court Procedures. The criteria for each inspection focus area were derived from the Youth Detention Expectations document, which is a document predominately based on Queensland Legislation and United Nations Standards to which Australia is a signatory to.

The Centre is well maintained and presented as clean and tidy. The accommodation units and young person's rooms are maintained to a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene. There was minimal evidence of graffiti in the young people's bedroom or accommodation units.

Inspectors observed some exceptional youth work practices occurring between the staff and the young people during the period of the Inspection. Detention youth workers were observed appropriately and sensitively managing young people and encouraging and mentoring young people to manage their behaviours and problem solve in a pro-social manner.

Inspectors were impressed at the level of knowledge and attention displayed to pre-court procedures by the operational staff, as well as the members of the multi-disciplinary team, such as caseworkers and the court management officer in relation to adequately preparing the young people for their court appearances.

In total there are four recommendations made from the inspection. All four recommendations will be inspected against and reported on during the statutory inspection process in 2016.

