

Executive Summary to Inspection Report Brisbane Youth Detention Centre December quarter 2012

The statutory inspection of the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre (BYDC) required under s263(4) of the *Youth Justice Act 1992* occurred from 19–22 November 2012. The primary focus of this inspection was to verify whether Director-General approved recommendations from previous inspection reports had been implemented as required.

The Inspectors verified the implementation of 17 recommendations, some of which had been outstanding since 2008. The recommendations ranged from child wellbeing issues such as the use of forced unclothed searches on young people, the complaints system for young people, as well as the implementation of the recommendations of the Organisational Health Assessment (conducted by independent consultants PsyCare in 2011).

The Inspectors were satisfied that a majority of the recommendations approved by the former Director-General have been implemented by the Centre Director at a local level or by Youth Detention Operations through the Youth Detention Manual project. As such the Inspectorate has closed 12 recommendations.

The Inspectorate acknowledges that there has been partial implementation of the remaining five recommendations, however, these recommendations will remain open until full implementation occurs. The Inspectorate will continue to monitoring and report on the updates to the Director-General through 2013.

The main findings of the report are the comprehensive work being conducted by Youth Justice Services and the Centre Director to ensure the recommendations derived from the Organisational Health Review are implemented. These recommendations include providing improved training opportunities for managers and developing a team based approach for youth workers. It is envisaged this will provide more accountability for youth workers, supervisors and managers as well as further develop a high standard of service delivery for the young people detained at BYDC.

As part of the inspection the Brisbane Children's Court Cells were also inspected. The court cells are utilised to safely and securely hold young people prior to their court hearings. The court cells are staffed and managed by staff from the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre. Inspectors found the court cells to be clean and secure, and staff were observed to interact professionally and courteously with the young people present. The Inspectors did not identify any issues or concerns with that area.