

Chapter 1

Safe communities

To provide safe communities, DJAG is focused on:

- enabling Queenslanders to live in a safe and harmonious society
- developing and enforcing legislation to ensure rights and safety
- addressing offending and re-offending behaviour through proactive programs and initiatives, and
- ending domestic, family and sexual violence and abuse.

Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) represents the State of Queensland in criminal matters. To ensure safe communities, it is imperative that fair and transparent justice is administered so that the guilty are brought to justice, and the innocent are not wrongly convicted.

The primary function of the ODPP is to prosecute criminal matters in the:

- Magistrates Court (limited)
- District Court
- Supreme Court
- Mental Health Court
- Childrens Court of Queensland
- Court of Appeal, and
- High Court of Australia.

There are three aspects to the work of the ODPP:

- legal preparation
- court appearances, and
- victim liaison.

The ODPP is structured into 17 criminal chambers and one civil litigation chamber and team. There are nine chambers based in Brisbane, eight chambers in major regional centres (Beenleigh, Southport, Ipswich, Toowoomba, Maroochydore, Rockhampton, Townsville, and Cairns), and the civil litigation team (Confiscations Unit), based in Brisbane.

In addition to its criminal law prosecution function, the ODPP conducts the legal work on behalf of the CCC as the 'solicitor on the record' for confiscations proceedings under the *Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002*.

During 2021–22, the ODPP received 49,646 offences for prosecution, relating to 9,587 accused.

The ODPP prepared and conducted 1,128 committal matters in the Brisbane, Ipswich and Southport Magistrates Courts (limited), prepared and/or conducted trials in relation to 1,046 accused, and conducted sentences in relation to 5,695 accused in the Supreme, District and Childrens Court of Queensland.

The ODPP also appeared at 867 Supreme Court, District Court, and Childrens Court of Queensland bail applications, and finalised 499 appeals in the Court of Appeal, High Court of Australia and District Court jurisdictions.

Victim Liaison Service

The ODPP's obligations to victims are guided by the Charter of Victims' Rights established under the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009*.

Under the Charter, victims have the right to be treated with courtesy, compassion, respect, and dignity to have their personal information protected, and to be provided with information about available services and remedies.

The ODPP employs victim liaison officers across the state to assist victims of violent crimes and/or their family members. These officers provide timely information to victims and families regarding the progress of their case through the criminal justice process. The victim liaison officer's contact with a victim includes:

- information on the court process, including giving evidence
- arranging a meeting with the relevant ODPP officer, if required, and
- the progress and outcome of a matter.

The ODPP does not provide counselling services, however, with consent, victim liaison officers provide a referral service to external organisations for specialised assistance, including court support and/or counselling.

The ODPP continued to survey victims and families regarding the service provided. Feedback from the survey assists the ODPP to provide more effective and appropriate services to victims and their families.

In 2021–22 the ODPP received 72 responses to the survey for victims of crime.

The ODPP recorded 57,858 instances of contact with victims of crime or family members, by telephone, correspondence or in person. Further data was captured this financial year in relation to how victims were contacted.

There were 25,112 emails, 19,260 phone calls/video calls, 3,614 text messages and 9,872 letters sent via post. This represents an increase of 9,330 instances of contact from the 2020–21 reporting period.

Coronial reform

The coronial system provides answers to grieving families, protects vulnerable persons, ensures the administration of justice, and guides the community about preventable deaths, advancing health and safety.

The Queensland coronial system operates within a multidisciplinary framework under the *Coroners Act 2003*, with coroners, DJAG, Queensland Health (QH) and QPS each responsible for key parts of the coronial process.

Queensland's coronial system has undergone significant reform since the Queensland Audit Office (QAO) report *Delivering coronial services (Report 6: 2018–19)*. Tabled in late 2018, the QAO report identified a range of issues that were impeding effective service delivery and made seven recommendations collectively aimed at improvement.

With the response to four recommendations delivered, progress continues on the parts of three recommendations which remain open to fully achieve their intent.

The Coronial System Board (board) was established in July 2021 and is chaired by the State Coroner.

In 2021–22 the board has focused on partnership principles to make further system improvement guided by the *Coronial System Delivery Framework 2021–25* which sets out the coronial system's strategic direction over the next five years.

Key achievements in 2021–22 include:

- an interagency Coronial System Coordination Group (coordination group) was convened to implement the *Coronial Services System Delivery Framework* and identified priority actions towards finalising remaining QAO recommendations
- a shared vision for Queensland's coronial system 'Coronial services that partner to deliver independent, family-centred and timely investigations' was embedded, and
- the *Coronial System Family Engagement Strategy* commenced to focus on strengthening family engagement through adopting a family centred, culturally appropriate, trauma aware approach to service delivery.

In 2022–23 the board will continue the transformation agenda required to secure a contemporary and family-focused coronial system.

Crown Law advocacy

Crown Law provides legal and advocacy services to the Attorney-General as first law officer and as chief legal advisor to Cabinet and the Executive Government.

This includes acting on the Attorney-General's behalf in relation to:

- litigation raising constitutional issues
- litigation raising issues pursuant to the *Human Rights Act 2019*
- matters involving charitable trusts and intervening in other litigation as amicus curiae
- conducting proceedings relating to serious sex offenders under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003*
- Mental Health Court and Mental Health Review Tribunal proceedings, and
- other legal and advocacy services involving administrative and public sector governance matters, applications for pardons and extradition of prisoners.

In addition, an integral responsibility of many government agencies is the enforcement of regulations and legislation to protect the public from criminal behaviour and incompetent and improper conduct by members of professions and by commercial organisations.

Our lawyers have extensive experience acting as counsel assisting coronial inquiries and in Commissions of Inquiry, as well as conducting prosecutions on behalf of regulatory and disciplinary agencies.

Crown Law provides the services of skilled counsel for advice, representation and in-house services, placing Crown Law in a unique position to meet the specialist advocacy needs of government agencies in relation to:

- Royal Commissions and Commissions of Inquiry
- CCC hearings
- coronial inquests, and
- statutory and regulatory prosecutions and disciplinary proceedings.

Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003

The *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003* was established following rising concerns in the community about the risk of serious offenders committing further sexual offences after their release at the end of their term of imprisonment.

This Act enables the Attorney-General to make an application for post-sentence preventative detention or supervision of serious sex offenders. The objective is to maintain the protection of the community through the care, control and treatment of sex offenders who are considered an unacceptable risk to the community by reoffending sexually or violently.

Crown Law plays an important role in administering this Act, working in consultation with Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) on the Sex Offenders and Dangerous Offenders Assessment Committee to advise the Attorney-General on whether there is sufficient evidence for making an application under the Act.

Crown Law represents the Attorney-General in these applications and appears at all stages of proceedings.

During 2021–22, 376 cases have been commenced by the Attorney-General under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003*, with 88.01% of offenders placed on an order under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003*. A further 2.18% of these cases are still pending determination by the court.

There are currently 137 offenders on supervision orders in the community under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act 2003*, 129 of whom are fitted with ankle bracelets to electronically monitor their movements.

Human rights snapshot

The Attorney-General's statutory functions under the *Human Rights Act 2019* include intervening for the state as a party to proceedings before a court or tribunal involving human rights issues and receiving and assessing notices concerning such proceedings. As first law officer, the Attorney-General also has the function of advising the state about human rights issues which may arise under the Act.

This work is performed by Crown Law on the Attorney-General's behalf. Crown Law is also involved in complaints of human rights contraventions to the Queensland Human Rights Commission.

During 2021–22, Crown Law received, on behalf of the Attorney-General, 28 notices under section 52 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* and intervened in 10 proceedings.

A brief summary of key human rights cases over the last financial year are as follows:

- In *SQH v Scott* [2022] QSC 16, the Supreme Court accepted submissions made on behalf of the Attorney-General that a decision to exercise coercive questioning powers by the CCC limits the witness's right not to incriminate themselves under section 32(2)(k) of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, but that that limit is nonetheless justified.
- In *TRKJ v Director of Public Prosecutions (Qld)* [2021] QSC 297, the Supreme Court accepted submissions made on behalf of the Attorney-General that the protected counselling communications regime under Division 2A of the *Evidence Act 1977* is compatible with human rights, including the right to a fair hearing in section 31 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Child protection oversight and safety

The Director of Child Protection Litigation (DCPL) represents the state in child protection proceedings in the Childrens Court of Queensland.

The DCPL receives referred child protection matters from the Chief Executive, Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs (DCYJMA).

Each referred matter concerns a child that the DCYJMA is satisfied is a child in need of protection, and a child protection order is appropriate and desirable for the child's protection. The DCPL then deals with the matters by either applying to the Childrens Court for a child protection order, or by referring the matters back to DCYJMA without an application being made.

In making decisions, the DCPL must ensure that the safety, wellbeing and best interests of the child, both through childhood and for the rest of their life, are paramount.

The DCPL is assisted by the ODCPL, which works collaboratively with the DCYJMA, to ensure proceedings are dealt with fairly, as soon as possible, and with minimum cost and legal technicality.

The ODCPL is structured into three Brisbane-based chambers with a centralised litigation support team. This model promotes statewide consistency in decision-making and managing litigation, whilst adapting to local community and regional needs.

In 2021–22, the DCPL continued to work collaboratively with DCYJMA to ensure that a number of key strategies designed to improve inter-agency communication, and to also streamline business processes to deliver greater efficiencies within service delivery were embedded.

The strategies and business process changes, which took effect on 1 July 2019, have promoted statewide consistency by supporting and strengthening Queensland's innovative child protection litigation model.

Overview of workloads and performance

In 2021–22, the DCPL received more than 3,300 referred child protection matters, with each matter relating to an individual child.

The DCPL in turn made more than 3,300 child protection applications and managed the resulting child protection proceedings in the Childrens Court of Queensland across the state and assisted the court to determine over 3,400 applications.

A full overview of the DCPL's workloads and performance is available in the DCPL's Annual Report.

Serious physical injury and child death case reviews

The death of a child is a profound loss that impacts parents, family and close community as well as carers and professionals who have worked, either directly or indirectly, with the child and their family.

Serious physical injuries to children are also accompanied by grief, and families recovering from such tragedies are entitled to compassion and dignity.

Where the DCPL was performing a litigation function in respect of a child who dies or sustains a serious physical injury, they have an obligation to undertake a case review of the matter. This is also required if they were performing this service within the year before the death or injury.

The purpose of the review is to promote the safety and wellbeing of children who come into contact with the child protection system, by facilitating ongoing learning and improvement in the provision of services, to promote accountability and to support collaboration and joint learning by agencies involved with the child.

In 2021–22, the DCPL completed two child death case reviews and eight serious physical injury case reviews.

Protecting vulnerable children and adults

The Public Guardian provides a critical step in safeguarding some of the most vulnerable and disadvantaged Queenslanders.

They promote and protect the rights, interests and wellbeing of adults with impaired decision-making capacity, and children and young people in out of home care, being children in the child protection system (foster care, kinship care and residential care facilities) and accommodated in disability accommodation services, authorised mental health services and youth detention centres.

The Public Guardian is an independent statutory officer appointed by the Governor in Council under the *Public Guardian Act 2014*.

The Public Guardian is supported by the Office of the Public Guardian (OPG), which is comprised of public service employees, who report to the Public Guardian, and independent casual Community Visitors appointed by the Public Guardian under the *Public Guardian Act 2014*.

The OPG's purpose is to advocate for the rights and interests of its clients.

In 2021–22, OPG implemented a range of innovative efficiency measures to measure unprecedented growth in demand for its services. OPG continued to respond flexibly to ongoing challenges from the COVID-19 pandemic by utilising technology to stay connected to clients when face-to-face visits were not possible.

The OPG maintained its provision of dedicated guardianship services in health settings and embedded a new Senior Guardian (Inpatient) within the Sunshine Coast Hospital and Health Service.

The OPG also reviewed the operating model of community visiting and advocacy in line with the *Public Guardian Act 2014* and implemented revised prioritisation and frequency of child and adult visiting by community visitors, as part of the Service Delivery Design Project.

In 2021–22 the OPG completed a project to implement the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and extended the applicability of the principles to both child and adult clients of OPG.

The OPG also completed a project to implement the recommendations of the 2021 QAO report *Responding to complaints from people with impaired capacity – Part 2: The Office of the Public Guardian*. This resulted in a more accessible and timely complaints management process across the OPG.

Individual child advocacy

The OPG performs child advocacy functions that provide an independent voice for children and young people by raising their concerns and expressing their views and wishes, while protecting and promoting their rights and interests through the delivery of the following services:

- child community visiting, and
- child advocacy.

Community Visitors monitor and advocate for children and young people staying at visitable locations, and facilitate the identification, escalation and resolution of issues by and on behalf of children and young people.

Community Visitors inspect and report on the appropriateness of accommodation and perform a range of functions including advocacy about children and young people's access to information about their rights and to the services they need. They also provide advocacy to resolve concerns and assist with making formal complaints.

Child Advocates offer person-centred advocacy for children and young people in the child protection system. Child Advocates are based in Brisbane, Cairns and Townsville, and work in collaboration with Community Visitors.

Child Advocates seek and take into account the views and wishes of each child, to the greatest extent practicable, when providing advocacy and support for children and young people in the child protection system. They are supported to exercise and enjoy their human rights by:

- ensuring that their views are heard in both administrative and judicial decision-making processes
- providing support to participate in court processes and organising legal representation for the child or young person, and
- applying on behalf of the child or young person to the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT) or court regarding changes to a placement, contact decisions or changes to a child protection order.

Individual advocacy includes understanding the lives and views of relevant children and young people, and working to prevent or address discrimination, abuse and neglect by supporting these vulnerable children to exercise and enjoy their human rights.

During 2021–22, OPG Community Visitors visited 10,622 children and young people in visitable locations (homes and sites). Child Advocates supported children and young people at 2,781 meetings through 2021–22, including court appearances, advocacy visits, stakeholder meetings and tribunal hearings.

Protecting the rights of adults with impaired decision-making capacity

The OPG has an important role in protecting and promoting the rights and interests of vulnerable adults with impaired decision-making capacity through delivering the following services:

- public guardianship — supported and substituted decision-making in relation to legal, personal and health care matters, supporting adults to participate in decisions about their life and taking into account their views and wishes to the greatest practicable extent, and acknowledging their right to live as a valued member of society

- investigation of allegations that an adult with impaired decision-making capacity is being neglected, exploited or abused, or has inappropriate or inadequate decision-making arrangements in place, and taking protective action on behalf of the adult where the health and welfare of the adult is at immediate risk of harm, and
- adult community visiting — to monitor services provided at visitable sites. It also facilitates the identification, escalation and resolution of complaints by or on behalf of adults with impaired decision-making capacity staying at those sites.

The QCAT can appoint the Public Guardian as guardian of last resort to make decisions on behalf of adults with impaired decision-making capacity in relation to their personal and legal matters that are not related to property or finance.

In addition, the Public Guardian may approve the use of certain restrictive practices under the *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000* and QCAT may request a visit to a person regarding the use of restrictive practices.

In 2021–22, QCAT made 2,034 orders appointing the Public Guardian to act as the guardian of last resort. Of these, 1,333 orders were reappointment orders for the Public Guardian to continue to be the adult’s guardian. The remaining 701 orders were new appointments to the Public Guardian.

The *Public Guardian Act 2014* and *Guardianship and Administration Act 2000* provide for the OPG’s legislative functions, obligations and powers in relation to adults with impaired decision-making capacity. The Public Guardian may also be appointed by a member of the public to act as their attorney for personal matters through an enduring power of attorney made under the *Powers of Attorney Act 1998*.

The *Powers of Attorney Act 1998* also establishes the role of the Public Guardian as statutory health attorney of last resort. In 2021–22, the Public Guardian provided services under an enduring power of attorney for 75 adults.

In 2021–22, OPG commenced 147 new investigations into allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation and/or inappropriate or inadequate decision-making arrangements for adults with impaired decision-making capacity. During 2021–22, 273 existing investigations were also finalised.

Blue Card Services

The blue card system helps keep Queensland children safe by assisting organisations to be child safe, and screening people who work with children.

Significant changes were introduced to the blue card system from 31 August 2020, supported by new online services to assist applicants and organisations.

The changes continue to be embraced by blue card system stakeholders with 225,227 online applications finalised during 2021–22, and as at 30 June 2022, 10,076 organisations were registered to use the organisation portal.

As at 30 June 2022, 880,069 people were blue card holders. Once approved, blue card holders can use their card to work or volunteer in any of the categories of child-related employment regulated by the blue card system.

Employers and volunteer organisations are required to link individuals to the organisation's record so that they receive notifications of any changes to a person's blue card status.

As at 30 June 2022, blue card holders and applicants were linked to 898,339 different child-related activities. Of these, 88% of links could be managed online as their employer or volunteer organisation was registered to use the organisation portal.

The department has also worked with the Department of Seniors, Disability Services and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships (DSDSATSIP) to support worker screening arrangements for individuals providing National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) supports and services.

Individuals requiring both an NDIS worker screening check and a blue card can make a combined application for both checks, with enhanced information sharing arrangements between Blue Card Services and DSDSATSIP in place to facilitate a streamlined and efficient screening process for most applicants.

In 2021–22, Blue Card Services:

- identified and actioned 3,483 cases to prevent individuals with concerning criminal histories or other assessable information from working with children
- issued 298,411 cards
- monitored 890,844 card holders and applicants for any change in criminal history in Queensland on a daily basis (as at 30 June 2022)
- referred 252 matters to the QPS, involving a total of 633 potential breaches of blue card legislation
- continued to provide community engagement sessions online and in-person with 66 total engagement activities undertaken in this time period involving 1,990 participants
- developed new video resources to support applicants and organisations in culturally and linguistically diverse communities, with videos now available in Korean, Vietnamese, Arabic, Hindi, and simplified Chinese. These videos

include step-by-step how-to guides as well as information on child and youth risk management strategies. This year, Blue Card Services video resources have had 47,472 views compared to 28,269 in 2020–21, and

- continued to support participation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in the blue card system through a dedicated team of professionals and Indigenous Liaison Officers; including travelling to discrete communities to provide practical support and assistance to applicants and employers. Communities visited in 2021–22 include Normanton, Lockhart River, Palm Island, Bamaga, Seisa, Injinoo, Umagico, New Mapoon, Woorabinda, Doomadgee, Coen, Cherbourg, Murgon, Kowanyama and Aurukun.

Queensland Family and Child Commission Review and Safe children and strong communities

During 2021–22, work has continued to respond to and address the 81 recommendations made in the Queensland Family and Child Commission (QFCC) report, *Keeping Queensland's children more than safe: Review of the blue card system*. As at 30 June 2022, 18 recommendations have been completed, 12 are nearly complete, a further 46 are in progress. The remaining five are interdependent on other reform initiatives or still to be commenced.

In response to recommendations made by the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse* in its *Working with Children Checks Report* and the QFCC, the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission delivered a National Reference System (NRS) database which is able to record, maintain and broadcast key decisions, by all jurisdictions for working with children checks to better inform decision making.

In May 2022, amendments to the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* were passed enabling Queensland's participation in the NRS. These provisions will commence in 2022 upon completion of the technical work to integrate with the national database.

Additional amendments were also made allowing Blue Card Services to facilitate access to domestic violence information for the purposes of blue card assessment and simplify and streamline the blue card requirements for persons who work in licensed care services.

Work has also continued to progress on the implementation of the *Safe children and strong communities* strategy and action plan.

Safe children and strong communities aims to empower Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations by providing a more supportive system through each step of the blue card process. An external oversight group has been established to oversee implementation and includes representatives from key non-government Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak bodies and government agencies who play a significant role in Queensland's child protection system.

Reports under Section 395

Section 395 of the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000* allows the DG as Chief Executive Officer to provide reports to the Minister on the administration of the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*, including the Chief Executive Officer's performance and exercise of functions and powers.

In 2021–22, Blue Card Services provided 72 reports to the Attorney-General as required by the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*.

Prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence

DJAG is committed to doing everything it can to keep all Queenslanders safe, particularly women and children.

Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce

The independent and consultative Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce was established in March 2021 and chaired by the Honourable Margaret McMurdo AC, along with ten subject matter experts who during 2021–22 delivered two reports to the Attorney-General.

In December 2021, the independent Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce released its first report, *Hear her voice: Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland*.

The report makes 89 recommendations that seek to further reform the justice and domestic and family violence specialist service systems to ensure they keep victims safe and hold perpetrators accountable.

On 10 May 2022, the Queensland Government released its response to the report, supporting or supporting in principle all 89 recommendations, alongside a \$363 million funding commitment over four years to implement the recommendations including \$106 million to improve safety for victims attending court.

The Government response includes key reforms across Queensland's criminal justice system, including:

- improved domestic, family and sexual violence service system responses, specifically integrated service responses and high-risk teams and perpetrator interventions
- enhancements to Queensland Courts to ensure the safety of victims, and
- a suite of legislative amendments.

Work has begun within the department on implementing these important reforms and will continue over a four-phased implementation approach.

The Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's second report, *Hear her voice – Report Two - Women and girls' experiences across the criminal justice system* was released on 1 July 2022, and outlines 188 recommendations which is being carefully considered by the Queensland Government.

Innovative service delivery models

During 2021–22, the OWVP trialled and evaluated innovative responses to hold perpetrators accountable for their abusive behaviours, including an online perpetrator program trial and the Family Pathways Model trial.

The aim of the online perpetrator program trial, delivered by the Gold Coast Domestic Violence Prevention Centre, was to offer an appropriate alternative to face-to-face perpetrator programs, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Family Pathways Model trial, delivered by the Brisbane Domestic Violence Service and Carinity, seeks to reduce domestic and family violence perpetrated by young men against their mothers and siblings, increase attachment between mothers and sons and reduce risk of young people perpetrating domestic and family violence as adults. Both initiatives have been evaluated by Griffith University and are showing promising results.

In response to the *Hear her voice: Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland* report, the Queensland Government will continue and expand the online perpetrator intervention program trial and the Family Pathways Model trial.

The Queensland Government will also make available a diversity of perpetrator interventions across a continuum of risk and need and develop and trial perpetrator programs specifically tailored to meet the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Youth Sexual Violence and Abuse Action Plans

YSVA is never acceptable and can have profound, lifelong impacts on the social and emotional wellbeing of children and young people.

During 2021–22, the OWVP progressed work on three place-based projects in Yarrabah, Toowoomba and Bundaberg to address YSVA.

The projects involve working with young people aged 12-25 years, schools, Non-Government Organisation (NGO), government agencies and community stakeholders to co-design and implement locally tailored action plans to prevent YSVA. The aim of the projects is to promote safe and healthy relationships, strengthen personal and online safety, enhance sector capacity, and reduce the risk of YSVA.

Community co-design was completed in Toowoomba and Bundaberg in late 2021. There was strong community engagement, with 258 people (including 77 young people) in Bundaberg and 302 people (including 102 young people) in Toowoomba contributing innovative ideas about local prevention strategies. Community workshops were hosted in both locations to showcase ideas and discuss priorities for the action plans.

Work on the Yarrabah project commenced in October 2021. This project is a joint initiative between DJAG and DSDSATSIP. The project is underpinned by a community-led development approach that aims to promote self-determination, local ownership and community-driven change.

A Project Governance Group comprised of local organisations that work closely with Yarrabah's young people has been established to guide project implementation.

A Young People's Project Committee is also being set up to support youth leadership and participation. This project provides an opportunity to work with the Yarrabah community to co-design culturally appropriate resources that are grounded in local culture.

Further funding has been approved to continue the three place-based projects over the next two years. The focus during 2022–23 will be on implementing and evaluating the action plans developed by each community.

Community and sector initiatives

The OWVP delivers small grants programs, community engagement campaigns, projects and services that assist the community to understand the nature and impacts of gender inequality and violence against women.

This is accomplished through the promotion and implementation of government policies and strategies and through the development of partnerships between government, corporate and community organisations and key stakeholders.

The OWVP strives to help women and girls across the state to achieve their full potential by:

- implementing the commitments of the *Queensland Women's Strategy 2022–27*
- supporting the objectives of the *Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Corporate and Community Organisation Engagement Framework*
- providing secretariat and administration support to the Queensland Women's Advisory Group, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Corporate and Community Roundtable and the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Roundtable
- providing oversight of Women's Infolink which provides Queensland women and girls with access to information and services across the state
- delivering the Investing in Queensland Women Grant program twice a year and the Safe and Diverse Communities Grants program annually
- supporting government agencies to achieve the gender parity targets for women on boards through the Women on Boards Initiative
- supporting community engagement and awareness events throughout the year including Queensland Women's Week, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month, Sexual Violence Awareness Month and White Ribbon Day

- sponsoring groups such as Women in Technology, Queensland Rural, Regional and Remote Women's Network, Women of the World, Australian Women in Music Awards, Women in Media, Qld Women in STEM Prize and the National Council of Women in Queensland Inc., and
- developing new and supporting ongoing partnerships with corporate and community organisations, such as Telstra, Griffith University and the Local Government Association Queensland.
- implemented Queensland Women's Week, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month and Sexual Violence Prevention Month, and
- managed a 204% increase in contact with the public through the Women's Infolink, email contacts, website engagement and subscriptions to our mail out.

In 2021–22, the OWVP:

- delivered the new *Queensland Women's Strategy 2022–27*
- delivered the Domestic and Family violence Prevention Corporate and Community Organisation Engagement Framework
- implemented two rounds of the Investing in Queensland Women grant program with over 90 successful grant recipients receiving funding across the state
- successfully implemented an inaugural round of the Safe and Diverse Communities grant program, with 14 organisations receiving funding to support culturally and linguistically diverse communities to raise awareness about the prevention of domestic, family and sexual violence

Specialist Courts and support programs

Court Link

Court Link is a generic integrated assessment, bail-based referral and support program, which aims to address the underlying factors contributing to offending.

These may include homelessness or housing instability, lack of employment, mental or physical health issues and/or substance abuse.

The program targets defendants with a moderate to high risk of reoffending, with professionally qualified Court Link case managers assessing referred defendants.

Judicial monitoring of the participant's progress is also an integral aspect of the program.

An external evaluation of Court Link commenced in 2019 and is expected to be completed by 2023.

In 2021–22, Court Link made 61 community referrals for defendants to receive treatment in the community, 635 participants were admitted to the program for case management and a total of 346 participants completed 12 weeks or more of case management.

Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court

The Queensland Drug and Alcohol Court (QDAC) aims to improve community safety by rehabilitating offenders so that they can reintegrate back into the community as productive members of our society.

Suitable participants, assessed through a multi-agency assessment process, are sentenced, as an alternative to imprisonment, to a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order. The Treatment Order delivers an integrated therapeutic program, providing supervision, treatment, monitoring by the court and other interventions over a two-year period to address substance use and other factors contributing to offending.

QDAC relies on an integrated therapeutic approach by the judiciary, DJAG and other participating agencies including the QPS, QCS, Legal Aid Queensland (LAQ) and QH. This approach ensures all QDAC participants receive the necessary monitoring by the courts, supervision, treatment and interventions to help them meet the goals of the Drug and Alcohol Treatment Order.

Culturally appropriate support is provided to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants, through a dedicated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Liaison Officer, who works closely with the participants throughout assessment and Treatment Order phases.

In 2021–22, 51 participants commenced on treatment orders. Twenty-one participants have graduated from the program since commencement.

The external evaluation of QDAC, which started in 2019, is expected to be completed in 2023. While the evaluation progresses into its final stages, DJAG continues to work with participating agencies to identify and implement opportunities to continuously improve QDAC program delivery.

Murri Court

Murri Court is a Queensland Magistrates Court bail-based program which provides an opportunity for members of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community (including Elders and victims) to participate in the court process. The program requires defendants to take responsibility for their offending behaviour, whilst respecting and acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture.

Defendants considered eligible to participate in Murri Court can be referred by a magistrate for further assessment to determine their suitability. In addition to receiving support at court, participants can be referred to treatment and support services, as well as taking part in cultural activities including yarning circles and men's and women's groups.

Elders or Respected Persons from the community are in the courtroom to guide and encourage defendants, and help magistrates understand more about defendants' personal and cultural circumstances.

Stakeholders participating in Murri Court are encouraged to speak in plain English and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags and local artwork are displayed in the courtrooms.

Murri Courts operate in 15 locations: Maroochydore, Brisbane, Caboolture, Cairns, Cherbourg, Cleveland, Mackay, Mount Isa, Richlands, Rockhampton, St George, Toowoomba, Townsville, Ipswich, and Wynnum.

In 2021–22, 568 eligible defendants were referred to the Murri Court with 413 defendants in the program as at 30 June 2022 (including participants who commenced in the previous financial year).

489 defendants exited the program including participants sentenced in Murri Court and matters adjourned back to the mainstream Magistrates Courts.

Work to address opportunities identified by the June 2019 evaluation of the Murri Court by Ipsos Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Unit, released in April 2021, is expected to continue in 2022–23.

Specialist domestic and family violence (DFV) courts

Specialist DFV courts currently operate in five locations in Queensland: Southport, Beenleigh, Townsville, Mount Isa and Palm Island. The roll-out of the specialist DFV courts delivers on the Queensland Government's commitment to a specialist court approach in dealing with DFV matters, as recommended by the *Not Now, Not Ever* report of the Special Taskforce on DFV.

Queensland's specialist DFV courts are multidisciplinary and collaborative in nature using:

- a client-centred approach with a focus on victim safety and perpetrator accountability
- dedicated magistrates and specialist prosecutors with a high degree of knowledge and experience of the complex legal framework underpinning DFV
- a specialist court registry
- duty lawyers available to provide advice and representation in court for aggrieved and respondent parties, and
- court support, information and referral services for aggrieved and respondent parties.

As part of the continuation of Queensland's specialist DFV courts, a final independent evaluation of the Southport Specialist DFV Court was completed in December 2021 and released in June 2022.

A key objective of the final Southport evaluation was to inform the continued roll-out and improvement of the specialist court approach for dealing with DFV matters in Queensland.

The final evaluation report found that the Southport Specialist DFV Court continues to fulfil its purpose to ensure a coordinated, respectful, and fair justice response to DFV and is demonstrating best, or leading, practice in many of its operations.

The final report also highlighted that the sustained cooperation between partner agencies including the QPS, LAQ, QCS, DCYJMA, and non-government service providers is making a significant difference by connecting people with support services before, during, and after their matter has been heard in court.

Many of the recommendations of the final evaluation are consistent with recommendations from the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce *Hear Her Voice: Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland* report including that DJAG continue the roll-out of specialist DFV courts as informed by the Southport evaluation. The Queensland Government will roll-out two new specialist DFV courts in Cairns and Brisbane.

The Beenleigh Specialist DFV Court accounted for the highest volume of civil DFV lodgements in 2021–22 with 2,847 initiating applications, followed by Southport Specialist DFV Court which received 2,357 initiating applications.

Queensland Law Reform Commission

The Queensland Law Reform Commission (QLRC) is an independent statutory body and is constituted under the *Law Reform Commission Act 1968*.

The QLRC conducts law reform reviews referred to it by the Attorney-General or contained in a program of law reform reviews approved by the Attorney-General. It makes recommendations in law reform reports which are tabled in the Queensland Parliament.

The QLRC's members are appointed by the Governor-in-Council on the advice of the Attorney-General.

The *Law Reform Commission Act 1968* provides that the QLRC must consist of at least three members, who may be full-time or part-time members. Currently, the QLRC has seven part-time members, including the Chair. The QLRC is supported by a small secretariat of DJAG employees.

A framework to regulate a decriminalised sex work industry

The Queensland Government has committed to decriminalising the sex work industry. This means regulating sex work as work, not as a crime.

On 27 August 2021, the Attorney-General gave the QLRC terms of reference to conduct a review and recommend a framework for a decriminalised sex work industry in Queensland.

In approaching this task, the QLRC's aim is to develop a regulatory framework focused on fairness, safety, and health.

On 11 April 2022, the QLRC released a consultation paper, *A framework for a decriminalised sex work industry in Queensland* seeking submissions on many important issues raised in the review. Submissions closed on 3 June 2022.

Following the release of the consultation paper, the QLRC consulted extensively with sex workers, brothel licensees, sex worker organisations, industry regulators, police officers, government departments, local governments, legal professionals, and other interested people and organisations.

The QLRC's final report is due in November 2022.

Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council

The Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council (QSAC) provides independent research and advice, seeks public views, and promotes community understanding of sentencing matters.

QSAC's role is to:

- inform the community about sentencing in Queensland through research and education
- engage with Queenslanders to gather their views on sentencing, and
- advise on sentencing matters.

Serious violent offences scheme

In April 2021, QSAC was asked to review the operation and efficacy of the serious violent offences (SVO) scheme under Part 9A of the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992*.

A comprehensive review of the scheme was undertaken and included a literature review, extensive data analysis, a review of case law and sentencing remarks and a cross-jurisdictional analysis.

The Council interviewed subject-matter experts and consulted extensively with a range of organisations and individuals, including victims and survivors of crime and their families.

On 9 June 2022, QSAC published its final report on the review, *The '80 percent Rule': The Serious Violent Offences Scheme in the Penalties and Sentences Act 1992 (Qld)*. The report found that the scheme is not working as intended and made 26 recommendations to reform the existing scheme to allow it to better meet its objectives.

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse was established in January 2013.

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Royal Commission) was established in January 2013 with findings of the five-year inquiry released across four reports—the final report presented on 15 December 2017.

This report covered many decades and detailed the in-depth examination of the actions and responses to sexual abuse of children in institutions responsible for caring for children. The Royal Commission made 409 recommendations about how we can better protect children against sexual abuse and alleviate the impact of abuse on children when it occurs.

The Queensland Government released its response to all four reports on 15 June 2018. Four annual reports detailing Queensland's progress on implementing the Royal Commission's recommendations have been released, with the most recent, the Fourth annual progress report, tabled in Queensland Parliament on 8 April 2022.

DJAG is responsible for a range of recommendations spanning different reports and the introduction of an intermediary scheme in Queensland.

Working with children checks report

The Working with Children Checks report makes recommendations to strengthen the protection that children receive through working with children checks (known as the blue card system in Queensland). The QFCC took this report into account when undertaking an extensive review of the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*.

The QFCC made 81 recommendations to further strengthen and streamline the system, including as a minimum that Queensland adopt the Royal Commission's recommendations in relation to the working with children check process. Where Queensland's safeguards are stronger than the Royal Commission's recommendations, stakeholders supported that these be retained.

In May 2022, amendments were passed by the Queensland Parliament to facilitate Queensland's participation in the Working with Children Check National Reference System. This database when operational will enable jurisdictions to identify people who have been prohibited from working with children in another jurisdiction.

Criminal Justice report

The Royal Commission's Criminal Justice report (CJR) is aimed at reforming the Australian criminal justice system to provide a fairer response to victims and people who experienced institutional child sexual abuse.

On 5 July 2021, the new offences of failure to report belief of a child sexual offence and failure to protect a child from a child sexual offence commenced. Stakeholder consultation on the operation of the offences commenced from July 2022.

Queensland's Intermediary Scheme pilot to assist witnesses with communication difficulties to give their best evidence, commenced in Brisbane and Cairns on 5 July 2021.

The Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce's second report, *Hear her voice – Report Two - Women and girls' experiences across the criminal justice system* contained a number of recommendations relevant to CJR recommendations which have not yet been implemented in Queensland, namely:

- Recommendation 42 for amendment of the Criminal Code to address the sexual exploitation of children aged 12-17 years by adults who occupy a position of authority over those children (CJR recommendations 27-29)
- Recommendation 71 for the development and implementation of a plan to improve court case management of sexual violence cases in the District Court of Queensland (CJR recommendation 72), and

- Recommendation 75 for amendment of laws relating to similar fact (coincidence) and propensity (tendency) evidence, in relation to all sexual offences to reflect the current position in the uniform evidence law jurisdictions of Australia (CJR recommendations 44-51)

Queensland Intermediary Scheme Pilot Program

The *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and Criminal Justice Report 2017* recommended states and territories establish intermediary schemes, similar to the registered intermediary scheme in England and Wales.

An intermediary has professional credentials and skills in speech pathology, occupational therapy, psychology or social work and as an officer of the court, must act impartially. On 5 July 2021, the Queensland Intermediary Scheme (QIS) pilot commenced in the Brisbane and Cairns regions. Under the QIS pilot, an intermediary aids eligible Queenslanders who are prosecution witnesses in child sexual offence matters to participate fully in the criminal justice system. They also support Queensland's courts to receive the best evidence that a witness can provide by aiding police and courts with questioning and communication.

For 2021–22, the QIS pilot received 95 referrals for intermediary services, relating to 34 matters. Of these, 75 requests were from the Director of Public Prosecutions and 20 from the QPS. On a further three occasions, defence counsel requested assistance in phrasing questions in addition to intermediary recommendations made to the court.

During 2021–22, 51 court reports were prepared by an intermediary, being 35 prepared for the court in the Brisbane region and 16 in the Cairns region.

The QIS pilot is undergoing evaluation by a consortium of researchers led by the Australian Catholic University with a final report expected in October 2023. This evaluation will inform Government decision-making regarding the continuation and possible expansion of the pilot.

For 2022–23, the QIS pilot focus will be on engagement with partner agencies. Focused partnerships with QPS, ODPP and Queensland Courts are critical to ensuring intermediaries are engaged whenever possible.

Final report

DJAG and DCYJMA continue to engage with stakeholders and seek views to inform options that address the Royal Commission's final report recommendations.

These recommendations relate to the comprehensive and systemic reform of the culture, services and systems established to look after children.

Options for the implementation of a Reportable Conduct Scheme (DJAG lead) and implementation of Child Safe Standards (DCYJMA lead) are to be considered by government.

Legislation

Evidence and other Legislation Amendment Act 2022

The *Evidence and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* received assent on 10 June 2022. The following amendments commenced on assent:

- provision of a specific process for the viewing and examination of the body of a deceased person in a criminal proceeding (implementing the Queensland Government's response to recommendation 2 in the findings of the Inquest into the disappearance and death of Daniel James Morcombe)
- clarification of the operation of computer warrants in relation to bail, and
- enabling recognition of service as a magistrate in Toowoomba as regional experience for the purpose of a transfer decision under the *Magistrates Act 1991*.

The following amendments will commence on 12 September 2022:

- establishment of a statutory framework that allows protection against disclosure of the identity of journalists' confidential informants (known as 'shield laws'), and
- introduction of a legislative framework to support a pilot enabling video-recorded statements taken by trained police officers to be used as an adult victim's evidence-in-chief in domestic and family violence related criminal proceedings.

Inspector of Detention Services Act 2022

The *Inspector and Detention Services Act 2022* establishes an independent Inspector of Detention Services to provide greater oversight of Queensland's detention facilities (including prisons, community corrections centres, work camps, youth detention centres and police watch-houses).

The Act also:

- provides that the Inspector's role will be to promote improvement of detention services and places of detention, uphold the humane treatment and conditions of detainees, and to prevent harm to detainees
- sets out the framework for the Inspector to conduct regular reviews and inspections to examine the systems and lived experiences of people in detention and to report publicly to Parliament, and
- provides that the Queensland Ombudsman will be appointed to the role of the Inspector.

Establishment of the Inspector of Detention Services is in response to Government's commitment to implement recommendations from a range of independent reviews including the Sofronoff Review, the Taskforce Flaxton report and the Independent Review of Youth Detention.

The Act has not yet commenced.

Justice and Other legislation Amendment Act 2021

On 24 November 2021 the *Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2021* (JOLA 2021) received assent. The JOLA 2021:

- makes permanent particular measures and in particular circumstances, the following temporary laws that were made during the COVID-19 emergency in the justice portfolio:
 - *Justice Legislation (COVID-19 Emergency Response—Documents and Oaths) Regulation 2020*
 - *Domestic and Family Violence Protection (COVID-19 Emergency Response) Regulation 2020*.
- amends the *Liquor Act 1992* to allow licensed restaurant operators to apply for a permanent condition of licence authorising the sale of 1.5 litres of wine (i.e. two bottles) with a takeaway meal up to 10pm
- extends the expiry of the *Retail Shop Leases and Other Commercial Leases (COVID-19 Emergency Response) Regulation 2020* until two years after the COVID-19 legislation expiry date, as defined in section 4A of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Act 2020*, unless it is repealed sooner
- amends the Governor’s pension arrangements under the *Governors (Salary and Pensions) Act 2003*, and
- amends the *Queensland Building and Construction Commission Act 1991* to clarify a technical issue relating to directions to rectify building work.

Document reforms

These reforms modernise the way in which important legal documents are created, in line with contemporary business practice, and to improve accessibility.

The reforms embrace digital technology to provide new and alternative pathways for document execution, in addition to the ordinary physical approach, to allow individuals to choose their preferred method of document execution.

The reforms make it easier for individuals to make and sign important legal documents without the need to be physically present and improve access to justice, reduce transaction costs, and increase the efficiency of conducting private and commercial transactions.

Domestic and family violence reforms

The DFV reforms provide greater flexibility in how parties may appear and file documents in domestic and family violence proceedings and increase the accessibility of the court for applicants in urgent situations.

Enabling the option of electronic filing (where a document or class of document is approved by the Principal Registrar of the court) also serves to improve accessibility in DFV proceedings and allows for future expansion of electronic filing in line with the Magistrates Court’s capacity.

Liquor reforms

The liquor reforms reduce regulatory barriers for restaurants and support small business by allowing licensees to be authorised to sell a limited amount of wine for takeaway or delivery with a takeaway meal.

The amendments deliver a public benefit by reflecting contemporary food service standards and changing customer expectations.

Public Trustee (Advisory and Monitoring Board) Amendment Act 2022

The *Public Trustee (Advisory and Monitoring Board) Amendment Act 2022* (PTAM Board Act) received assent on 20 May 2022.

The Public Trustee provides a range of financial, trustee and legal services and forms a central role in the guardianship system in Queensland. The guardianship system provides a range of substitute decision makers to make decisions on behalf of adults with impaired decision-making capacity.

The PTAM Board Act establishes the Public Trustee Advisory and Monitoring Board to provide independent and effective oversight over the Public Trustee, to improve its performance, transparency and public accountability.

The Board will monitor and review the performance of the Public Trustee's functions, complaints received by the Public Trustee about the performance of the Public Trustee's functions, and the Public Trustee's processes for managing these complaints.

The Board can give written advice or make recommendations to the Minister about:

- changes to legislation, or improvements to the policies, practices, resources, services or training of the Public Trustee, and
- improvements or enhancements to the performance of the Public Trustee's functions to promote the interests of the Public Trustee's clients.

The Board can also give advice or make recommendations about any matters relating to the performance of the Public Trustee's functions:

- to the Minister, at the request of the Minister, and
- to the Public Trustee.

The Act has not yet commenced.

Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022

On 20 May 2022, the *Child Protection Reform and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* (CP Amendment Act) received assent, after being introduced into Parliament by the Honourable Leanne Linard MP, Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs.

The CP Amendment Act contained a package of reforms relating to the blue card system. The amendments to the *Working with Children (Risk Management and Screening) Act 2000*:

- provided a legislative basis for the chief executive to request domestic violence information from the police commissioner for the purposes of a blue card assessment
 - facilitated Queensland's participation in the Working with Children Check National Reference System - a national database which enables jurisdictions to identify persons who have been deemed ineligible to work with children in another state or territory
 - enabled the chief executive to have regard to adverse decisions in other jurisdictions as part of a blue card assessment
- simplified and streamlined the categories of regulated employment and regulated business that deal with licensed care services to better reflect the contemporary service delivery model used by licensees in discharging their functions, including greater outsourcing to contractors and sub-contractors, and
 - enabled a licensee to have greater visibility over the blue card status of each person performing a risk-assessed role for a licensed care service operated under the licence.

Personal Injuries Proceedings and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022

On 30 June 2022, the *Personal Injuries Proceedings and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2022* received assent. The Bill prohibits claim farming of personal injury and workers' compensation claims in response to stakeholder concerns about the relevance of this practice for institutional child abuse and workers' compensation claims.

Claim farming occurs where a third-party approaches and pressures individuals into making a compensation claim. Claim farmers then sell the claim and the claimant's personal information to a legal practitioner or claims management service provider.

Under the Bill, the Legal Services Commission has additional powers to oversee and enforce the new claim farming provisions, and additional funding of \$5.01 million over three years from 2021–2022 has been provided to the Commission to undertake this role.

This funding package equates to six FTEs during the establishment and implementation phases, transitioning to four FTEs after 18 months for ongoing monitoring and compliance matters, as well as one-off funding to undertake necessary information technology and software capability improvements, advertising and awareness campaigns, education and stakeholder engagements as well as set up and workspace fit-out equipment costs for new personnel.

Most of the provisions (including the new claim farming offences and the special investigation powers) commenced on assent. The remaining provisions to be proclaimed primarily relate to new law practice certificate requirements for which an implementation lead time has been necessary.

Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee reports

The Parliamentary Crime and Corruption Committee (the Committee) was established to monitor and review the activities of the CCC.

The Committee released two significant reports in 2021 on:

- the *Review of the activities of the Crime and Corruption Commission* (Report No. 106), tabled on 30 June 2021, which followed on from the previous statutory review of the CCC, tabled on 30 June 2016, and
- the *Inquiry into the Crime and Corruption Commission's investigation of former councillors of the Logan City Council; and related matters* (Report No. 108), tabled on 2 December 2022.

The Queensland Government Response to the Committee's Report No. 108 was tabled on 31 January 2022.

The response supported all recommendations directed to Government. In response to recommendations 3 and 6, on 7 February 2022 the *Commission of Inquiry relating to the Crime and Corruption Commission (Commission of Inquiry)* commenced.

The Commission of Inquiry examined the structure of the CCC in relation to seconded police officers, matters relating to the charging and prosecution of serious criminal offences in the context of Commission investigations and section 49 (Reports about complaints dealt with by the Commission) of the *Crime and Corruption Act 2001*.

The Commission of Inquiry's report was delivered to the Premier and Minister for the Olympics, and the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence on 9 August 2022.

The Queensland Government Response to the Committee's Report No. 106 was tabled on 17 December 2021 and supported in full or supported-in-principle 20 of the 22 recommendations directed to Government.

Looking forward – our focus for 2022–23

During 2022–23, DJAG will:

- partner across government to implement the commitments of the *Queensland Women’s Strategy 2022-27* including the *Queensland Women’s Health Strategy*
- implement the response to the Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce *Hear her voice – Report one - Addressing coercive control and domestic and family violence in Queensland* recommendations and respond to the recommendations resulting from *Hear her voice - Report two - Women and girls’ experiences across the criminal justice system*
- support and promote the objectives of the Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Corporate and Community Organisation Engagement Framework through partnerships, education of the corporate community and delivering tools and resources to support this work
- continue to identify and support sponsorship opportunities that support women into male dominated fields and leadership opportunities for women and girls across the state
- implement Queensland Women’s Week, Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month and Sexual Violence Prevention Month
- implement two rounds of the Investing in Queensland Women Grant Program and Safe and Diverse Communities Grant Program
- continue to work to address opportunities identified by the evaluation of the Murri Court
- continue the QIS pilot program, with a focus on engagement with partner agencies
- support the delivery of the final QRLC report on decriminalising the sex work industry
- support workload increases in matters referred for prosecution in the ODPP’s northern chambers of Cairns, Townsville and Rockhampton
- continue to support the three place-based projects in Yarrabah, Toowoomba and Bundaberg to address YSVA, and
- implement and evaluate community YSVA Action Plans developed by projects in Yarrabah, Toowoomba and Bundaberg.