



MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday 14 December 2016

Final report of Youth Detention Review delivered to Government

The final report of the Independent Review of Youth Detention has today been provided to the Honourable the A/Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills, Anthony Lynham.

The Review examined specific allegations of mistreatment of young people made by former staff members and young people previously in youth detention in Queensland.

It also examined the practices, operation and oversight of the state's two youth detention centres in Townsville and Brisbane, and evaluated the effectiveness of current programs and services delivered in the centres.

The report has been provided to the Queensland Government in a confidential format. A further format will be provided to the Government in the coming days with the names of individuals de-identified to enable its publication (subject to the Government's determination).

Commissioner Kathryn McMillan, QC, said: "The specific incidents we reviewed, as shown by the ABC and published in the *Courier Mail*, were particularly distressing.

"That such events could happen in Queensland institutions responsible for the care of young people, whether or not they had been convicted of criminal offences, shocked many in the community.

"It is our hope that in providing our final report in a de-identified format the Government will resolve to make the findings and recommendations public which will give the community and key stakeholder groups an opportunity to understand better the issues, and the proposals to address them.

Co-chair Professor Megan Davis, said: "We are especially indebted to the young people involved in the specific incidents included in the report.

"We were able to speak with many of them and hear their stories, and we are very pleased to include their voices in concert with the many others relevant to this review."

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