



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Children, Youth and Families

Reference: HCSD

Hearing: 12 November 2025

In relation to: Bimberi Youth Justice Centre Throughcare

Question received: 14 November 2025

Answer Due: 27 November 2025

1. In the 2023–24 budget, the Government provided the Community Services Directorate with \$200,000 for the purposes of ‘developing a Throughcare program for youth justice’. A consultant was engaged in the 2023–24 financial year to do this work. Can you please provide a copy of the consultant’s work as delivered to government? Can you provide an update on, including an indicative timeline for, the establishment of a throughcare program for Youth Justice.

Mr Michael Pettersson MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

1. In 2024, the then Communities Services Directorate led work to scope what a youth justice throughcare model for the ACT could look like, engaging with many stakeholders across the ACT Government, community sector and people with lived experience. The work incorporated a co-design process with First Nations young people and their families and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled organisations, supporting the ACT Government’s commitment to self-determination.

Supporting young people leaving detention so they can successfully transition out of detention and back into the community is a focus in the development of the forthcoming ACT Government Youth Justice Strategic Plan. This work builds on the work already conducted to develop a throughcare model. It aims to improve the wellbeing of children and young people at risk of or already in contact with the youth justice system by addressing the underlying drivers of offending behaviour, diverting young people out of the system and supporting community connection and safety. Under the Strategic Plan, this work regarding throughcare is interrelated with the new model of care for youth justice services called for by the Inspector of Custodial Services in the Healthy Centre Review of Bimberi Youth Justice

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Centre 2024. Releasing the consultant's work will occur as part of work on the model of care in due course to ensure that it is contextualized accordingly.

Earlier work on a throughcare model aligns with the recent establishment of the Youth Justice and Adolescent Services Branch within Children, Youth and Families. The branch provides stronger case management support for young people on youth justice orders, including the improved integration of services and referral pathways necessary for transition planning.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



Date: 3.12.25

By the Minister for Children, Youth and Families, Michael Pettersson MLA