

## Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 79  
**Submitted by:** Griffith Criminology Institute (Griffith Youth Forensic Service)  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

Dear Committee, Griffith Youth Forensic Service (GYFS) provides specialist forensic psychological assessment and treatment services, on a state-wide basis in QLD, to youth who are sentenced in courts in relation to serious crimes - sexual offences. GYFS is a university-based program funded by the Queensland Government (Youth Justice) since April 2001 and brings together a team of practitioners (clinicians) and university researchers in a sustained collaboration focused on understanding and preventing youth sexual violence and abuse. Clinicians travel throughout Queensland, including to regional and remote locations, to conduct evidence-based assessments and to deliver treatment in collaboration with local community partners. GYFS has been delivering high quality assessment and treatment services for more than 20 years to support young people who have committed sexual offences and reduce their risk of reoffending in community. GYFS benefits from a high reputation and its evidence-based service delivery model is perceived and utilised as an example of best practice both nationally and around the world, which this year has attracted the visits of young people treatment specialists from Norway and Singapore. It also delivers training to Youth Justice, Queensland Police Service and other services or organisations on a regular basis. Based on its unique knowledge, clinical skills and evidence-based service model in this field, GYFS is looking to expand and apply its services in additional ways depending on team capacity, which could take form for instance in either delivering services to children exhibiting sexual harmful behaviours at school or at home, or delivering services to young people who have committed serious violent crimes. Based on the historical success of its evidence-based service model delivered in QLD, GCI/GYFS foresees that it would be best for the government to consider strengthening and broadening existing based programs. Griffith Youth Forensic Service/Griffith Criminology Institute