

INQUIRY INTO SUPPORT PROVIDED TO VICTIMS OF CRIME

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Submitted by: Queensland Council for LGBTI Health
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See attached:

Legal Affairs and Safety Committee
Queensland Parliament
Via email: LASC@parliament.qld.gov.au



Dear Committee

RESPONSE TO THE INQUIRY INTO SUPPORT PROVIDED TO VICTIMS OF CRIME IN QUEENSLAND

Please accept this submission on behalf of the Queensland Council for LGBTI Health (QC) in response to the inquiry into support provided to victims of crime in Queensland.

About QC

The Queensland Council for LGBTI Health (QC), has been a home for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Sistergirl and Brotherboy people and communities in Queensland for over 35 years. We are proud to be a community led and community owned health and wellbeing service, representing the diversity of our communities. Walking with our people to find the support they need. Changing to meet our diverse communities needs.

What is LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy

Our Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer (LGBTIQ) Sistergirl and Brotherboy people and communities have a long history across these lands now known as Queensland, with their own distinct identities, including in our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Historical advocacy

Our communities have historically come together in the face of criminalisation, discrimination, and human rights advocacy, as groups who were/are not considered part of acceptable society. Our communities today celebrate their visibility, support one another to achieve better outcomes for health and wellbeing and form their own communities as a result, exploring ways of belonging and exploring knowledge of diverse sexualities, genders and bodies.

LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy issues

Historically, our communities have been mistreated, made invisible and overlooked by criminal justice and law enforcement in various ways. Our communities have advocated for change, and that change has been made slowly over time. We acknowledge there is more work to be done, however progress has been made.

As a result, our LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy communities have inherent identities connected to historical trauma, which has created barriers to access services as a result, including services that assist with victims of crime. This is particularly challenging for members of our Trans, Gender Diverse and Non-Binary communities who experience additional levels of violence and harassment.

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Call for Action

QC recommends expanding protections to include appropriate, safe and appropriate specialty services and supports for LGBTIQ+ victim-survivors who have been impacted by gendered violence, community violence, violent crime or institutional violence.

QC also recommends implementing and increasing upskilling and workforce development for staff and services on LGBTIQ+ knowledge to help ensure positive, safe and accessible pathways for LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy people in Queensland accessing victim and crime survivor services.

As a leading provider of LGBTIQ+ workforce development, QC is available for further discussions about strategies to support safe and accessible service pathways for LGBTIQ+ Sistergirl and Brotherboy people in Queensland.

We hope this submission clearly outlines the issues faced by our communities for the inquiry into support provided to victims of crime in Queensland. We welcome the opportunity to continue to work in this area.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Staunton
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Queensland Council for LGBTI Health

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