

Question on Notice

No. 1047

Asked on 14 September 2021

MR J BLEIJIE asked the Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Minister for Multicultural Affairs (HON L LINARD)—

QUESTION

With reference to a possible breakout of young criminals from the proposed youth detention centre in Caloundra in Gregson Avenue (a one-way street) – Will the Minister (a) advise how the Minister will guarantee the safety of the (i) school students next door, (ii) retirees across road and (iii) patients in the hospital behind the facility and (b) provide a copy of the emergency management plan for such occurrence?

ANSWER

The Caloundra site referenced in the member's question is the existing Caloundra watchhouse, located between the courthouse and police station.

The Caloundra watchhouse is a secure facility. Adults and young people detained at the watchhouse are transported to and from the centre by secure vehicles.

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service that from 1 August 2005, when the watchhouse was established, to date, there have been no Escapes from Lawful Custody at the Caloundra Watchhouse.

The proposed short-term remand centre will be used for the same purpose as the current Caloundra watchhouse, short-term detention. However, adults would no longer be detained at the centre, only young people as and when needed.

Young people detained at the watchhouse would be transported to and from the centre by secure vehicles, as is currently the case.

The proposed short-term remand centre will be equipped with first-class security management and infrastructure systems.

As is the normal practice, with regard to an emergency management plan for the proposed centre, an appropriate plan would be drafted in consultation with relevant agencies upon approval of the proposed centre.