

Question on Notice

No. 1062

Asked on 14 September 2021

MR M BERKMAN ASKED THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND MINISTER FOR JUSTICE, MINISTER FOR WOMEN AND MINISTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE (HON S FENTIMAN) –

QUESTION:

With reference to the Queensland Government's commitments in its response to the Productivity Commission's Inquiry into imprisonment and recidivism —

Will the Attorney-General advise what the outcome of the government's consideration of the QPC's proposal is for the establishment of a new statutory Justice Reform Office?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government's response to the Queensland Productivity Commission's (QPC) Inquiry (the QPC Inquiry) into imprisonment and recidivism was released on 31 January 2020.

Agencies have continued to progress the implementation of the recommendations in the QPC Report, noting in some instances progress was impacted by the need to prioritise the COVID-19 response. Ensuring that our police, courts and correctional services can respond effectively and efficiently in these unprecedented times has been the priority for Queensland's criminal justice agencies.

Despite this, the Government continues to deliver a number of initiatives including:

- enhancing processes and approaches to remand and bail;
- expanding the Court Link program to new locations with a dedicated alcohol and other drug referral pathway;
- expanding the Murri Court to Ipswich;
- delivering a review of the Police Prosecution Services, including consideration of business process improvements and maximising efficiency and effectiveness of current resources;
- providing increased funding to Community Justice Groups and creating the *Framework for Stronger Community Justice Groups*;
- delivering a bail service for adult men on remand;
- transitioning a criminal justice Demand and Financial Model to the Queensland Government Statistician's Office;
- improving re-entry services for women in Townsville; and
- delivering an Indigenous mental health intervention program in Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre and Woodford Correctional Centre.

The Queensland Government recognises the importance of ensuring a whole of system approach to criminal justice system reform, as noted in the response to the QPC Inquiry.

I am advised that there is ongoing consideration of how best to deliver on the intent of the QPC's recommendations, particularly those relating to a criminal justice system reform decision-making architecture.