

Question on Notice

No. 17

Asked on 23 February 2021

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

QUESTION

Will the Minister advise (a) as of 22 February 2021 (i) the total number of youth detention spaces across Queensland, (b) how many of those spaces are currently occupied and (c) what plans are there to increase the number of detention spaces?

ANSWER

- (a) As of 22 February 2021, the built bed capacity across the Cleveland Youth Detention Centre, Brisbane Youth Detention Centre (YDC) and West Moreton Youth Detention Centre was 282. Since then, a further 24 beds have come online at the West Moreton Youth Detention centre.
- (b) As at 22 February 2021, 269 YDC beds were occupied.
- (c) On 12 March 2021, all beds became operational at the West Moreton Youth Detention Centre. This brought the built bed capacity to 306 across the Queensland Youth Detention Centres. Since elected in 2015, the Palaszczuk Government has increased the capacity of YDCs by 33%, from 230 beds to the current 306 beds. This followed a period of no new investment in additional youth detention capacity between 2012 and 2014. The Government's record demonstrates a commitment to build more youth detention capacity when needed to match projected demand, and this is a commitment from which we will not step back.