

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1139

asked on Tuesday, 10 December 2024

MR T SMITH ASKED MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND VICTIM SUPPORT AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON L GERBER)

QUESTION:

With reference to the Minister's comments contained within the Courier Mail article 'Adult-crime, adult-time: But gov don't know how many beds are needed' published on 10 November 2024— Will the Minister (a) provide the advice requested from the department regarding safety upgrades at existing youth detention facilities, (b) advise whether the government has accepted this advice and (c) advise what funding will be used to complete these upgrades?

ANSWER:

The Queensland Government is committed to improving safety in Queensland's Youth Detention Centres (YDCs). Queensland's YDCs have been operating above safe capacity since 2022, impacting their ability to ensure the safety of staff and detainees.

I am advised the 2024-25 capital budget includes \$19.17M for upgrades to security and safety at the existing YDCs.

I have directed the Department to develop policy options to improve safety in YDCs in line with the Government's Detention with Purpose policy. The Department has progressed to the early consultation stage with staff and departmental stakeholders.

I will consider that advice in due course, including funding considerations.