

QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 1166-2024

asked on Tuesday, 10 December 2024

MS J HOWARD ASKED MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON L GERBER)

QUESTION:

With reference to page 3 of the Minister's Charter Letter, where it outlines the Minister must 'consult with the sector to determine appropriate separation periods following staff assaults in youth detention centres'

Will the Minister advise (a) what advice has been received on this matter from the Minister's department or any community stakeholders and (b) if the department, or any stakeholder, advised the Minister or the Minister's office of concerns around staff assaults increasing due to the government's policies?

ANSWER:

The Crisafulli Government is committed to restoring safety in Queensland homes, workplaces and communities.

The Making Queensland Safer Plan, includes the Crisafulli Government's commitment to the Detention with Purpose. The Crisafulli Government's Detention with Purpose Plan outlines a clear framework for behaviour management reform through three pillars:

1. Compulsory education – young people must attend school and programs
2. Staff safety – violence against staff will not be tolerated
3. Behaviour management – clear consequences for actions

The Crisafulli Government's Detention with Purpose Plan makes it clear that violence against staff will not be tolerated. Sentencing reform and streamlined provisions to transfer 18-year-olds to adult corrective facilities will ensure detention is safer for Youth Justice staff. Swift and appropriate consequences will be actioned in response to violent behaviour to ensure young people are held accountable for their actions.

Consultation with staff and stakeholders is occurring to implement the Detention with Purpose plan, as well as an assessment of existing oversight agency recommendations.

The Department has not provided advice that staff assaults will increase due to the Government's policies.