

## QUESTION ON NOTICE

No. 26

Asked on 18 February 2025

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**MR J SULLIVAN** ASKED MINISTER FOR YOUTH JUSTICE AND VICTIM SUPPORT AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON L GERBER)

**QUESTION:** With reference to the Wacol Youth Remand Centre (YRC) and the expected handover to Youth Justice— Will the Minister provide (a) the expected operational date, (b) the budgeted staffing positions for its safe operation, (c) the current number of staffing positions filled for the YRC, (d) the current number of vacant staffing positions, (e) a description for each of the current vacant staffing positions and (f) whether the Minister, the Minister's staff, or any of the Minister's departmental staff have discussed the operation of the YRC with any private operators of custodial operations/facilities (or representatives or lobbyists of those private operators)?

### ANSWER

The Wacol Youth Remand Centre (WYRC) was announced by the previous government in 2023 and promised by the then Premier to be open in 2024.

Just one month before the October 2024 election, the previous government assured the community the WYRC would be finished in 2024.

The WYRC will be operational as soon as possible, with up to 180 FTE.

As of 14 March 2025, there are 145 FTE employed with the WYRC, so that it can operate effectively, including operational, frontline positions and key management. Thirty-five remaining positions are currently being filled, with over 60 staff in the current induction process.

I can confirm that neither my staff nor I have had any discussions with private operators of custodial facilities – or their representatives or lobbyists – regarding the operation of the WYRC.

Departmental staff have not discussed the operation of the WYRC with any private operators of custodial operations/facilities (or representatives or lobbyists of those private operators).

I recommend the member direct the part of their question to the Minister for Education and the Arts and the Minister for Health and Ambulance Services for details in relation to the number of budgeted positions, the number of vacant positions, and the description of those vacant positions for the Department of Education and Queensland Health respectively.