



Minister for Police and Corrective Services and
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services

28 April 2023

1 William Street Brisbane
PO Box 15195 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3035 8300
Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Report No. 23, 57th Parliament, Community Support and Services Committee

On 31 October 2022, the Community Support and Services Committee (the Committee) tabled *Report No. 23, 57th Parliament, Towards a healthier, safer, more just and compassionate Queensland: decriminalising the offences affecting those most vulnerable* (Committee Report).

The Queensland Government thanks the Committee, the Committee Secretariat and all those who provided input to Committee in respect of the Committee Report.

In accordance with section 107 of the *Parliament of Queensland Act 2001* ('the Act'), and as the responsible Minister, I acknowledge the need for further consideration of these important issues.

As the Report notes, these matters are "complex, and multifaceted". The Queensland Government notes the Committee's 16 recommendations and commits to further consideration of these recommendations in light of any future legislative reform and investment in additional intervention and diversionary programs.

In this regard, the Queensland Government has already committed funding towards the initiatives that include *Better Care Together – a plan for Queensland's state-funded mental health, alcohol and other drug services through to 2027*.

The plan includes \$1.645 billion over five years to improve mental health, alcohol and other drugs services, and deliver more beds, dedicated services, increased crisis

response and suicide prevention initiatives and a package specific to First Nations peoples.

The Queensland Government undertakes to provide a further update to the House as to the status of these recommendations as necessary in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Ryan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP
**Minister for Police and Corrective Services and
Minister for Fire and Emergency Services**