

Communiqué



Blueprint for Youth Justice Taskforce

Meeting – 19 November 2018



The Blueprint for Youth Justice Taskforce (the Taskforce) met on 19 November 2018 to progress the refresh of the ACT Government's 10-year *Blueprint for Youth Justice in the ACT 2012-22* (the Blueprint). The Taskforce has met on 10 occasions since August 2017, and has considered research, information and presentations to develop priorities for the next four years of the Blueprint.

Organisations represented at the meeting were: the ACT Human Rights Commission, the Community Services Directorate (CSD), the Youth Coalition, Woden Community Services, the Justice and Community Safety Directorate (JACS) and the Education Directorate.

The Taskforce considered draft focus areas and priorities to be included in the Taskforce's final report. Key focus areas considered include:

- Continue to address and reduce the experience of childhood trauma
- Better outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people (and families) who are engaged in the youth justice system
- Support for young people at risk of or who have disengaged from education
- Early support for young people in the middle years (8 to 13 years)
- Diversion programs and services for young people at risk of contact with or further engagement in the youth justice system
- Support for young people with disability and/or mental health concerns in detention
- Whole-of-family support for families involved with the justice system to address intergenerational transmission of criminal offending
- Maintain and continually improve quality services in detention
- Trauma-informed Throughcare in youth justice
- Collect and link data measures to enable data analytics and information sharing.

The Taskforce also considered the ongoing governance of the Blueprint, including ensuring the implementation of the Blueprint is overseen and continually improved through seeking feedback from young people and a wide range of youth justice stakeholders.

The Taskforce will review a draft final report outlining the Taskforce's recommendation for focus areas for the Blueprint in the first half of 2019.

For more information, contact the Community Services Directorate on 133 427 or CYF@act.gov.au.

Accessibility

The ACT Government is committed to making its information, services, events and venues, accessible to as many people as possible.

If you have difficulty reading a standard printed document and would like to receive this publication in an **alternative format** – such as large print or audio – please telephone **(02) 6207 0334**.

If English is not your first language and you require the **translating and interpreting services** – please telephone **131 450**.

If you are deaf or hearing impaired and require the **National Relay Service**, phone **133 677 then ask for 133 427**