



Blueprint for Youth Justice Taskforce

Meeting - 15 September 2017

The Blueprint for Youth Justice Taskforce (the Taskforce) held their second meeting on 15 September 2017 to progress the refresh of the ACT Government's ten-year *Blueprint for Youth Justice in the ACT 2012-22* (the Blueprint).

Co-chairs Jodie Griffiths-Cook, ACT Public Advocate and Children and Young People Commissioner, and Mark Collis, Executive Director, Children, Youth and Families, Community Services Directorate led the meeting. Organisations represented at the Taskforce were: the Community Services Directorate, the Justice and Community Safety Directorate, ACT Health, the Human Rights Commission, ACT Policing, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elected Body, Aboriginal Legal Services, Anglicare, Woden Community Services, PCYC and Legal Aid.

The Taskforce finalised the Terms of Reference for the Taskforce. The Terms of Reference will be published on the Community Services Directorate website.

Members reflected on the six goals supported by the seven strategies that underpin the Blueprint. Members discussed current data trends, emerging issues and themes evident to services involved with children and young people in the ACT and identified key areas for action. These areas included:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people;
- through-care from youth justice;
- restorative practice and its benefits for youth justice
- young people with a disability/mental health concern; and
- early adolescence (8-11 years) and intervention options.

Members agreed that a series of think tanks will be developed over coming months to unpack these issues and to identify priorities for the Blueprint moving forward. The Children and Young People Commissioner will lead the first think tank on through-care in the youth justice system.

The Taskforce will report to the Minister for Disability, Children and Youth through the Director-General, Community Services Directorate.

The next meeting of the Taskforce is scheduled for Friday, 27 October 2017.

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

Communiqué



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