

Appendix 1

THE DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE 2010 RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation	Acceptance Level/Response
Staffing issues 1. That youth justice services centres assume responsibility for home visits to all young people under the Deferred Bench Warrant Program, and that the Aboriginal Welfare Officers at Rangeview no longer be utilised for this purpose.	Supported in principle The Department will examine and assess availability of resources across CYJ directorate to undertake issuing of Deferred Bench Warrants.
Human rights 2. That the Department works towards establishing a 24-hour bail advice service to support police and other bail decision makers in relation to newly arrested young people and, in consultation with legal service providers, explores improvements in the provision of legal services to young people in custody.	Supported The provision of an extended hours bail advice service is an existing Departmental initiative. The Department will initiate discussions with legal service providers (Legal Aid WA, ALS) to explore improvements in the provision of legal services to young people in custody.
Care and wellbeing 3. That the practice of lockdowns cease and that arrangements be put into place to ensure an adequate level of staffing supervision for all Centre operations and activities. This should include scheduling staff activities, such as meal breaks and training, in such a way so as not to require detainees to be regularly locked down.	Not supported There is no alternative within existing resources to ensure the safety and security of the Centre however the Department aims to ensure that all lockdowns are kept to a minimum.
Custody and security 4. That a renewed and firmer emphasis be placed on an anti-graffiti strategy that quickly removes graffiti and provides alternative means of expression for young people.	Supported in principle The Department will research graffiti strategies across Australia, however, there are implementation limitations including the transient detainee population and prohibitive associated costs.

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<p>Custody and security</p> <p>5. That existing or new CCTV cameras be arranged to ensure that incidents are monitored and recorded; that the recorded footage can be easily retrieved; and that such footage is used as part of post incident discussions and learning with staff and young people.</p>	<p>Supported in part</p> <p>All equipment will be maintained and repaired as necessary, however, it should be noted that from late 2011/early 2012 Rangeview will become the privately operated Young Adults Facility. Infrastructure improvements to the facility should therefore be the subject of discussions with the contractor once they are appointed.</p>
<p>Custody and security</p> <p>6. That the training program at Rangeview prioritise those components designed to equip staff with adequate skills in conflict resolution, particularly verbal de-escalation techniques.</p>	<p>Supported – existing Department initiative</p> <p>The Department will continue to review and monitor all training where improvement is required. At present the following training is provided: Effective Intervention Course, Basic Communication and Counselling, Situational Awareness and Managing Difficult Behaviour, Scenario Training and Empty Hand Control. Juvenile Detention Officer training instructs in the minimum amount of force necessary and to consider all reasonable steps to resolve situations without the need of force.</p>
<p>Care and wellbeing</p> <p>7. That the use of the multi-purpose cells in the SPU be reduced and that in future the SPU be used only as an option of last resort.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The use of multi-purpose cells in the SPU are only used as a last resort.</p> <p>The Department is addressing this recommendation as part of the Redevelopment of Youth Custodial Services (Banksia Hill Redevelopment).</p>
<p>Custody and security</p> <p>8. That youth custodial services develop security management strategies to better assess risks (including the risk of drug use) and for the management of such risks across the youth custodial estate.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department will, as much as possible, develop further security management strategies within existing infrastructure.</p>

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<p>Health</p> <p>9. That the Department fund, implement and fill a dedicated Mental Health Nurse position within youth custodial services.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department will ensure consultation with the Mental Health Commission to address mental health issues across the Department including Juvenile Custodial Services. The Department has responded to the WA Mental Health Towards 2020: Consultation Paper, commenting on the gaps and strategic direction needed for mental health reform in WA. Any further growth in mental health in the Department of Corrective Services will require an injection of funds which will be the subject of discussions with the Mental Health Commission</p>
<p>Rehabilitation</p> <p>10. The Department and Rangeview develop a coordinated throughcare model of managing remanded young people.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department is addressing this recommendation as part of the Redevelopment of Youth Custodial Services (Banksia Hill Redevelopment).</p>
<p>Health</p> <p>11. That the Department fund, implement and fill a position for a health promotion coordinator within youth custodial services</p>	<p>Not supported</p> <p>The Department does not believe a new position is required, however, the value of health promotion is recognised by the Department and will be addressed through the school curriculum (reflecting community standards).</p>
<p>Racism, Aboriginality and Equity</p> <p>12. There should be more recognition of Aboriginal culture within the Centre. This should include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The creation of an Indigenous Services Committee. 2. Displaying detainee artwork around the Centre. 3. The more frequent provision of traditional food, not only limited to special events such as NAIDOC week. 4. The promotion of an elders program. 	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department will explore strategies aimed at improving the recognition and acknowledgement of Aboriginal culture within the Centre.</p>

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<p>Rehabilitation</p> <p>13. That a suite of brief intervention programs be developed and provided to young people at Rangeview.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>The Department will explore strategies to provide brief intervention programs prior to making any commitment to support or progress the recommendation.</p>
<p>Care and wellbeing</p> <p>14. The Department and Rangeview encourage, resource and offer training to JCOs at Rangeview to become involved in organising more structured recreation opportunities for detainees.</p>	<p>Supported – existing Department initiative</p> <p>The Department believes it provides a reasonable level of structured recreation opportunities to detainees. The Department will look at methods for improvement.</p>
<p>Care and wellbeing</p> <p>15. Introduce more regular family days at Rangeview.</p>	<p>Supported in part</p> <p>The Department is exploring alternative strategies to facilitate family contact with detainees (ie - monthly barbeques).</p>
<p>Care and wellbeing</p> <p>16. Implement alternative social visit options such as internet-based visits using Skype.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>Trials of internet-based visits will commence in October/November 2010. If the trials are successful and subject to funding capacity, internet-based visits will be progressively rolled out to all custodial institutions.</p>
<p>Correctional value-for-money</p> <p>17. That the Department of Corrective Services explore with relevant agencies options to reduce the conveyance of young people from youth custodial centres to the Perth Children's Court including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dedicated video link facilities for court hearings and taking of confidential legal instructions (separate from video link facilities required for social visit or case management purposes); and 2. Development of a court facility at Banksia Hill. 	<p>Supported in part</p> <p>Audio Visual (AV) equipment and facilities already exist in Rangeview and all other custodial institutions. The Department is exploring expansion of usage of AV technology in consultation with the Department of the Attorney General. This may require upgrades to equipment, facilities and additional resources to properly coordinate AV appointments on behalf of all parties, and therefore is supported subject to the provision of additional funding by Government. Establishment of a court facility at Banksia Hill would require prior consultation with the Judiciary and additional funding if it was to proceed.</p>

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<p>Human rights</p> <p>18. The practice of sending young people on transports, into court holding rooms and court without shoes should cease.</p>	<p>Supported</p> <p>The Department has implemented this recommendation through a Superintendent's Notice.</p>
<p>Staffing issues</p> <p>19. That custodial staffing levels be such that the critical functions of reception, admission, induction, orientation, visit reception and the Special Purpose Unit can be undertaken without adversely impacting on other aspects of detainee management.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department is addressing this recommendation through the Redevelopment of Youth Custodial Services (Banksia Hill Redevelopment).</p>
<p>Staffing issues</p> <p>20. That the current one-to-eight staff to detainee supervision ratio be reviewed with a view to whether the ratio should be adjusted to bring it more in line with other jurisdictions.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department is considering this recommendation as part of the Redevelopment of Youth Custodial Services (Banksia Hill Redevelopment).</p>
<p>Staffing issues</p> <p>21. That teachers employed by youth custodial services be employed under the same conditions as state school teachers.</p>	<p>Supported in principle</p> <p>The Department is considering the current conditions applied to Department teaching staff.</p>