

Appendix D: Townsville Hospital and Health Service submission

Townsville
Hospital
and Health
Service

Mr Anthony Reilly
Queensland Ombudsman and
Inspector of Detention Services

Dear Mr Reilly,

Inspection of Cleveland Youth Detention Centre

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the draft report on your inspection of Cleveland Youth Detention Centre (CYDC) in October 2023.

The focus of the inspection was to review the use of separation and its impacts on children whilst in CYDC, which the Townsville Hospital and Health Service (THHS) provides medical and nursing healthcare services within the CYDC Medical Centre.

The draft report recommendations have been reviewed and the THHS supports all recommendations for government agencies that ensures the health and wellbeing of young people in detentions.

The THHS acknowledges the health services relevant *Inspection Standards 49 and 50* were assessed (p34) and that it was determined that:

- Children's health needs are addressed through accredited health services.
- The youth detention centre has safe facilities, procedures, and practices for the distribution of medication to children.
- Youth justice principle 21 (*Youth Justice Act 1992*) adherence in that a child who is detained in a detention centre should have access to dental and medical service.

The THHS is pleased that the inspection found that healthcare services are in place and not interrupted by the CYDC prolonged use of separation. The THHS is committed to prioritising healthcare services and access to service whilst in detention. Furthermore, the THHS supports recommendation 18 in that the department continues to prioritise children's access to health services, including providing enough operational officers to ensure access.

The THHS looks forward to the finalisation of the Inspections Report. If you have any further enquiry into the provision of healthcare service within CYDC and the remit of the THHS please contact Ms Katrina Roberts, Nursing Director, on (07) 4433 1827 or email Katrina.Roberts@health.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Digitally signed by Kieran Keyes,
Townsville HHS Chief Executive
Officer
Date: 2024.05.21 09:11:36 +10'00'

Kieran Keyes
Health Services Chief Executive
Townsville Hospital and Health Service