

SERVICE DELIVERY STATEMENTS

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support

Queensland Budget 2026-27

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Service Delivery Statements

ISSN 1445-4890 (Print)

ISSN 1445-4904 (Online)



Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support

Portfolio overview

Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services
The Honourable Laura Gerber MP

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support
Acting Director-General: Michael Drane

Additional information about this agency can be sourced from:

youthjustice.qld.gov.au

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support

Overview

The Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support's (the department) vision is to ensure a safer community with fewer victims of crime by restoring consequences for actions and reducing reoffending through effective early intervention and empowering youth offenders to turn their lives around.

The department's purpose is to keep Queenslanders safe by delivering stronger laws and fewer victims of crime, providing meaningful support to victims of crime through victims' support services.

The department's strategic objectives are:

- Fewer victims of crime by reducing offending by youth offenders
- To ensure victims are supported.

The department contributes to the *Government's objectives for the community*¹, *Safety where you live*, by supporting actions to reduce the number of Queenslanders becoming victims of crime; delivering on laws that hold youth offenders accountable; maintaining a strong focus on delivering early intervention and rehabilitation services for youth; reducing reoffending by youth by working collaboratively with community, partner organisations and other government agencies; improving outcomes through collaborative efforts, using data to adapt our approach and ensuring programs are delivering on contract requirements and key performance indicators; and improve the services for victims of crime.

Key deliverables

In 2026-27, the department will:

- continue strengthening youth crime laws to reduce the number of victims and restore safety where you live
- deliver a nation-leading Victims Advocate Service, a one-stop shop that will provide targeted support to victims of crime from the beginning to the end of the justice process
- continue to deliver Gold Standard Early Intervention programs across the state to turn young lives around and prevent crime before it starts
- continue delivering rehabilitation and compulsory education in youth detention centres, through our *Detention with Purpose* policy to reduce reoffending
- continue delivery of Youth Justice and Crime Prevention Schools for at-risk youth to re-engage them in education and give them the support they need to get back on track and away from crime
- continue delivery of Regional Reset early intervention programs, which provide a short stay 'reset' for youth demonstrating high-risk behaviours, and pathways into education, training and employment
- deliver Circuit Breaker, an intensive rehabilitation program as the last stop before detention to break the cycle of crime and reduce reoffending
- continue delivering the Staying on Track program which provides 12 months of post-release rehabilitation support to youth offenders exiting detention to help them re-integrate back into the community and reduce the risk of reoffending
- continue construction of the new Woodford Youth Detention Centre.

¹ To find out more, go to qld.gov.au and search "government's objectives for the community."

Budget highlights

Youth Justice and Victim Support

In the 2026-27 Queensland Budget, the government is providing:

- Additional funding of \$166.5 million over four years and \$33.5 million ongoing towards managing short- and long-term demand for youth justice operations by investing:
 - \$95.8 million over three years and \$32.3 million ongoing to expand operations in the Woodford Youth Detention Centre by an additional 32 beds from 80 to 112 beds
 - \$51.2 million over two years to extend the operation of the Wacol Youth Remand Centre from 1 January 2027 through to 31 December 2027
 - \$4.7 million over four years and \$1.2 million ongoing to manage capacity in the youth detention system
 - \$14.8 million over three years to ensure Childrens Courts receive timely and relevant advice in youth Justice proceedings.
- \$18.9 million for Victim Assist Queensland to continue supporting victims of crime
- \$707,000 to collaboratively design a centralised intelligence hub to keep children safe, as part of the Government's response to the *In Plain Sight: Review into System Responses to Child Sexual Abuse*.

Further information about new policy decisions can be found in *Budget Paper No. 4: Budget Measures*.

Performance statement

Youth Justice

Objective

Fewer victims of crime by reducing offending by youth offenders.

Description

Youth Justice services support youth offenders to cease offending by working with the Queensland Police Service; working with the Department of Education to improve school attendance in youth detention centres; and working with other agencies and the sector to reduce youth crime and developing, delivering, and supporting community led services through all levels of the organisation.

Service standards	2025-26 Target/Est.	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Target/Est.
Effectiveness measures			
Percentage of orders supervised in the community that are successfully completed:			
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth offenders	83%	83%	83%
• Other youth offenders	90%	89%	90%
• All youth offenders	85%	85%	85%
Proportion of youth offenders who have another charged offence or are referred by Queensland Police Service to a Restorative Justice Conference within 12 months of an initial finalisation for a proven offence.	69%	71%	69%
Rate of youth aged 10 to 17 years who have contact with Youth Justice, per 10,000 population ¹ :			
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth offenders	390	372	390
• Other youth offenders	30	28	30
• All youth offenders	59	58	59
Proportion of youth declared a serious repeat offender under the <i>Youth Justice Act 1992</i> out of all youth with a proven offence finalised:	1.5%	1.1%	1.5%
Average daily number of youth in detention centres, rate per 10,000 population ¹ :			
• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander youth offenders	46.1	41.6	46.1
• Other youth offenders	1.7	1.4	1.7
• All youth offenders	5.3	4.9	5.3
Youth detention centre utilisation rate ²	99%	80%	99%
Efficiency measure			
Cost per youth supervised in the community per day ³	\$380.00	\$422.00	\$458.00

Notes:

1. Differences in estimated populations derived by the Australian Bureau of Statistics from the 2016 Census and the 2021 Census have contributed to the population of 10-17-year-old First Nations youth in Queensland now being estimated higher than previously estimated (relevant 2021 Census data released 24 July 2024). These differences affect measures that use rates per population for First Nations youth, lowering rates and over representation statistics.
2. Youth detention centre capacity increased as a result of the Wacol Youth Remand Centre becoming operational in April 2025. The increase in available beds resulted in a lower 2025-26 Est. Actual Youth detention centre utilisation rate than the 2025-26 Target/Est.
3. The cost per youth supervised in the community per day is increasing over time. This is a result of increasing costs, primarily workforce costs, utilities and maintenance, and capital grants to service providers. This resulted in a higher 2025-26 Est. Actual cost than the 2025-26 Target/Est, and a correspondingly higher 2026-27 Target/Est.

Victim Support

Objective

To ensure victims are supported.

Description

As part of the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support, the Victim Support Division leads the development of the Queensland Government's victim support reforms and commitments, including to:

- ensure that victims of crime from across Queensland are appropriately and proactively supported
- design and deliver a professional Victims Advocate Service for victims of crime in Queensland, in consultation with key stakeholders and victims to ensure it is practical and makes a real difference.

The division also ensures victims of crime are provided with support to recover through Victim Assist Queensland (VAQ) under the *Victims of Crime Assistance Act 2009*.

Service standards	2025-26 Target/Est.	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Target/Est.
<i>Effectiveness measures</i>			
Financial Assistance Funeral and High-Risk Applications – average days to an assessed first decision	35 days	26 days	35 days
Percentage of special assistance payments processed within three business days of being assessed as eligible	80%	92%	80%
<i>Efficiency measure</i>			
Not identified	..	..	..

Departmental budget summary

The table below shows the total resources available in 2026-27 from all sources and summarises how resources will be applied by service area and by controlled and administered classifications.

Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CONTROLLED			
Income			
Appropriation revenue ¹	767,433	686,429	821,763
Other revenue	3,484	3,771	3,580
Total income	770,917	690,200	825,343
Expenses			
Youth Justice	722,531	644,570	757,178
Victim Support	48,386	45,630	68,165
Total expenses	770,917	690,200	825,343
Operating surplus/deficit	..	..	..
Net assets	1,106,020	1,280,359	1,519,505
ADMINISTERED			
Revenue			
Commonwealth revenue	..	..	..
Appropriation revenue	343,030	438,790	466,990
Other administered revenue	..	..	..
Total revenue	343,030	438,790	466,990
Expenses			
Transfers to government	..	..	..
Administered expenses	343,030	438,790	466,990
Total expenses	343,030	438,790	466,990
Net assets	..	..	..

Note:

1. Includes state and Federal Government funding.

Staffing

The table below shows the Full Time Equivalents (FTEs) as at the 30 June in the respective years.

Service area	2025-26 Budget	2025-26 Est. Actual	2026-27 Budget
Youth Justice	2,496	2,493	2,651
Victim Support	169	169	228
Total FTEs	2,665	2,662	2,879

Note:

1. Corporate FTEs are allocated across the service to which they relate.

Capital program

The capital program for the department is \$250.9 million in 2026-27. These funds provide the infrastructure that supports structured supervision, rehabilitation and education for youth, helping to reduce reoffending and contribute to safer communities.

Program Highlights (Property, Plant and Equipment):

- \$235.4 million for the continued construction of the Woodford Youth Detention Centre
- \$15.5 million for ongoing upgrades and minor capital works to Youth Detention centres and Youth Justice Service Centres.

The table below shows the total capital outlays by the agency in the respective years.

	2025-26 Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
Capital purchases	343,147	461,397	250,938
Capital grants	..	..	..
Total capital outlays	343,147	461,397	250,938

Note:

1. Further information about the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support capital outlays can be found in *Budget Paper No. 3: Capital Statement*.

Budgeted financial statements

Departmental income statement

Controlled income statement

The 2026-27 controlled budget for the Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support is \$825.3 million, of which 99.6% is appropriation revenue, representing a 7% increase compared to the 2025-26 controlled budget of \$770.9 million. Other revenue mainly relates to user charges for services provided through Outlook facilities.

In 2026-27, the Queensland Government is investing in managing short- and long-term demand for youth justice operations and Victim Support.

Administered income statement

The total 2026-27 administered budget for the department is \$467 million. The department administers the financial assistance provided to victims of crime under the VOCA Act on behalf of the government.

Departmental balance sheet

Controlled balance sheet

In 2026-27, the department's net assets are projected to be \$1.520 billion, with total assets of \$1.608 billion offset by liabilities of \$88.2 million. The department's major assets are in property, plant and equipment and include Youth Detention Centres.

The department's liabilities relate to payables of capital and operating nature for trade creditors and accrued employee benefits.

Administered balance sheet

In 2026-27, the department's administered balance sheet relates to the financial assistance provided to victims of crime under the VOCA Act on behalf of the government.

Controlled income statement

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	767,433	686,429	821,763
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	3,010	3,297	3,106
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	416	416	416
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	58	58	58
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	770,917	690,200	825,343
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	387,235	397,359	446,650
Supplies and services	348,122	240,900	322,389
Grants and subsidies	..	17,768	15,000
Depreciation and amortisation	20,287	22,591	21,945
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	15,273	11,582	19,359
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total expenses	770,917	690,200	825,343
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Controlled balance sheet

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	19,715	78,344	81,561
Receivables	9,678	14,452	14,452
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	1,397	1,301	1,301
Other	2,519	409	409
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	33,309	94,506	97,723
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	1,099,577	1,274,079	1,510,009
Intangibles	3	3	2
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	1,099,580	1,274,082	1,510,011
TOTAL ASSETS	1,132,889	1,368,588	1,607,734
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	17,477	75,519	75,519
Accrued employee benefits	8,075	11,393	11,393
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	1,317	1,317	1,317
Total current liabilities	26,869	88,229	88,229
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	..	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	26,869	88,229	88,229
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	1,106,020	1,280,359	1,519,505
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	1,106,020	1,280,359	1,519,505

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Controlled cash flow statement

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	767,433	637,392	821,763
User charges and fees	3,010	3,297	3,106
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	416	416	416
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	58	58	58
Outflows:			
Employee costs	(387,235)	(397,359)	(446,650)
Supplies and services	(348,122)	(240,900)	(322,389)
Grants and subsidies	..	(17,768)	(15,000)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	(15,273)	(11,582)	(19,359)
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	20,287	(26,446)	21,945
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	21,150	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	(343,147)	(461,397)	(250,938)
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	(343,147)	(440,247)	(250,938)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	330,285	471,600	239,917
Appropriated equity injections	330,285	471,600	239,917
Non-appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	(5,887)	(30,404)	(7,707)
Appropriated equity withdrawals	(5,887)	(9,254)	(7,707)
Non-appropriated equity withdrawals	..	(21,150)	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	324,398	441,196	232,210
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	1,538	(25,497)	3,217
Cash at the beginning of financial year	18,177	103,841	78,344
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	19,715	78,344	81,561

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered income statement

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
INCOME			
Appropriation revenue	343,030	438,790	466,990
Taxes	..	..	..
User charges and fees	..	..	..
Royalties and land rents	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distributions from managed funds	..	..	..
Other revenue	..	..	..
Gains on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Total income	343,030	438,790	466,990
EXPENSES			
Employee expenses	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	343,030	438,790	466,990
Depreciation and amortisation	..	..	..
Finance/borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other expenses	..	..	..
Losses on sale/revaluation of assets	..	..	..
Administered revenue transferred to Government	..	..	..
Total expenses	343,030	438,790	466,990
OPERATING SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	..	..	..

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered balance sheet

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets	45,176	57,958	57,958
Receivables	7,918	305,054	508,427
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Inventories	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Non-financial assets held for sale	..	..	..
Total current assets	53,094	363,012	566,385
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables	..	..	..
Other financial assets	..	..	..
Property, plant and equipment	..	..	..
Intangibles	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current assets	..	..	..
TOTAL ASSETS	53,094	363,012	566,385
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	769	1,082	1,082
Transfers to Government payable	817	793	793
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	22,752	361,137	564,510
Other	..	..	..
Total current liabilities	24,338	363,012	566,385
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	..	..	..
Accrued employee benefits	..	..	..
Interest bearing liabilities and derivatives	..	..	..
Provisions	28,756	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Total non-current liabilities	28,756	..	..
TOTAL LIABILITIES	53,094	363,012	566,385
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	..	..	..
EQUITY			
TOTAL EQUITY	..	..	..

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Administered cash flow statement

Department of Youth Justice and Victim Support	2025-26 Adjusted Budget \$'000	2025-26 Est. Actual \$'000	2026-27 Budget \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Appropriation receipts	343,030	306,231	263,617
User charges and fees	..	..	..
Royalties and land rent receipts	..	..	..
Grants and other contributions	..	..	..
Interest and distribution from managed funds received	..	..	..
Taxes	..	..	..
Other	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Employee costs	..	..	..
Supplies and services	..	..	..
Grants and subsidies	(343,030)	(438,790)	(466,990)
Borrowing costs	..	..	..
Other	..	176,063	203,373
Transfers to Government	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in operating activities	..	43,504	..
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Sales of non-financial assets	..	..	..
Investments redeemed	..	..	..
Loans and advances redeemed	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Payments for non-financial assets	..	..	..
Payments for investments	..	..	..
Loans and advances made	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in investing activities	..	..	..
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Inflows:			
Borrowings	..	..	..
Equity injections	..	..	..
Appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity injections	..	..	..
Outflows:			
Borrowing redemptions	..	..	..
Finance lease payments	..	..	..
Equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Non-appropriated equity withdrawals	..	..	..
Net cash provided by or used in financing activities	..	..	..
Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	..	43,504	..
Cash at the beginning of financial year	45,176	14,454	57,958
Cash transfers from restructure	..	..	..
Cash at the end of financial year	45,176	57,958	57,958

As a result of the adoption of a new Whole of Government chart of accounts this year, there may be some re-allocations between categories in these SDS financial statements.

Glossary of terms

Accrual accounting	Recognition of economic events and other financial transactions involving revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity as they occur and reporting in financial statements in the period to which they relate, rather than when a flow of cash occurs.
Administered items	Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses an entity administers, without discretion, on behalf of the government.
Agency/entity	Used generically to refer to the various organisational units within government that deliver services or otherwise service government objectives. The term can include departments, commercialised business units, statutory bodies or other organisations established by Executive decision.
Appropriation	Funds issued by the Treasurer, under Parliamentary authority, to departments during a financial year for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • delivery of agreed services • administered items • adjustment of the government's equity in agencies, including acquiring of capital.
Balance sheet	A financial statement that reports the assets, liabilities and equity of an entity as at a particular date.
Capital	A term used to refer to an entity's stock of assets and the capital grants it makes to other agencies. Assets include property, plant and equipment, intangible items and inventories that an entity owns/controls and uses in the delivery of services.
Cash flow statement	A financial statement reporting the cash inflows and outflows for an entity's operating, investing and financing activities in a particular period.
Controlled Items	Assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses that are controlled by departments. These relate directly to the departmental operational objectives and arise at the discretion and direction of that department.
Depreciation	The periodic allocation of the cost of physical assets, representing the amount of the asset consumed during a specified time.
Equity	Equity is the residual interest in the assets of the entity after deduction of its liabilities. It usually comprises the entity's accumulated surpluses/losses, capital injections and any reserves.
Equity injection	An increase in the investment of the government in a public sector agency.
Financial statements	Collective description of the income statement, the balance sheet and the cash flow statement for an entity's controlled and administered activities.
Income statement	A financial statement highlighting the accounting surplus or deficit of an entity. It provides an indication of whether the entity has sufficient revenue to meet expenses in the current year, including non-cash costs such as depreciation.
Outcomes	Whole-of-government outcomes are intended to cover all dimensions of community wellbeing. They express the current needs and future aspirations of communities, within a social, economic and environment context.
Own-source revenue	Revenue that is generated by an agency, generally through the sale of goods and services, but it may also include some Federal funding.
Priorities	Key policy areas that will be the focus of government activity.
Services	The actions or activities (including policy development) of an agency which contribute to the achievement of the agency's objectives.
Service area	Related services grouped into a high level service area for communicating the broad types of services delivered by an agency.
Service standard	Define a level of performance that is expected to be achieved appropriate for the service area or service. Service standards are measures of efficiency or effectiveness.

