

Director-General's report

I am proud to present the final annual report for the former Department of Youth Justice for the period 1 July to 12 November 2020.

Since the department was established on 20 May 2019 there has been a strong focus on delivering significant reform including the *Working Together Changing the Story: Youth Justice Strategy 2019–2023* and the *Youth Justice Strategy Action Plan 2019–2021*. The implementation of these reforms has been underpinned by the government's record investment in Queensland's youth justice system.

The efforts of the department working in partnership with government, non-government and community organisations to deliver reforms has made a difference. There are less young people entering the criminal justice system, less young people re-offending and more young people re-engaging with training, education and other support services.

The achievements of the department have been made possible through the dedication and energy of a professional and committed workforce. In my travels across the state as Director-General I saw firsthand the devotion of staff to keep communities safe and support young people to turn their lives around.

I also acknowledge the continued efforts being made to engage and work closely with First Nations peoples to effectively address the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people in the youth justice system.

The key role of the department's partners in the justice system cannot be understated. This includes other government agencies, the courts, the non-government sector, the community, oversight bodies and the business community. The collective efforts of this network of organisations is reflected in the reduction of offending and reoffending rates.

In August 2020, the department led a crisis response following an exposure to COVID-19 at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre (BYDC). I would like to acknowledge the exceptional efforts by staff to respond to the issues and support the whole-of-government response. I was especially grateful for the efforts of other agencies including Queensland Health, the West Moreton Health Service, Queensland Police Service, Child Safety, Education, Health, Queensland Corrective Services, plus numerous non-government organisations, and unions who assisted directly or indirectly with the response, including standing up a temporary workforce at BYDC. The rapid, coordinated and unprecedented response saw the outbreak contained and critical services continue. Many individuals, including police officers, made extraordinary efforts to keep the community safe during this event.

In closing, I sincerely thank staff for their support during my period as Director-General. The achievements to date to keep the community safe and support vulnerable young people using evidence based approaches provides a solid foundation for future success. I wish all staff and stakeholders well in their future endeavours.

Robert Gee APM

Director-General of the former
Department of Youth Justice

Summary of financial performance

This is the department's final annual report and covers the period from 1 July 2020 to 12 November 2020. A comprehensive view of the department's financial performance is provided in the Financial Statements section of this annual report.

Operating result

The operating result for the abolished department is nil for the reporting period from 1 July 2020 to 12 November 2020.

Operating Result	2020-21 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Original Budget ¹ \$'000
Total income	98,776	96,277
Total expenses	98,776	96,277
Operating result	-	-

Income

The department's primary source of income is appropriation revenue provided by the Queensland Government for provision of services. Revenue for the department for the period from 1 July 2020 to 12 November 2020 totalled \$98.3 million against the original budget of \$95.9 million. There is only a variance of \$2.37 million (1 per cent) mainly due to the timing of abolishing the department.

Sources of income	2020-21 Actual \$'000	2020-21 Original Budget ¹ \$'000
Appropriation revenue	98,293	95,924
User charges and fees	232	232
Grants and other contributions	120	121
Other revenue	131	-
Total income	98,776	96,277

Notes:

1. These figures represent budgeted figures as published in the latest Service Delivery Statement tabled in Parliament.

Expenses

The department provides a wide range of services to the community, delivered by contracted non-government organisations and through direct service delivery. As a result, our two largest expense categories are supplies and services, and employee expenses.

Expenditure for the department for the period from 1 July 2020 to 12 November 2020 totalled \$98.8 million against the original budget of \$96.3 million. The variance of \$2.5 million (1 per cent) is mainly due to higher employee expenses.

Assets

As at 12 November 2020, the department held assets valued at \$502.4 million. Assets mainly include cash, receivables, property, plant and equipment and non-current assets held for sale being the former Brisbane Children's Court land and buildings.

Liabilities

Our total liabilities as at 12 November 2020 were \$46.4 million. Our liabilities consist primarily of payables for trade creditors including provision for the performance payment relating to a Social Benefit Bond and provisions for employee entitlements.

Financial position

As at 12 November 2020, the net assets position was \$456 million.

Changes in equity	2020-21 \$'000
Balance as at 1 June 2020	411,656
Net effect of changes in accounting policies	-
Operating result	-
Net increase in asset revaluation surplus	658
Net equity adjustments	43,702
Net transfers out/in to other Queensland Government entities	-
Balance as at 30 June 2020	456,016

Statement by the Chief Finance Officer

In accordance with the requirements of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Former Chief Finance Officer has provided the Director-General of the former department with a statement confirming the financial internal controls of the department are operating efficiently, effectively and economically in conformance with Section 54 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*.

The former Chief Finance Officer has fulfilled the minimum responsibilities as required by the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*.