

Tackling the complex causes of youth crime

To help break the destructive cycle of youth crime, we're taking action and investing in programs to divert young people away from the criminal justice system. We're investing an additional \$100 million into programs proven to make a difference.

The programs include working with young people and their families, connecting to education and other services including mental health or drug and alcohol treatment services and providing support to First Nations young people.

This builds on the \$800 million investment the government has already made in tackling the complex causes of youth crime.

New action:

The Queensland Government will invest additional funding into:

› **Expansion of intensive case management:**

This initiative targets chronic young offenders aged 13 to 17 years, and their families, to help break the cycle of crime. Already operational in Townsville and Cairns, it will be expanded to Brisbane, South Brisbane, Toowoomba, Moreton, Gold Coast, Rockhampton and Ipswich.

› **Expansion of youth co-responder teams:**

Dedicated teams of Police and youth justice workers will provide a rapid response targeting young people at risk of offending and young people on bail.

Already more than 40,000 engagements with young people have been completed including bail checks and follow ups to ensure they are accessing the right services. Already operational in many parts of Queensland, this service will be expanded into Toowoomba, Hervey Bay, Mount Isa, Ipswich and South Brisbane.

› **Expansion of the Stronger Communities initiative:**

An early action group that brings together Police and other key Government representatives to provide intensive coordination of services to young people aged 8–16 years who are at risk of falling into a cycle of crime. Currently operating in Townsville with early positive outcomes, this initiative will now be rolled out in Mt Isa and Cairns.

› **Further investment of \$4 million in On Country programs:**

Providing culture-based rehabilitation for young First Nations peoples including supervision by On Country Elders.

› **More investment in grassroots early intervention:**

We'll invest in more community-based initiatives targeting at-risk youth to provide recreational, learning, mentoring and drug and alcohol support to help break the cycle of offending. This investment includes \$4.23 million into the Townsville Street University and \$1.5 million for Cairns Midnight Basketball.

For more information visit www.qld.gov.au/strongerlaws



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