

## Juvenile Justice

# Annual Report Summary 2009 – 2010

## WHO WE ARE

Juvenile Justice is responsible for the administration of youth justice conferences and for the supervision of young offenders who receive community-based orders or custodial sentences from the courts.

It is the largest juvenile justice agency in Australia, employing an average full-time equivalent staff of 1424, including many people from Aboriginal and other culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.

In June 2009 Juvenile Justice became part of the Department of Human Services, along with the Departments of Housing; Community Services; Aboriginal Affairs; Ageing, Disability and Home Care; Aboriginal Housing Office and Businesslink.



*While supervising young offenders, either in the community or in custody, Juvenile Justice assists these young people with education and programs that will provide them with the opportunity to choose positive alternatives to offending behaviour.*



*Juvenile Justice works with community organisations and local councils to provide clean up services, including graffiti removal, which is completed by young people on community service orders or as part of their youth justice conference outcome plan. The work may also include environmental restoration, helping maintain parks or recreation areas or work with community groups or charities. Young offenders completed over 10,000 hours of graffiti clean up on community orders.*

## WHAT WE DO

Juvenile Justice's work includes the supervision of young people sentenced to community-based or custodial orders, support for young offenders meeting the conditions of bail, supervision of young offenders who are on conditional bail, supervision of young people remanded in custody pending finalisation of their court matters, and the preparation of reports for the consideration of the courts in determining sentences.

Juvenile Justice also administers the Youth Justice Conferencing program.

Juvenile Justice provides funding to a number of community agencies to give assistance to juvenile offenders and their families.

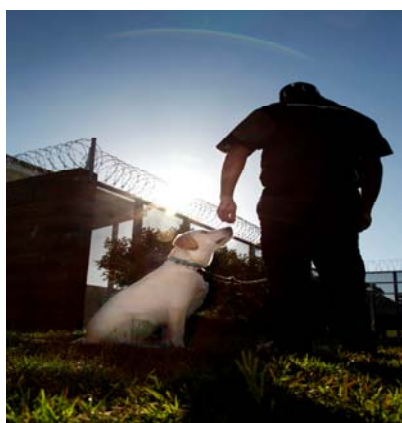
Juvenile Justice operates under the terms of the *Children (Detention Centres) Act 1987*, the *Children (Community Service Orders) Act 1987*, the *Young Offenders Act 1997* and the *Children (Interstate Transfer of Offenders) Act 1988*.

## FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2009-10

Total expenditure for juvenile Justice in 2009-2010 was \$181,123 million. Expenditure for each service category (including both direct and indirect costs) is indicated in the chart below.

Youth Justice Conferencing	\$5.196M
Community-based services	\$54.968M
Custodial services	\$120.958M

### KEY SERVICE MEASURES FOR 2009-10 Custody



	Number
Average daily number of young people in custody	434
Average daily number of young women in custody	30
Average daily number of young people of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background	204
Average daily number of young people serving custodial sentences	226
Average daily number of young people remanded in custody awaiting the finalisation of court proceedings	208

**Source:** DHS/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 31 July 2010

### KEY SERVICE MEASURES FOR 2009-10 Community Supervision

	Number
Number of background reports and assessments completed for young offenders appearing at court	5354
Number of individual young offenders supervised in the community	4521
Number of hours of community service work allocated to young offenders	36777

**Source:** DHS/JJ Strategic Information System (SIS). Effective date 31 July 2010



### KEY SERVICE MEASURES FOR 2009-10 Youth Justice Conferencing

	Number
<b>Referrals to a youth justice conference</b>	
Total	2086
Police	976
Courts	1110
<b>Referrals resulting in a conference</b>	
Number of referrals resulting in a Youth Justice Conference	1907
Conferences facilitated	1698

## ANNUAL SNAPSHOT

- The Bail Assistance Line was established and community organisations contracted to provide support services to young offenders granted bail by Police. The services provided through the BAL, including accommodation, assist in diverting young people from being remanded in custody.
- The Intensive Supervision Program continued to grow with 38 of 40 families enrolled for the year successfully completed the ISP. Twelve of these families were Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (ATSI), and all twelve successfully completed the program.
- Detainee numbers remained steady for the year with a daily average number of 434 in custody (compared to 431 in 2008-09).
- This year there was a 14% increase in the number of youth justice conferences facilitated, an 11% increase in community orders completed and a 14% increase in the number of remand interventions undertaken by Juvenile Justice staff on behalf of young people to assist them to get bail.
- A total of 70 Conference Convenors completed the four day Conference Convenor training program. Forty-four of these trainees were eligible for appointment in the Metropolitan region and 26 eligible for appointment in the Western and Northern regions. A new convenor training manual was finalised following successful pilots during the year.
- Additional \$1.8 million recurrent funding for Youth Justice Conferencing was allocated in the 2010-11 State budget. This will provide additional resources and 13 new positions will commence across the state in 2010-11.



- The pilot program for Youth Conduct Orders (YCOs) began in July 2009 for a three-year period in Campbelltown, Mount Druitt and New England Local area Commands. The program aims to address the underlying causes of anti-social behaviour by directing

the young people to participate in intensive early intervention programs based on coordinated case management from human services and justice agencies.

- Juvenile Justice has been funded the sum of \$1.884 million for the next four years commencing July 2010 to implement the Community Clean Up Orders Scheme as part of the introduction of the *Graffiti Control Act 2008*.
- The Behaviour Intervention Framework Policy has been implemented across all detention centres during 2009-2010. The purpose of this policy is to provide staff working in custodial environments with a framework for the effective management of detainee behaviour.



- In August 2009 Orana Juvenile Justice Centre officially opened a new 15 bed unit. Talbragar is self contained, in that it has its own enclosed courtyard and two classrooms catering for twelve students.
- Frank Baxter Juvenile Justice Centre introduced two new programs in 2009, a Certificate II in Animal Care and Certificate II in Small Motors/Marine Engines. These are both TAFE and Board of Studies accredited programs.
- A major capital works program will commence at Cobham Juvenile Justice Centre in 2010-11. Construction of three additional residential units at Cobham will allow Juvenile Justice to close Emu Plains JJC when the project is completed.
- The Department of Education and Training administer Education and Training Units within seven of the nine juvenile justice centres. At the remaining two centres, Broken Hill and Emu Plains, young people participate in learning through Open Training & Education Network (OTEN) distance education.
- During the 2009 school year 2188 detainees were enrolled in education and training classes, 951 were enrolled in TAFE classes, 327 in School Certificate courses and 56 in HSC courses.

- Project Building Works during the 2009-2010 period have resulted in additional class rooms being provided at Acmena, Orana & Riverina centres. Work on additional class rooms at Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre has commenced, with a projected completion date of November 2010.
- \$9.2 million has been allocated this financial year for the re-development of Riverina Juvenile Justice Centre, with works due to commence this year and be completed around June 2013
- Security and Intelligence Unit has coordinated the use of drug detection dogs from Corrective Services K9 Unit to search juvenile justice facilities and visitors for contraband items which may pose a security risk.



- The S&I Unit now has two dedicated drug detection dogs for Juvenile Justice.
- During 2009-2010, 112 search operations were conducted resulting in three drug finds.
- A total of 879 visitors were screened with five people refused entry due to an indication to an illicit substance.
- Juvenile Justice has implemented the Work and Development Order pilot program, developed by the State Debt Recovery Office, to help young people reduce accumulated fines through programs, mentoring, counselling and unpaid community work. The pilot is coordinated by the Department of Justice and Attorney General. It recognises that unpaid fines pursued by the State Debt Recovery Office

can contribute to further offending.

- Juvenile Justice works in partnership with the Justice Health Community Integration Team (CIT). This program targets young people being released from custody who have a mental illness and/or problematic drug and alcohol use or dependence and connects them with health services in the community. The program has been expanded to Grafton, Kempsey, Bourke, Broken Hill, Penrith, Fairfield, Dubbo, Orange, Wagga Wagga, Gosford and Sydney.
- Wagga Wagga and Albury juvenile justice community offices have developed partnerships with Police, other government agencies and nongovernment organisations to deliver the Youth Offending Risk Intervention Program. This six-month program looks at issues relating to offending behaviours (for example, health, education, peers and finances).
- Juvenile Justice staff in Griffith have developed their skills in the Act Now Together Strong (ANTS) model of working. Staff work in pairs to help families resolve problems which are affecting the family and which may increase the risk of a young person reoffending.
- A barista course was organised by Blacktown office, in collaboration with Meadowbank TAFE, for young offenders and targeted high-risk young people who have been disengaged from mainstream education and/or vocational training. The course prepares them for immediate employment or for other training options in the wider community.



## WHERE WE ARE

Juvenile Justice head office is located on Pitt Street, Sydney, housing the Operations, Management Services, and Office of the Chief Executive directorates.

There are nine juvenile justice centres located around NSW. Female detainees are held at Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centre in Lidcombe.

Across the state, there are 34 Juvenile Justice Community Services offices incorporating Youth Justice Conferencing. A full list of these locations can be found on the Juvenile Justice website.

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