



**Legislative Council Sessional Committee
Government Administration B**

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 3 April 2025

Targeted Inquiry into Adult Imprisonment and Youth Detention

Legislative Council Sessional Committee Government Administration B today released a report into Adult Imprisonment and Youth Detention matters in Tasmania, making 103 findings and 46 recommendations.

Chair of the Committee, Ms Tania Rattray MLC said, 'the Committee's evidence-based findings and recommendations focused on systemic deficiencies and the need for reform; recidivism and ineffective rehabilitation; social and structural factors contributing to incarceration; service provision and post-imprisonment or detention support; and staff training and support.

This targeted inquiry process was established on 27 October 2022, in response to several key developments within Tasmania's justice and correctional system. It followed the Government's announcements of a new Northern Correctional Facility, closure of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre, and introduction of a new model for the youth justice system. Additionally, there were calls from the Justice Reform Initiative for a parliamentary inquiry.

Committee Chair, the Hon Tania Rattray MLC, said, 'The fact these announcements have not come to fruition highlights the importance of the Government carefully considering all of the Committee's findings and recommendations. It is crucial that they focus on evidence-based solutions to achieve better outcomes in our justice system.'

Ms Rattray stated that, "the Committee made its findings and recommendations after receiving 67 submissions, holding five public hearings - four in Hobart and one in Launceston - and undertaking familiarisation visits to Tasmanian adult correctional and youth detention facilities and interstate site visits hosted by the South Australian Department of Correctional Services.

The submissions, hearings and site visits provided an opportunity for a wide range of interested stakeholders - including government representatives, academics, advocacy organisations, regulators, corrections and youth detention officials, in-custody and post-prison service providers, unions, and legal professionals - to present evidence to the Committee.

Ms Rattray said, 'In particular, the Committee was very grateful for the submissions of those individuals who shared their or their family members lived experiences.'

‘On behalf of the Sessional Committee, I would like to thank all those who took the time to make submissions or provide evidence to the inquiry and for sharing their invaluable experience and knowledge at our hearings about the many aspects of adult imprisonment and youth detention matters,’ Ms Rattray said.

The report can be accessed via the Inquiry webpage:

https://www.parliament.tas.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0022/92506/FINAL-GAB-Report-Adult-Imprisonment-and-Youth-Detention-as-at-24-March-2025.pdf

Members of the Committee were:

Hon Tania Rattray MLC (Chair)
Hon Rosemary Armitage MLC
Hon Meg Webb MLC

FURTHER INFORMATION:

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