



Corrections NEWS



Welcome Deputy
Commissioner Jon Peach

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NAIDOC
celebrations

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Joint exercise tests
inter-agency response

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**Message from
Minister Laura Gerber MP**
Minister for Youth Justice and
Victim Support and
Minister for Corrective Services

It has been a momentous time for our corrections community.

Last month, I had the privilege of standing with 163 new graduates as they joined our more than 9000 strong corrective services staff on the frontline working to make Queensland safe.

The pride in that room was palpable – families and friends cheering our new graduates ready to take on one of the most challenging yet rewarding jobs in our state. Our officers work tirelessly on the frontline to keep Queensland safe and as your Minister, it was a pleasure to be part of the graduation as these new officers took up the call and embarking on their new careers with our QCS family.

Behind every graduate are the mentors and trainers who guided and supported them. It was an honour to present awards to outstanding training officers including Senior Training Officer Russell Keys who received the National Medal for his 15 years of distinguished service. Russell began with QCS in 2009 as a Custodial Correctional Officer at Brisbane Women’s Correctional Centre and has had many achievements during his long career including working as a Trade Instructor, Intel Analyst, Correctional Supervisor and in the last number of years has been a wonderful Senior Training Officer guiding our new recruits. Russell’s career is a perfect example of the diverse opportunities available to both our new graduates and existing officers, as they continue to build their careers in QCS.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to supporting you in your careers by making sure you have the resources and infrastructure you need to continue carrying out your vital jobs on the frontline.

We know how important it is not only to meet capacity issues today but to also plan for the future. Which is why the 2025-2026 Budget delivered \$2.39 billion to rapidly build more capacity at the Arthur Gorrie and Townsville Correctional Complex with an additional 800 beds to ease pressure and increase staff safety across the correctional system.

I am also pleased to report that in July the commissioning process commenced for the new Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre which in September had the first intake of prisoners commence. This new high security prison will boost our correctional centre capacity by more than 1,500 beds and provide new opportunities for our officers.

These investments are not just about infrastructure – they are about you. About supporting your safety, your careers and your future.

To every officer across Queensland, thank you for your dedication and professionalism in keeping our state safe. Our government will always back you.

Front cover: Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre officer Photo
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Paul Stewart APM
Commissioner
Queensland
Corrective Services

Welcome to the spring edition of Corrections News. If you can't believe how fast the year is going, you are not alone.

Spring is all about new beginnings and after a comprehensive recruitment process following the departure of former Deputy Commissioner Gary McCahon PSM, I was pleased to welcome Jon Peach as the new Deputy Commissioner of Custodial Operations. (Page 9)

DC Peach joins QCS with extensive experience in corrections at both operational and senior leadership levels, gained initially in the United Kingdom and now in Australia. He has over 25 years of experience across various government departments, managing diverse and geographically dispersed portfolios. DC Peach is well positioned to lead Custodial Operations into the future and I know he will be warmly welcomed by our QCS family as he transitions into this role over the coming months.

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you to Assistant Commissioners Joel Smith and Eloise Hamlett ACM for acting in the position of Deputy Commissioner. They have done an outstanding job in what has been a very busy time for the division.

QCS achieved a significant milestone recently with the transfer of the first prisoners into the new Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC).

The opening of LVCC brings to life five years of extensive planning, construction and commissioning and I would like to sincerely thank the SQCP-S2 Program, headed by Deputy Commissioner Adam Black, and acknowledge the tireless leadership and enthusiasm of Assistant Commissioner Kris Winter ACM, the unwavering positivity and drive of Assistant Commissioner Tim Thompson in Infrastructure, as well as the untold hours of hard work of teams across QCS.

This is an exciting time for QCS and we look forward to sharing further progress as we continue to operationalise our new centre. I would also like to thank Chief Superintendent Bernie Kruhse. His leadership team of Deputy General Managers, Managers and Supervisors and all the officers at Lockyer Valley for their professionalism and efforts in commencing operations.

The state Budget (Page 12) was recently handed down by the Queensland Government and we will see significant investment in delivering safety where you live, with expanded prison capacity, enhanced security around sex offenders, improved efficiency at the Parole Board Queensland and continued support for victims of crime. The \$2.26 billion Budget is the foundation of a fresh start for QCS.

Our strategic plan (Page 13) continues to act as a guiding document that outlines QCS' commitment for the next four years to align with the priorities of the Queensland Government's strong focus on community safety. I am pleased to announce that the [Queensland Corrective Services Strategic Plan 2025 – 2029](#) is now available on the intranet. As part of the development of the plan, we reached out to you for feedback and took your valuable insights onboard. I encourage everyone to take the time to review the plan and use it as a conversation starter with your leaders and teams as an opportunity to reflect on and be proud of the important role we all play in achieving our vision.

We have also recently released our Divisional Plans for the 2025 to 2026 financial year and they are also available on the intranet. These annual plans deliver to and support the QCS strategic plan. The actions included in these plans articulate how QCS supports the Government's objective for the community, safety where you live.

This year, QCS has four divisional plans representing key activities for Custodial Operations; Community Corrections and Specialist Operations; Organisational Capability; and Workforce Culture, Integrity and Capability. Planning is a critical business activity to ensure we understand the role we each play in delivering to our agency priorities.

Thank you all for the work you do across QCS every day.



Joel Smith
Acting Deputy
Commissioner
Custodial Operations

As we move through the second half of 2025, I want to take a moment to reflect on the extraordinary work being done across Custodial Operations and to acknowledge the people who make it possible.

First and foremost, I'd like to extend my sincere thanks to Ms Eloise Hamlett ACM for her leadership while sharing the acting in the Deputy Commissioner role. Eloise brought a steady hand and a clear focus to the role during a period of significant operational pressure. Her commitment to officer wellbeing, operational integrity and strategic reform has left a lasting impact, and I know many of you have appreciated her approachability and decisiveness.

I also want to warmly welcome Mr Jon Peach, who has commenced as our new Deputy Commissioner, Custodial Operations. Jon brings a wealth of experience and a deep understanding of correctional systems, and I know he is eager to meet many of you in person as he settles into the role.

One of the most significant milestones this year has been the commissioning of the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC). On July 25, 2025, Queensland Corrective Services officially commenced operational commissioning of the centre—a major step forward in addressing capacity pressures and enhancing safety across the system.

LVCC is a purpose-built, 1,536-bed facility located in the Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct. It is the first new correctional centre to be commissioned in Queensland in more than a decade and represents a \$965.3 million investment in infrastructure, rehabilitation, and regional employment. More than 800 officers have been recruited to operate the centre, including correctional officers, psychologists, social workers, education officers and case managers.

This facility is more than just a response to our capacity pressures. It is a statement of intent—a commitment to modern, rehabilitative corrections. LVCC will be the first correctional centre in Queensland to fully integrate case management, specialist services and dynamic security into its operating model. This approach is designed to reduce recidivism and improve outcomes for individuals in our care, while also supporting the safety and wellbeing of our officers.

The commissioning of LVCC also brings broader benefits to the Lockyer Valley region. It has already created hundreds of jobs and will continue to support local businesses and services for years to come. The centre will become a cornerstone of the community, contributing to both economic growth and public safety.

As we look ahead, I encourage all officers to continue embracing the values that define our service, particularly integrity, accountability and respect. Whether you're working in a high-security centre, a low-custody facility or supporting operations behind the scenes, your contribution matters. The work you do every day helps keep Queenslanders safe and supports people in their journey toward rehabilitation.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for your continued professionalism and dedication. The challenges we face are real, but so too are the opportunities. With strong leadership, a clear vision and a committed workforce, I have no doubt that we will continue to deliver safe, secure and humane correctional services for all Queenslanders.



Ursula Roeder ACM
Deputy Commissioner
Community
Corrections and
Specialist Operations

I am pleased to share an important milestone in our journey to strengthen governance, accountability and continuous improvement across the Community Corrections and Specialist Operations (CCSO) division. Following extensive consultation, review and development, CCSO will soon be launching the **CCSO Assurance Framework** (the framework) – a modern, risk-based approach to assurance which will support the division in delivering safe, effective and accountable services.

CCSO has evolved significantly in recent years. We have seen the formation of new commands, the integration of complex functions and the increasing need for consistent, transparent and risk-informed decision-making. Internal audits and reviews have highlighted the need for a unified framework to guide assurance activities, clarify roles and ensure alignment with QCS' strategic priorities.

The framework responds directly to these needs. It builds on lessons learnt from previous frameworks and incorporates best practice principles, including the Institute of Internal Auditors' Three Lines Model; designed to be practical, scalable and tailored to the unique risks and responsibilities of each command and business unit.

The framework provides a structured lifecycle for assurance, from risk identification through to continuous improvement and reporting. It introduces:

- **Clear roles and responsibilities** across all levels— from individual contributors to senior executives.
- **Assurance mapping** to identify gaps, overlaps, and opportunities for improvement.
- **Internal controls** and a control library to support consistent and effective risk mitigation.
- **Continuous Improvement Plans (CIPs)** and **self-assessments** to embed a culture of learning and accountability.
- **Digital enablement** through Microsoft 365 tools (e.g. SharePoint, Power BI, Teams) to streamline reporting and collaboration.

Importantly, the framework is not a one-size-fits-all model. It recognises that each business unit is at a different stage of maturity and allows for flexibility in implementation while maintaining consistency in principles and outcomes.

The Office of the Deputy Commissioner (ODC), CCSO will be rolling out the framework in phases, beginning with foundational training, toolkits, and the establishment of the **CCSO Assurance Network** – a group of nominated representatives from each command who will champion and coordinate assurance activities locally.

Governance is not the responsibility of a single team— it is everyone's business. Whether you are managing frontline operations, supporting strategic initiatives

or delivering specialist services, your role in identifying risks, applying controls and contributing to continuous improvement is vital.

The framework's next steps include finalising documentation, establishing digital infrastructure and rolling out Phase 1 implementation.

The framework is designed to empower our officers – not to add complexity, but to provide clarity, consistency and confidence in how we manage our responsibilities. Each command is accountable for the delivery of the framework, supported by the ODC CCSO. The framework will help CCSO demonstrate to our stakeholders, partners and the community that we are delivering services with integrity, transparency and accountability.

As we implement the CCSO Assurance Framework, we will continue to refine and improve it based on your feedback and experience. This is a living framework— designed to evolve with us as we grow and adapt to new challenges.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Vanessa Aland, Manager, Operational Governance and Risk, ODC CCSO for her outstanding work in the development and rollout of the framework to date.



Adam Black
Deputy Commissioner
Organisational
Capability

Reducing reoffending is at the heart of our work as an agency, as highlighted by the strategic objectives in the QCS strategic Plan 2025-2029, and is critical to deliver the government's objective for the community, *Safety where you live*.

A new *Reducing Reoffending Strategy* is being developed to align QCS's rehabilitation and correctional practices with government priorities. The new strategy will also highlight the valuable work our agency leads to reduce reoffending and contribute to making Queensland safer. Every role at QCS contributes in some way towards reducing reoffending, and this strategy will highlight that rehabilitation through correctional practices is 'everyone's business'. There will be opportunities to contribute to the development of the strategy over the coming months, so please share these opportunities and encourage your teams to have their say.

In the recent state Budget, QCS received \$2.39 billion in funding to rapidly increase capacity, support infrastructure and services to meet projected demand and ensure a safer environment for correctional officers, prisoners and the community. 400 prison beds will be added at both Arthur Gorrie and Townsville Men's correctional centres as soon as practical.

The Independent Review of Parole Board Queensland, led by Mr Peter Hastie KC, has been completed. Strategy and Performance Command provided secretariat support to the Review and meetings with stakeholders, including QCS staff. I'll take this opportunity to thank all our staff who have contributed to this body of work in various capacities. The completed report provides government the opportunity to review and provide response to findings.

On August 26, 2025, I was pleased to attend one of five Disruptive Events Management Training Forums held during July and August which provided training to key members of the Senior and Executive Leadership Teams, Custodial Operations, Community Corrections, Organisational Capability and Workforce Culture Integrity and Capability on critical aspects of disaster, emergency, incident, risk, and business continuity management relevant to QCS and its operations. My sincere thanks go to the Disruptive Events Management Unit for their work in organising this invaluable training initiative.

On 25 July 2025, I was delighted to join the Minister for Corrective Services, the Honourable Laura Gerber MP, and Commissioner Paul Stewart APM at the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC) to mark the first day of operational commissioning. Since then, more than 650 officers have been deployed to the centre, actively participating in training, scenario testing and hands-on familiarisation in preparation for the first prisoners.

To ensure a safe and controlled commissioning process and in response to capacity pressures across QCS centres, LVCC is being brought online in stages. Stage one will see the secure accommodation area filled with up to 500 male mainstream prisoners.

As Queensland's first new prison in more than a decade, building and commissioning LVCC is one of the most ambitious projects we have undertaken. I would like to thank the Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct – Stage 2 Program team and all LVCC and QCS officers on-site for their continued commitment to preparing our newest centre for safe and secure operations.



Samantha Kane

Acting Deputy
Commissioner

Workforce Culture,
Integrity and
Capability

As we embark on another quarter, I am delighted to share some highlights and updates from our dedicated People Division, reflecting our ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive and thriving workplace.

August marked the celebration of Multicultural Queensland Month, an annual event dedicated to recognising and embracing the diversity that defines our state. This year's theme, "Marks One Queensland, Many Stories," invited reflection on both our personal journeys and the stories of those around us. Each narrative, shaped by unique backgrounds and experiences, weaves into the rich tapestry of our organisation and helps build a more dynamic and innovative workplace. Our team members, hailing from a multitude of cultures and perspectives, are the cornerstone of our ongoing success. By actively recognising and valuing these differences, we are creating an environment in which everyone feels both welcomed and empowered to contribute their very best.

Recent months have also seen Queensland Corrective Services achieve significant milestones that underscore our commitment to reform and inclusion. In June, we proudly celebrated the graduation of our largest ever group of First Nations custodial correctional officers. Seventeen First Nations officers completed an intensive training program, signalling not only the culmination of their hard work but also our agency's dedication to culturally responsive practices and rehabilitation. This milestone is a testament to the changes taking root within our workforce.

August also witnessed our largest Foundations training graduation to date, reflecting our ongoing investment in building a highly skilled and dedicated workforce. These achievements are only possible through the unwavering dedication and effort of our people, whose commitment ensures that our organisation continues to grow and thrive.

September saw the largest ever Custodial Officer Entry Program (COEP) graduation to date, welcoming an impressive 166 recruits to the frontline of community safety. These new officers will serve in correctional centres across the state, including Arthur Gorrie, Brisbane, Borallon, Lockyer Valley, Southern Queensland, Wolston, Woodford, Brisbane Women's correctional centre, and the Escort and Security Branch. Their commitment and enthusiasm play a crucial role in upholding the safety and wellbeing of all Queenslanders.

I extend my appreciation to everyone who has taken part in the *Working for Queensland* survey. Your feedback is instrumental in shaping an inclusive, respectful, and high-performing workplace. Thank you for your ongoing dedication to building a safer, more inclusive Queensland community for all.

I would like to recognise Superintendent Nadine Robinson, General Manager of the QCS Academy for being awarded the 20 years of service clasp at the Quarterly WCIC forum. Nadine is an exemplary leader and has consistently demonstrated diligent and ethical service. I would also like to thank Assistant Commissioner Dr Yolonda Adams, Chief Superintendent Susan Burley, Regional Manager Rhiannon Porter and Chief Superintendent Andrew Wilson for their participation in our quarterly WCIC forum. Your candour and shared insights were invaluable to the WCIC Leadership Team, and will inform our service delivery going forward.

In the coming months, WCIC plans to distribute a QCS wide survey to seek feedback from the frontline on WCIC service delivery. As the People Division of QCS, we are invested in continuous improvements of our services so we can ensure you are best supported to perform the challenging work you do day in, day out.

Welcome Deputy Commissioner Jon Peach

Last month, we welcomed Mr Jon Peach into the role of Deputy Commissioner, Custodial Operations.

Deputy Commissioner Peach brings a strong, 25-year background in corrections at an operational and senior leadership level, first in the United Kingdom and now in Australia.

Prior to coming to Australia, Deputy Commissioner Peach served in the British Army before joining Her Majesty's Prison Service (HMPP) in the UK where he progressed from prison officer to Deputy Governor and A/Governor, working across a range of custodial facilities.

Since arriving in Australia in 2008, Deputy Commissioner Peach has held roles in both Western Australia and the Australian Capital Territory, as the Assistant Commissioner Custodial Operations and A/Deputy Commissioner in WA, in WA Disability Services Commission, and as the Commissioner of ACT Corrective Services. In the Assistant Commissioner role in WA he was responsible for custodial operations across the state, and in the Commissioner role in ACT, he was responsible for the delivery of all organisational functions, operational and corporate, across a complex service delivery organisation including custodial operations, health, education, program delivery, case management for custody and community-based offenders.

Most recently he was the Executive Leader of Security and Emergency Management in the ACT's Justice Portfolio where he developed and implemented Whole of Government policy regarding security and emergency management, including development of the *ACT Disaster Resilience Strategy* and associated *ACT Disaster Risk Reduction Strategic Action Plan 2024-2030*, and the *ACT National Security Priorities*.

Commissioner Paul Stewart said Mr Peach's skill set and experience was a welcome addition to QCS and Custodial Operations.

"Deputy Commissioner Peach has a strong focus on officer engagement by enhancing communication and visible leadership as well as proven experience in strengthening policy, governance and accountability in correctional environments," Commissioner Stewart said.

"I would like to thank Assistant Commissioners Eloise Hamlett and Joel Smith for acting in the position and doing an excellent job in what has been a very busy time for the division," Commissioner Stewart said.



Chief Superintendent Louise Kneeshaw retires after long and distinguished career



QCS recently bid farewell to long-standing General Manager of Townsville Correctional Complex, Chief Superintendent Louise Kneeshaw after a distinguished 37-year career in corrections.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM praised Ms Kneeshaw for her commitment to improving community safety and wished her well in retirement.

"Louise is a truly exemplary officer and leader who has made a real difference in every role she has held, both in custodial operations and community corrections across Queensland.

"Her calm, pragmatic and positive approach to her work, along with her absolute commitment to supporting her officers is remarkable and she will be missed, both in Townsville and statewide," Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said.

"Since January 2020, Louise has held what is one of the most challenging General Manager roles within QCS, managing two high security centres, two low

security facilities and three work camps and has been responsible for the day-to-day safety and security of well over 1000 prisoners."

Ch. Supt. Kneeshaw started her career as a prison officer at Boggo Road Women's Jail in 1988, and worked with some of the state's most notorious criminals at a range of correctional facilities, including Sir David Longlands Correctional Centre, which later became Brisbane Correctional Centre. She transferred to Townsville in 2005 to take up the role of Deputy General Manager before becoming General Manager in 2020.

She was also the Regional Manager of Northern Region Community Corrections between 2008 and 2018.

Ch. Supt. Kneeshaw said she retired from her role with the confidence that she had created an environment where Townsville Correctional Complex officers felt supported to achieve their goals and commended her team of officers for their commitment and professionalism.

"The investment in leadership has been built from the ground up, and I am leaving with confidence that there's opportunities for our officers who wish to take advantage of them.

"The next crop of leaders we have grown at the centre have a great focus on supporting their teams, and are well positioned to take the centre forward.

"Ultimately, the public service is about being of service. I'd like to think over 37 years I've been of service to the organisation, the community, the staff group and the prisoners, because that's what it's about.

"I'm now genuinely looking forward to enjoying life with my family."

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said a comprehensive recruitment process would identify the next leader of Townsville Correctional Complex following Ch. Supt. Kneeshaw's retirement.

"We thank Ch. Supt. Kneeshaw for her dedication and leadership which has built a healthy, safe and productive correctional environment that supports the needs of officers and is committed to reforming prisoners to make Queensland communities safer.

"We wish Ch. Supt. Kneeshaw well for her well-earned retirement. She will be missed," Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said.

New First Nations Acting Assistant Commissioner joins QCS

Congratulations and welcome to Dr Yolonda Adams who was recently temporarily appointed as Acting Assistant Commissioner, First Nations and Cultural Capability.

Acting Deputy Commissioner Workforce Culture, Integrity and Capability Samantha Kane said Yolonda brought a wealth of experience to the role and is passionate about furthering the work of the QCS First Nations portfolio.

"Yolonda joins the agency with a range of experience across justice, health and welfare contexts to QCS, including her previous role as Deputy Commissioner, Department of Corrections, Northern Territory," A/g Deputy Commissioner Kane said.

"She has demonstrated capability in building relationships across sectors to effectively navigate complex environments to improve outcomes for First Nations peoples and her extensive organisational reform and cultural change experience will be an immense asset to QCS, positioning her well to lead the First Nations and Cultural Capability Command."

Yolonda is an Aboriginal woman from the Larrakia people, born and raised in Darwin, but has recently relocated to Brisbane.

She has highly relevant qualifications, knowledge and experience, with particular strengths in strategic leadership, advisory, management and governance roles.

Yolonda is a registered psychologist and her PhD research focused on prison social climate for Aboriginal prisoners in the Northern Territory.

A/g Deputy Commissioner Kane said she was delighted to have Yolonda on board in the important role, which is essential as QCS continues to strive for safer communities.



State Budget delivers significant funding for QCS

The Queensland Government recently announced a significant investment in delivering *Safety where you live* with expanded prison capacity, enhanced security around sex offenders and improved efficiency at the Parole Board Queensland.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said the \$2.26 billion Budget is the foundation of a fresh start for QCS.

"This funding was significant for QCS as it will help us continue to prioritise community safety by reducing reoffending, rehabilitating offenders and preventing crime to ensure fewer victims and a safer Queensland," Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said.

The 2025-2026 State Budget includes capital funding of \$2.39 billion over six years to provide much-needed additional prison capacity at Arthur Gorrie and Townsville Men's correctional centres.

The Budget will also deliver improved security and management of offenders under the *Dangerous Prisoners (Sexual Offenders) Act (DPSOA)* with \$31.8 million committed over four years. This includes \$10 million in capital funding for three additional houses, and one programs building at the Wacol DPSOA precinct and one additional house at the Townsville precinct with the required physical and electronic security upgrades.

Some \$30.5 million over two financial years will sustain operations and resourcing of Parole Board Queensland while an independent review of the Board is undertaken and any supported recommendations are implemented.

The government has made significant investment of \$25 million over five years and \$6.8 million per annum ongoing for delivery of an electronic monitoring pilot of high-risk domestic and family violence offenders. The Department of Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety is leading the pilot and QCS is working with them and other partner agencies to play its role in delivering this initiative.

"With the funding for QCS in this Budget, capacity will be increased, security and management around complex offenders will be strengthened, and our hardworking officers will be supported to safely and effectively carry out their role on the frontline of public safety," Commissioner Stewart said.

"I thank the Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services, the Honorable Laura Gerber MP, for her continued advocacy for the important work you do every day across the state to make Queensland safer where you live.

"I also acknowledge the hard work of so many people across QCS who worked over many weeks to develop submissions and support the Budget process. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and professionalism."

QCS Strategic Plan 2025-2029 now available

The *QCS Strategic Plan 2025-2029* is now published and available on the intranet.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said the strategic plan is a guiding document that outlines QCS' commitment for the next four years to align with priorities of the Queensland Government.

"QCS will deliver on the Government's objective for the community, *Safety where you live*, through correctional services that prioritise community safety," Commissioner Stewart said.

"We will achieve this by reducing reoffending, rehabilitating offenders, supporting victims and preventing crime to ensure fewer victims and a safer Queensland."

During the development of the plan, officers across the agency were asked for feedback and their valuable insights were incorporated as the following objectives:

- restoring community safety by holding offenders to account

- reducing reoffending by delivering rehabilitative corrective services
- supporting a safer workplace for our workforce
- building strong community partnerships to support community safety.

"The plan highlights the complexity of our work and recognises the significant contribution we all make towards making Queensland safer, Commissioner Stewart said.

"It also guides us in our decision-making as to how we invest resources to deliver for the community now and into the future, making it an important tool for communicating our priorities to you, the community and our partners,"

"I encourage you all to take the time to review the plan and use it as a conversation starter with your leaders and teams, and reflect on and be proud of the important role we all play in achieving our vision.

"Thank you for your support and hard work as we strive towards our common goal of a safer Queensland," Commissioner Stewart said.

Queensland Corrective Services Strategic Plan 2025-2029

Statement of government objectives	QCS supports the Government objective for the community, Safety where you live , by delivering correctional services that reduce reoffending, rehabilitate offenders and prevent crime to ensure fewer victims of crime and restore safety to communities.		
Our vision	To make Queensland safer with fewer victims of crime and deliver corrective services that reduce reoffending and support rehabilitation.		
Our purpose	To deliver correctional services that prioritise community safety by reducing reoffending, rehabilitating offenders and preventing crime to ensure fewer victims and a safer Queensland.		

Strategic risks and opportunities

Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) is a modern front line public safety agency, managing more than 11,000 prisoners in correctional centres (or prisons) and more than 18,000 offenders in the community.

Strategic opportunities arising from:

- Building infrastructure to increase corrections capacity.
- Efficient and effective operation of the Parole Board Queensland.
- Collaborating with the community, partner organisations and government agencies.
- Supporting staff in correctional facilities with the resources and support they need.

Our agency manages challenges arising from:

- Prisoner growth and prison capacity.
- Incidents involving prisoners in correctional centres.
- Workplace safety and operational security.
- Disruptive events, including extreme weather, cyber security and security events.

Our strategic objectives			
1. Restore community safety by holding offenders to account	2. Reduce reoffending by delivering rehabilitative corrective services	3. Supporting a safer workplace for staff	4. Build strong community partnerships to support community safety
Strategies			
1.1 Bolster the maturity of our risk, business continuity and internal control systems to ensure sustained and safe service delivery to the community.	2.1 Keep the community safe by reducing reoffending and enabling opportunities for rehabilitation through everyday practice.	3.1 Enhance our capability and capacity to ensure our workforce models are responsive to our changing demands in order to maximise safety.	4.1 Make communities safer through stakeholder relationships that deliver wrap around support and promote safer transition into the community.
1.2 Manage and plan capacity to ensure a functional and effective correctional system to hold perpetrators to account.	2.2 Deliver perpetrator programs and targeted interventions for prisoners and offenders to reduce reoffending.	3.2 Implement an enhanced safety environment by providing our workforce with the operational equipment, technology and training they need to safely and effectively perform their duties.	4.2 Work with victims and prioritise the rights of victims in the design of correctional reform.
1.3 Deliver responsive correctional services, including strengthened security practices, through streamlined processes, delegations and governance functions.	2.3 Enhance the secure management and rehabilitation of prisoners in low security correctional centres to enable progression towards successful return to communities.	3.3 Optimise infrastructure and facilities and implement climate adaptation measures for a safer and healthier work environment.	4.3 Improve outcomes for First Nations peoples in the correctional system through First Nations-led interventions that contribute to Closing the Gap priority reforms.

Performance measures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offenders discharged from Community Corrections orders who returned to corrective services with a new correctional sanction within two years (per cent). Prisoners returning to corrective services with a new correctional sanction within two years (per cent). Facility utilisation (per cent) - built cell capacity and built bed capacity. Financial value of work performed in the community by prisoners from low security facilities. Financial value of community service work performed (court ordered). Assault rates - serious assault (prisoner on officer) and assault (prisoner on officer). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Successful completion of orders (per cent). Offender program completions. Prisoner program completions. Prisoners in education (per cent). Prisoner employment (per cent). In-prison re-entry support. Post-release re-entry support.

Acknowledgement of Country
We value and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures.

Our human rights commitment:
We respect, protect and promote human rights in our decision making and actions.

NAIDOC celebrations at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre

A smoking ceremony launched NAIDOC Day celebrations at Lotus Glen Correctional Centre, a showcase of Indigenous culture that built rapport between officers and prisoners to help keep the centre safe.

It was the first time a smoking ceremony had been conducted in the secure centre and launched the celebration involving more than 200 prisoners, 70 elders from justice groups and communities across the Far North and other visitors.

The day involved dance performances from various community groups as well as an art show and opportunity to connect prisoners with community groups, in support of their rehabilitation.

Lotus Glen Correctional Centre, Acting Centre Services Manager Stuart Renshaw said building rapport between officers and prisoners helped to reduce incidents and self-harm behaviours and maintained safety and security at the centre.

"This is an important event for Lotus Glen Correctional Centre as NAIDOC Day is a huge opportunity for LGCC prisoners to celebrate their culture but also get together and meet with the elders," he said.

"Giving the prisoners a chance to celebrate and connect with their culture whilst in prison is important not only to their mental health, but is an important step to reduce recidivism."

"Our custodial team builds their awareness of culture and that definitely builds rapport between custodial officers and the prisoners which leads to a better relationship and a safer centre."

A NAIDOC celebration was also held at the Lotus Glen Low Custody Correctional Centre, that included prisoner dance performances, art and a traditional Kup Murri cooked on site.

Cultural Liaison Officer Maurice said the NAIDOC celebration allowed prisoners to showcase their culture, restoring pride and positioning themselves as mentors for when they return to community.

"It's been a long road for many of the prisoners who are showcasing their dance and culture, spending weeks and months on practice and getting it right," he said.

"The younger generation, the older generation, they connected within their communities as well."

"Hopefully the prisoners can take back and be the mentors for their brothers at home but also keep it for themselves."



Townsville Correctional Centre celebrates NAIDOC Week

A Kup Murri cooked in the middle of Townsville Men's Correctional Centre was the centrepiece of Townsville Correctional Complex's 50 years of NAIDOC celebrations.

The traditional lunch was one of many activities held during weeklong NAIDOC activities that saw both male and female prisoners take part in flag raising ceremonies and cultural performances.

The events were attended by external stakeholders and community elders, with many travelling from places including Mackay, Mornington Island, Doomadgee and the Torres Strait Islands.

Deputy General Manager, Townsville Men's Correctional Centre Superintendent Miti (Steve) Isaia-Tofilau said the Kup Murri and subsequent yarning circle provided a chance for officers to gain insight into First Nations offenders, drive communicable relationships and create a safer correctional environment.

"Part of having a safe environment is the ability to engage and communicate and get a better understanding of culture and the individual to break barriers and establish commonality," Supt. Isaia-Tofilau said.

"It was an opportunity for a lot of our officers, both First Nations and non-indigenous, to get together and give our non-indigenous officers a look at what a yarning circle is."

"Those are the sorts of things where everyone feels safe, it is men's business where they have a conversation covering various subject matters; and for those who participated it was a safe place to have a discussion about anything and everything."

Events were held across men's and women's low and high custody centres.

Prisoners at Townsville Men's Low Custody Correctional Centre displayed a range of artworks in a gallery setting, creating conversations with external community organisations to break down barriers and create connections supporting reform and reintegration.

One prisoner said NAIDOC week helped the prisoner cohort establish a greater sense of identity through culture, driving rehabilitation through renewed purpose.

"We need to hope and look towards to positivity of what we bring from today, and at the end of this make sure we hold onto that uplifting feeling that we've done everything together and achieved something we started," Supt. Isaia-Tofilau said.

"At the end of this everything goes back to normal, but we have that pride for our culture and identity, and I'm hoping that we look towards having these types of interactions out in community and carry this into our everyday life."



Statewide community events mark NAIDOC Week

Officers across Queensland celebrated the 2025 NAIDOC Week theme, *The Next Generation: Strength, Vision & Legacy*, at a range of community events and marches.

MURRIDHAGUN: The Murrumbidgee Cultural Centre team at the QCS Academy hosted the Executive Leadership Team for a NAIDOC Week celebration. A smoking ceremony was performed at the yarning circle by Cultural Liaison Officer (CLO) Mark Brimble, who also played the didgeridoo in an impromptu version of Solid Rock with Commissioner Paul Stewart APM on guitar.

Special guests included the Cunnamulla Elders group, who connected with First Nations prisoners by sharing their experiences.

BRISBANE: Brisbane Region Community Corrections collaborated with the Brisbane Murri Court and Department of Justice Courts Innovation Program at an event at the city's law courts focussing on connection, creativity and culture.

Events included an art walk with stakeholders, followed by a painting session, cultural performances by First Nations peoples and a flag-raising ceremony.

ROCKHAMPTON: In Central Queensland officers attended local flag raising ceremonies, NAIDOC marches and community events across the region.

NORTHERN REGION: Townsville District Office and Northern Region Office walked with the QCS banner at Townsville's traditional march prior to hosting a stall at the 'Deadly Day Out'. Mackay officers also took to the streets for a march and family day, and further west, officers from Mount Isa took part in local events, then travelled to Doomadgee to take part in celebrations in September.

HELANA JONES CENTRE: Helana Jones Centre hosted NAIDOC with CCOs and CLOs alongside First Nations Elder Auntie Ruth, with roasted crocodile, kangaroo pies and traditional damper served as a part of the celebration.



Jo Dansey
Assistant
Commissioner
Transformation Office

As we progress towards the end of the year, the Transformation Office continues to make strong advancements across key initiatives. Working with colleagues and senior leaders we are driving the implementation of the benefits management process, more strategically integrating the reform agenda with organisational priorities and supporting integrated budget planning and investment prioritisation decisions. This helps ensure that organisational transformation supports our strategic plan and delivers successful outcomes.

In August, we confirmed the active portfolio of programs and projects for delivery following budget outcomes, helping to reaffirm our priorities for 2025-26.

Portfolio reporting

Our program and project officers submit monthly highlight reports for the QCS Active Portfolio, which are presented by the Enterprise Portfolio Management Office (EPMO) to the QCS Board of Management. There are currently four programs and 18 projects on the portfolio. Sixteen projects or programs are the result of government commitments and four are directly addressing QCS business needs. Several projects are ending following successful delivery, while others continue to drive change.

This quarter our Portfolio View of Change report highlighted the main change impacts will come from Southern Queensland Correctional Precinct Stage 2 (SQCP-2) as officers are trained in Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre (LVCC) operations and are drawn down from centres where they have been working since graduating. In HQ, SQCP-2 will see bespoke services coming online such as an enhanced phone systems and new health teams.

By the end of the year, we will also see changes to some of our digital systems. For example, the IOMS Evolve project has begun working with the vendor to migrate IOMS to the cloud, modernise the look and feel, introduce e-signatures and new reporting capabilities and support the delivery of enhancements and the new Workplace Health and Safety Solution (SHE) will offer a modernised replacement to the existing system.

Community Corrections and Specialist Operations Project Delivery Command (CCSO PDC)

Over the next few months, the Psychological Services Redesign project is expected to introduce enhanced QCS Mental Health Services teams at Arthur Gorrie, Brisbane Women's, Lotus Glen and Woodford correctional centres. These multi-disciplinary teams will deliver vital services to those in custody and alleviate some of the pressures on officers.

The Disability Services project will soon onboard nine additional officers as part of its centralised hub that is working to improve supports for those in custody living with disability.

The E2E Optimisation project is introducing a temporary triage process to enhance the way cases are directed and filtered in Townsville Community Corrections.

The Women's System Reform (WSR) Program continues to deliver for women in custody and under supervision with the pilot of enhanced court advisory services due to go live in November, and enhanced education, rehabilitation and parenting programs and services to come online mid-2026. This work addresses five of the recommendations from the Women's Safety and Justice Taskforce. The WSR Program is working with the projects in CCSO PDC to better align its work with other projects affecting similar areas of the business.

QCS PPM Tool

With much project activity occurring across QCS, the QCS Project Portfolio Management (PPM) Tool continues to provide value by streamlining our reporting and project management. I'd like to thank our project and program teams for supporting the use of this important tool and for making system improvement recommendations. We also look forward to onboarding an expert developer to rectify some PPM Tool system issues and introduce enhancements which will add further value.

Thank you again to our collaborators across the business for your efforts and support. I look forward to providing another update at the end of the year.





Safety is every job, every day

October marks Safe Work Month which also includes Mental Health Week. While workplace health, safety and wellbeing are a priority every day, the month allows for pause and reflection on how we can all keep evolving to look after ourselves and our colleagues.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said a series of activities, workshops and toolbox talks to refresh knowledge, share best practices and encourage open conversations about safety would be held throughout the month.

“Safety isn’t just about filling in checklists or having procedures in place — it’s a shared responsibility and we all have a role to play every day to make our workplaces safer for everyone,” Commissioner Stewart said.

“Whether we’re working in correctional centres, community corrections offices or in corporate HQ, we can all play our part to ensure we have a safe, healthy work environment for everyone.”

QCS’ Health and Safety Operations (HSO) team is leading activities for Safe Work Month, focusing on four key safety themes:

- Workplace Incident and Hazard Awareness,
- Mental Health and Wellbeing,
- Psychosocial Risks, and
- Reporting incidents on Integrum, the new Safety Incident and Hazard Reporting System.

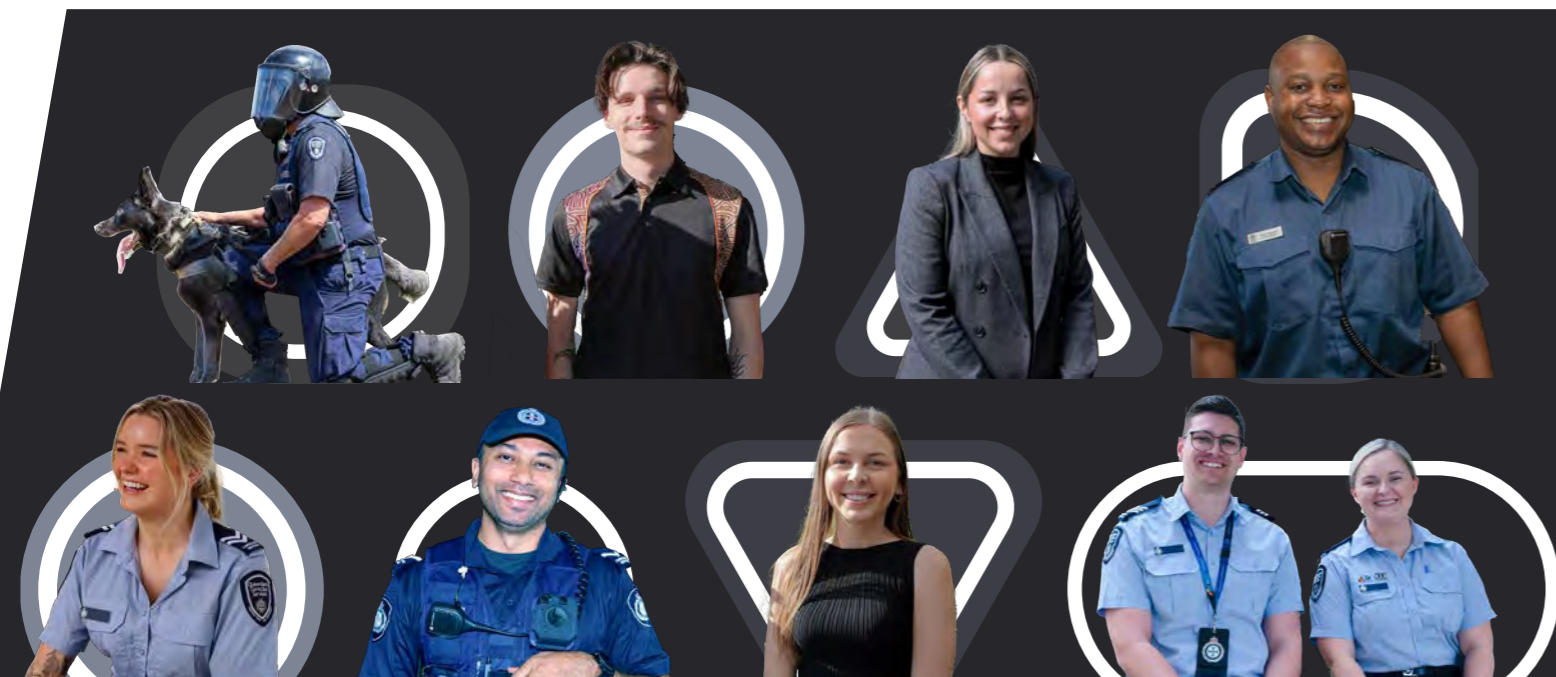
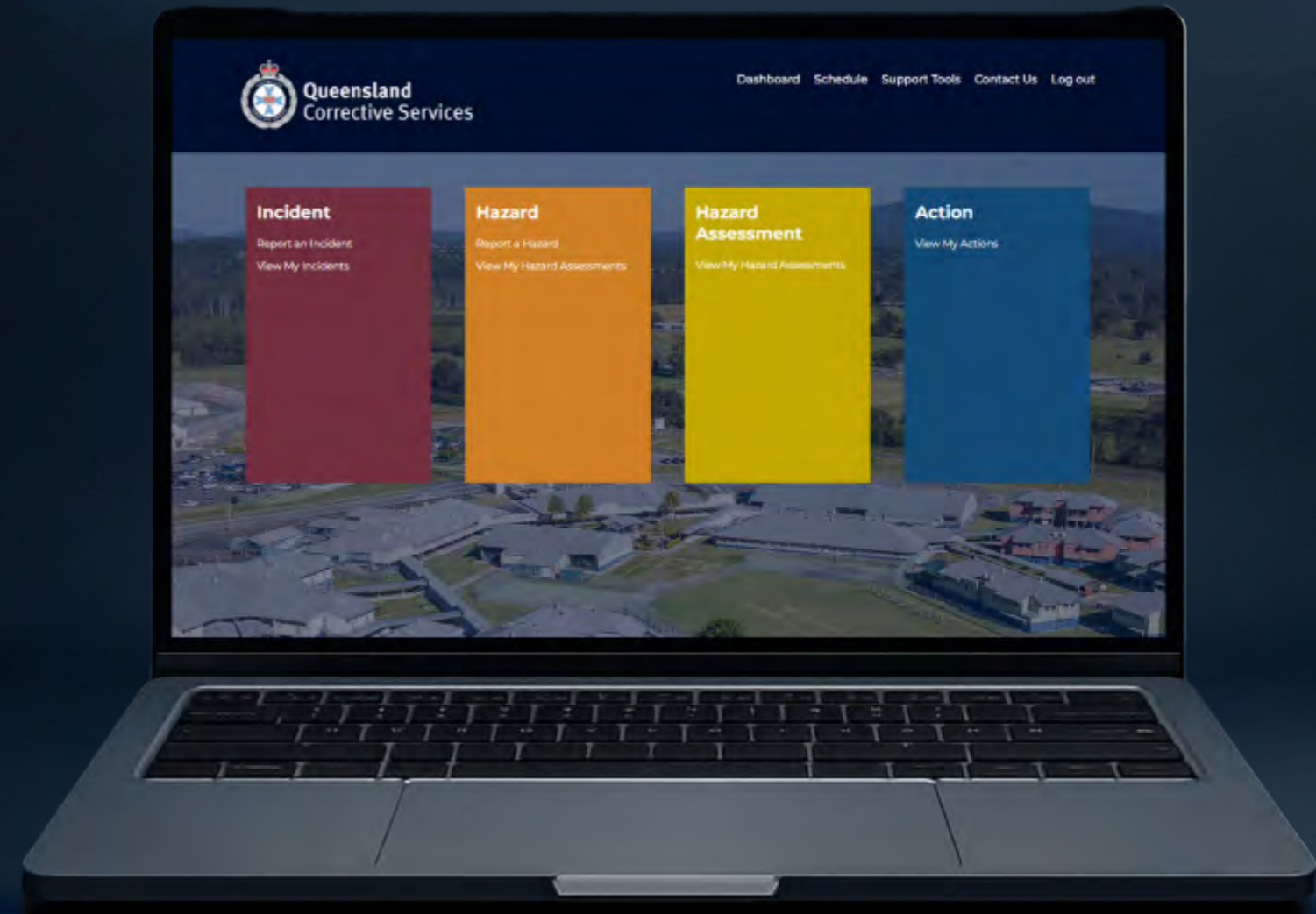
Keep an eye out for updates on how you can play your role in keeping safe in the workplace, and reach out to the HSO team for guidance on workplace risks, assistance with incident reviews, and general assistance to help our workforce make informed health and safety decisions every day.

Integrum is now here

Enhancing how QCS identifies, tracks and responds to safety incident and hazard events, Integrum will launch soon, reflecting the ongoing commitment to fostering a safe and proactive workplace culture.

The new system will be accessible across devices so whether you’re in a correctional centre, a community corrections office or working remotely, incidents, near misses and hazards can be reported with ease.

The Health, Safety and Wellbeing Team will be available to help with training and roll out.



Wolston officer awarded for long service and good conduct

Congratulations to Wolston Correctional Centre's Centre Service Manager Ian, who was recently awarded a 45-year National Medal clasp for his long and meritorious career with QCS.

Ian served in the army before joining QCS in 1988. His career in corrections has spanned nearly 40 years, starting as a Prison Officer at Boggo Rd and later holding positions at Sir David Longland, Brisbane Women's, and Wolston, where he is currently employed.

His 1988 cohort was the last to train under the *Prison Act* before transitioning to the *Corrective Services Act 2006*.

"We were the first group to use the new case management system, a concept which meant more interaction with prisoners to further help support their rehabilitation," Ian said.

"Under the new Act, as CCOs, our responsibilities evolved beyond opening and closing cell doors, to daily interaction with prisoners as part of rehabilitation efforts."

Acting Chief Superintendent Steve Wright said Ian's commitment to public safety over the years is highly commendable.

"Thank you for your contribution to QCS and for all your support with prisoner rehabilitation throughout the years," Ch. Supt. Wright said.

"You have been a consistent role model, not only to your peers and colleagues, but well respected by prisoners as well."

Ian has always treated others how he wants to be treated and offered this same advice to his sons, who followed in his QCS footsteps years later.

"Treat others how you want to be treated because respect goes a long way in any career, but it's particularly important in a correctional environment," Ian said.

Congratulations on a wonderful career and thank you for your passion and commitment to the people of Queensland.

Officer honoured with 40-year medal

Congratulations to Systems Administrator David Staples from Digital Services and IT, who was recently presented with his 40-year Long Service and Good Conduct medal.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM, Deputy Commissioner Adam Black and Assistant Commissioner Michael Nikolic joined colleagues for a morning tea to celebrate David's achievements.

AC Nikolic said that David consistently demonstrated exemplary performance in his role.

"Thank you for your contribution to QCS and for being a valued member of the Digital Services team," AC Nikolic said.

David began his public service career with Telecom in the mid-1980s, when it was government-owned, where he primarily worked in IT support.

In July 1991, he transitioned to the Queensland Corrective Services Commission as a Regional IT Support Officer based in Townsville, managing IT for QCS sites from Rockhampton North.

Over the years his role evolved with the advancements of technology, which eventually led to David's management of IT Support Officers in Rockhampton and Townsville.

Throughout his career, David said adaptability to change has been crucial in his field.

"As proficiency or expertise in a technology is achieved, it often becomes obsolete and is replaced and upgraded, necessitating continuous learning," David said.

Congratulations David and thank you for your dedication and hard work at QCS!



Warwick Work Camp turns 30



Happy birthday to Warwick Work Camp, which recently celebrated a special milestone – 30 years of serving the local community.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM said the work camp was the first camp for women in Australia.

“Work camps are valuable resources for the community and Warwick has been supporting low risk women to build employable skills and give back to the community since June 1995,” Commissioner Stewart said.

Work camps provide labour and assistance to community projects and events, cleaning and maintaining fences, cemeteries, heritage sites, playgrounds and showgrounds in Warwick and the surrounding area.

Field Supervisor Kushla, who has worked at the camp for more than 10 years, said the camp was supporting 35 projects.

“You would be hard to find a community club, sports field or major event that hasn’t had assistance from the women from Warwick Work Camp over the last 30 years,” Kushla said.

“We are immensely proud of the contribution we make to the community, and it is always satisfying for us and the women we supervise to receive appreciation from those we help.”

The QCS Work Camp Program is one of the most successful prisoner rehabilitation schemes in Australia. There are 13 work camps operating and have provided 145,729 hours of community service across the state, equating to \$4.51 million worth of labour provided to support regional Queensland.



Working for Queensland survey feedback shaping organisational change

Having your say each year in the Queensland Government’s *Working for Queensland survey* is one of the most effective ways to support organisational change.

With the 2025 survey recently finished, it is timely to share an update on how far we have come in the past 12 months.

Acting Deputy Commissioner Workforce Culture, Integrity and Capability Samantha Kane said the survey provides QCS with valuable insights into workplace culture, allowing us to enact change in the areas that matter most to our officers.

“As the ‘People Division’ of QCS, Workforce Culture, Integrity and Capability Division is committed to supporting all areas of the workforce in delivering the complex work you do every day,” A/g Deputy Commissioner Kane said.

“I would like to personally thank all QCS officers for taking the time to complete the survey and knowing that your confidential responses will directly shape our workplace culture.”

In 2024, the *Working for Queensland survey* results indicated several key areas of focus related to professional development and addressing sexual harassment and discrimination.

A range of initiatives were enacted in response to 2024 survey feedback, including:

- Implementation of PDAs across head office.
- 13 Respect@Work Training and Symposium sessions aimed directly at improving the prevention and response to workplace sexual harassment.
- Seven Supervisor Transition Development Programs (STDP) to build a core baseline leadership capability in our first line leaders statewide.
- Clearance strategy for outstanding workplace investigations with priority given to sexual harassment, bullying and discrimination to external service providers.
- Communications tools for stakeholders about communicating with Ethical Standards Groups, referring matters to Ethical Standards and the process of a workplace investigation.
- Professional development opportunities in trauma informed practice, audit report writing and cultural awareness.
- People Capability Policy and Practice Directive ‘Preventing and responding to sexual harassment and sexually discriminatory conduct’.

Unsung heroes receive national honours

Congratulations to three QCS officers who were awarded the Australian Corrections Medal (ACM) for their commitment and dedication to creating stronger and safer communities.

Woodford Correctional Centre General Manager Chief Superintendent Stuart McHaffie, Wolston Correctional Centre Correctional Manager, Patrick Ralph and Serious Offender Director Shannon Atkins were named in the King's Birthday 2025 Honours list.

Commissioner Paul Stewart APM congratulated the officers for their service and dedication to the public safety agency.

"On behalf of QCS, I want to congratulate Stuart, Patrick and Shannon for their outstanding commitment to officer and community safety and reforming lives," Commissioner Stewart said.

"Their commitment to increasing community safety is evident through their work and its effect on our community.

"Corrections is a demanding and challenging profession, and our officers work hard day in and out to create meaningful change."

The ACM recognises distinguished service by an operational member of an Australian state or territory civilian corrections service for adults.

About the recipients:

Woodford Correctional Centre, General Manager Chief Superintendent Stuart McHaffie has made significant contributions throughout his career at QCS and notably as the General Manager at Woodford Correctional Centre (WFDC), where he has enhanced facility security and officer safety, and introduced the successful Drug Disruption Strategy, which significantly reduced contraband at WFDC.

Wolston Correctional Centre, Correctional Manager Accommodation, Patrick Ralph began his career with QCS as a correctional officer in 1985. Since then, he has held various frontline roles, mainly at Wolston Correctional Centre, including leadership positions in intelligence, centre services, offender development, and accommodation.

Serious Offenders Group Director Shannon Atkins has served for more than 25 years in prisoner and offender management, showcasing exceptional leadership and dedication to community safety. Ms Atkins has held numerous operational and frontline roles within QCS, marked by significant contributions to high-risk offender management and innovative program implementation.



Joint exercise tests inter-agency response

Lotus Glen Correctional Centre (LGCC) was the scene of a simulated firefighting and search and rescue operation in July as a part of a multi-agency training exercise.

The contingency training, which involved officers from the Queensland Corrective Services Centre Emergency Response Team (CERT) and dog squad, saw two Queensland Fire Department (QFD) crews from Atherton and Mareeba respond to a bin and subsequent building fire within the grounds of the facility as a result of non-compliant prisoners. Staff from Queensland Health, QBuild and Endfire were also involved.

The exercise tested QCS' safety and security response in supporting QFD to access the site and eliminate the fire, before providing search and rescue capabilities to recover and treat a missing person.

Lotus Glen Correctional Centre CERT Coordinator and Acting Deputy General Manager, Acting Superintendent Scott Nicholls said the exercise was an opportunity to measure existing QCS capabilities whilst drawing on the expertise of the QFD.

"It's really important that we practice so when there are real time emergencies, we're all in a good position to respond safely and appropriately," A/Superintendent Nicholls said.

"Our team, everyone from administration through to our tactical team did a sterling job and the centre was still operational in dealing with the complexities of a fully operational centre while running this contingency."

The training also tested QCS' response capability in securing the area and evacuating prisoners, as well as providing safe access to the facility for responding fire appliances and crews.

QFD Area Commander, Tablelands Command, Inspector Brad Fleming said the exercise ensured

the interaction between the two agencies was both effective and familiar.

"Today we were in support of QCS where they are the lead agency and we are the combative authority, and we are here to assist them under their direction, in this situation that started as a dumpster fire but extended into a workshop area," Inspector Fleming said.

"Exercises like this not only test our capability but provide knowledge for the actual operators so if they have to come out here for a real-life incident, they can work well and know the layout.

Queensland Corrective Services will conduct a review following the exercise to create a formal breakdown of learning opportunities, with the opportunity to further link in with QFD as part of each agency's assessments.



Spokes of change on the horizon with new Interventions Practice Wheel

A new tool to support case managers as an integral part of end-to-end case management has been developed by the QCS Academy Community Corrections Specialist Operations training team.

The Brief Interventions Practice Wheel was created to assist case managers in their daily tasks and is designed to link risk with the intervention that will assist in reducing that risk.

Acting General Manager, Chief Superintendent Nadine Robinson QCS Academy said the Wheel is a simple but powerful addition to case managers' toolkits.

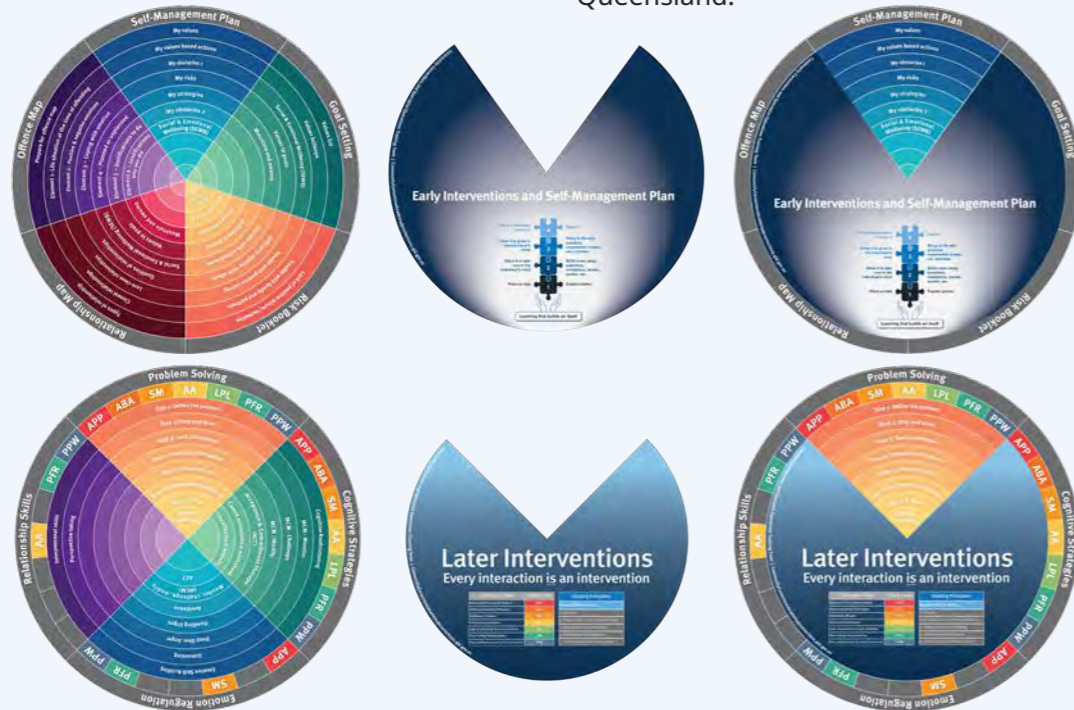
"The wheel serves as a guide to help officers identify impactful interventions that create incremental behavioural change, which is important for reducing re-offending and supporting successful reintegration back into the community," Ch. Supt. Robinson said.

The wheel is designed to be used either in the room with the individual or when the case manager is preparing for the upcoming session.

The team, led by Principal Adviser Colin Christie, worked collaboratively with many business areas including Practice Leadership, the Clinical Support Unit and Case Managers throughout the state.

"The pilot project around the state received overwhelming support from officers and will be implemented across Community Corrections and Sentence and Case Management Services (SCMS) to all case managers and practice leaders, Ch. Supt. Robinson said.

Congratulations to Colin and the team for their innovative approach. We look forward to watching how this new resource supports and enhances their work in Community Corrections and SCMS across Queensland.



New boots made for walking

Changes are afoot and new uniform footwear will soon be stepping up and making a debut at QCS. If it's time to give to your old footwear the boot, this will be music to your feet.

The change comes from our current supplier Stewart and Heaton, which is transitioning from the Magnum boot (Strikeforce) to the Strikeforce Litespeed boot, which will better meet our operational needs and improve officer safety.

Don't get off on the wrong foot, the new footwear will be lighter weight, more durable and offer enhanced performance.

While this is great news, uniform allocations will continue to be issued on a wear and tear basis and will require approval from the appropriate delegate to foot the bill.

It is expected that uniformed frontline officers wear approved boots as part of the uniform policy. If an exemption or alternative is required for medical reasons, don't drag your feet, ensure that a register is maintained at your workplace with the appropriate supporting documentation.

For further information, please visit the Uniform and Governance microsite or email uniform@corrections.qld.gov.au

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Around the state

Brisbane

A big shout out goes to Union, Harry, Vice, Soniq and their handlers Scott, Michael, Tyron and Chris for putting on a showstopping performance at this year's Ekka.

Our canine colleagues set tails a waggin' with their contraband detection display, drawing crowds into the arena with their top-notch sniffer skills.

Thanks to everyone involved in keeping punters entertained with our PADD dog displays!



Toowoomba

A big thank you goes to Lindsay from Parole Board Queensland and Cassie from Toowoomba Community Corrections, who braved the cold and participated in the 'Homeless for a Night' sleepout in Toowoomba last month.

Together, they raised more than \$1,500 for Base Services, a Toowoomba-based not for profit community development organisation that works with families and individuals in need. Funds assist with providing food, backpack beds and other resources to support homeless people. Amazing effort to you both! Well done.



Brisbane

Officers Scott, Ian and Dean from ESB successfully inducted their colleagues on the newly refurbished unit at Princess Alexandra Hospital Secure Unit (PAHSU).

All cells in the outpatients area are now operational and a new walk-through metal detector was installed in late July to better meet operational needs.

Response training was conducted in the OPAT cells prior to their opening, with officers learning how to restrain through the hatch and undertake cell extractions.

The team were on site for several days to ensure officers were familiar with the new layout.

Well done to all!



Ipswich

Officers Mikayla (TAG PCC), Philip (BWCC) and Kim (LVCC) recently represented QCS at the Australian Defence Force (ADF) Transition Seminar in Ipswich.

The seminar provided information to assist ADF members and families to prepare for transition to civilian life, and the QCS team shared their experiences about life after service.

The event provided an opportunity to attract former ADF personnel whose values align closely with QCS.

The team spoke with many current ADF members considering their next step after service and reinforced how QCS values the leadership, discipline and resilience that Defence personnel bring to the workforce.



Far North Queensland

QCS and Stephen Tillett from the First Nations Justice Office met in Cairns to discuss our continuing engagement for FNQ. The focus was on strengthening and identifying opportunities by working in partnership to address the overrepresentation of First Nations people across the criminal justice system.

This initiative directly links to Closing the Gap, and these meetings will continue to ensure that we work in partnership to achieve better outcomes for First Nations people.



Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre

CCO Josie from AGCC successfully raised \$3,107 during a cancer fundraising event she hosted for Australia's Biggest Morning tea.

Like many, cancer has hit home for Josie and she said it was something no one should have to face alone.

"I raise money because it matters, it helps fund research, supports families and gives hope to those fighting the disease," Josie said.

"Every little bit counts and together we can all make a difference."

Thank you for spreading your kindness and caring so deeply.



Brisbane

QCS hosted its annual visit with its Solomon Islands corrections counterparts, as a part of an agreement with the Australian Government to showcase QCS practices and build relationships with one of our closest neighbours.

This year the delegation was interested in learning about the PBQ system from sentencing and community options for sentencing and how that works in the judicial system, as well as a visit to the Helana Jones Centre to see how low custody security environments and positive rehabilitation opportunities affect prisoner prison outcomes after release.

Congratulations to all involved in the successful visit to strengthen ties and showcase QCS.



Cairns

LGCC and Cairns Community Corrections recently represented QCS at the Cairns Show.

The three-day community event was deemed a huge success as over 70,000 locals passed through the gates, many of whom popped by the QCS stand to say hello, have a chat about what we do and find out what makes QCS a great place to work.

The Dog Squad drew crowds with a number of displays from our PADD dogs, demonstrating how they help keep prisons and communities safe, and CCO Linda took one for the team during the much-loved annual esky race.



Mackay

The Mackay Community Corrections team recently attended Mackay Christian College to deliver a presentation to the Year 10 Civics class.

Case Managers Charisma, Sandra and Senior Case Manager Kerrie discussed the valuable role Community Corrections plays in keeping the community safe, provided an overview of parole and probation and what happens when offenders violate their orders.

It was an opportunity to engage school students who may be considering a career in the justice system.

Thank you for raising the profile of Community Corrections in your local community.



Brisbane North

The Brisbane North Community Corrections team held a NAIDOC Yarn Day in July, bringing community organisations together to strengthen relationships, celebrate culture and continue our shared journey toward reconciliation and reducing the overrepresentation of First Nations people in custody.

Elders from the Moreton Bay Community Justice Group, staff from Aboriginal Community Organisation Kurbingui and Police Liaison Officers came together with the Brisbane North team, QCS Cultural Liaison Officer Georgina, Acting Chief Superintendent Megan Crossley and some First Nations supervised offenders.

The day was filled with meaningful conversations, some tasty snacks and the collaborative creation of an artwork symbolising cultural pride.



Brisbane

Congratulations to ESB Supervisor Yanir who completed not one, but four races in the Gold Coast marathon to raise much needed funds for sick kids.

Yanir raised \$2,025 for Make-a-Wish Australia and is grateful to everyone who supported him and for helping change a child's world.

Despite injuries, he crossed every finish line over the course of two days, clocking up almost 80 kilometres in the first year of the legendary 'Quad race'.

"I didn't make it because it was easy, I made it because the cause was worth the pain," Yanir said.



Biggest graduation cohort to deliver safety where we live

Queensland Corrective Services has welcomed an additional 245 Custodial Correctional Officers (CCO) to the frontline of community safety.

Ceremonies across the state celebrated the officers, who have joined QCS from a diverse range of backgrounds and nationalities.

Having completed the 10-week Custodial Officer Entry Program, the new recruits will bolster officer numbers at correctional centres across Queensland and play an important role in community safety.

The new CCOs, including 12 First Nations officers, have been deployed to Arthur Gorrie, Brisbane and Brisbane Women's, Borallon, Capricornia, Lockyer Valley, Lotus Glen, Maryborough, Southern Queensland, Townsville, Wolston and Woodford correctional centres, and the Escort and Security branch.

Additionally, in August 19 QCS officers graduated from the Foundations training at the QCS Academy, providing a frontline boost to regional Queensland.

Delivered by the Community Corrections & Specialist Operations Training Team at QCS Academy, the course provides QCS case managers and probation services officers with evidence-based training and real-world practices to support behaviour change, reduce recidivism to improve public safety.

Congratulations and thank you for your dedication to making Queensland a safer place for all.



In memoriam

Our deepest condolences go out to families, friends, loved ones and work colleagues of the following QCS officers. We recognise their dedication to upholding and ensuring community safety, and their honourable services to Queensland. They are and will be sadly missed.

Correctional Supervisor, Peter Luker

Peter's QCS career began in 1995 at the Moreton Correctional Centre and encompassed a variety of roles before being appointed Correctional Supervisor at Wolston Correctional Centre in 2014. Peter was well respected by his colleagues, was extremely dependable and was always willing to go above and beyond. He was a significant contributor and leader at Wolston, while also championing for native wildlife as President of the Ipswich Koala Protection Society where he was a strong advocate for koala rescue and rehabilitation.

Custodial Correctional Officer, Daniel Dowd

Daniel joined QCS in February 2024 in the Lockyer Valley Correctional Centre cohort and was deployed to the host centre, Southern Queensland Correctional Centre (SQCC). Daniel brought unwavering positivity, a calm presence and pride in his work at SQCC. He was a team player, reliable, respectful and always willing to support his colleagues.

Custodial Correctional Officer, Harrison Dunn

Harrison's career at QCS began in 2023 when he joined Townsville Correctional Centre. He worked across residential and secure accommodation areas and was highly regarded by his peers, supervisors and managers for his professionalism and commitment to his work. Harrison enjoyed his job and was proud to play such an important role in community safety.

Custodial Supervisor, Russell Cliff

Russell commenced at Arthur Gorrie Correctional Centre (AGCC) in March 2010 under the GEO group, before transitioning to QCS in July 2020. He was highly regarded and valued by his friends and colleagues at AGCC.

Peter Coveney (retired)

Peter joined QCS in 2008 and remained working at Woodford Correctional Centre until his retirement in 2024. He was highly active as a Trainer and Assessor at Woodford and assisted many custodial officers in completing their CERT 3 qualifications over his years of service. Peter made a valuable contribution to corrective services and the wider community.

Uncle Alfred

Uncle Alfred will be remembered for his contribution in changing the lives of the men in our custody. Through his innate ability to engage people from different cultural backgrounds, he helped create culturally safe, friendly, secure and inclusive environments, free of judgement, where men in our care were encouraged to rebuild their lives by reconnecting to their culture and country, helping them become better fathers, brothers, uncles and community members.

Grief is a natural emotional response that we experience when we lose someone close, but you need not go through it alone. If you are experiencing distress with the loss of a friend, family member or colleague, or if you are experiencing any other personal or work-related concerns, confidential counselling and support services are available to all Queensland Corrective Services officers and their immediate, household family members through Converge International. The hotline is available to book appointments 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling 1300 687 327.



Corrections NEWS

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