

I, Mark Newhouse on behalf of the Deaths in Custody Watch Committee, in the State of Western Australia, am the promoter of this petition which contains 701 signatures.

PETITION IN RELATION TO THE DEATH IN POLICE CUSTODY OF 22 YEAR OLD MS DHU

To the President and Members of the Legislative Council of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We the undersigned residents of Western Australia have serious concerns about the avoidable and tragic death of 22-year-old Yamatji woman Ms Dhu on 4 August 2014; three days after police took her to the watch house in South Hedland for just \$1000 in unpaid fines. We therefore support the Dhu and Roe family's campaign for an independent inquiry into the administration of justice including the circumstances surrounding Ms Dhu's death and for the government to immediately adopt strategies to improve police and other relevant government agencies custody procedures which could prevent more deaths from occurring.

Your petitioners therefore respectfully request the Legislative Council recommends to the government:

1. Immediately establish an independent and timely public inquiry into Ms Dhu's death.
2. Legislate for and fund a mandatory 24-hour custody notification service and R U OK phone line in accordance with the recommendation in the 2013 Parliamentary inquiry report, *In Safe Custody - Inquiry into Custodial Arrangements in Police Lock-ups*.
3. Fund 24-hour on-call medical coverage and assistance at all lock-ups in metropolitan and regional WA.
4. Adopt alternatives to imprisonment as a penalty for non-payment of fines in accordance with the recommendations of the 2014 Gender Bias Report and Attorney General's 2013 Review of the *Sentencing Act 1995* (WA).
5. Expand the role of the Inspector of Custodial Services to oversight of all lock-ups in WA and fund this work in accordance with the recommendation of the 2013 Parliamentary inquiry report, *In Safe Custody - Inquiry into Custodial Arrangements in Police Lock-ups*.
6. Adopt justice reinvestment in communities instead of constructing more prisons.

And your petitioners as in duty bound, will ever pray.

NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE