



Minister for Emergency Services; Corrective Services

Our Ref: 65-10966

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC
Chair, Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council Committee Office
Parliament House
4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Matt,

Thank you for your letter dated 24 October 2019, regarding Petition No 118 – Youth Violence in Cockburn which, among other things, calls for a review of the *Young Offenders Act 1994 (WA)* (YOA).

I advise that, as the responsible Minister, I am aware that a comprehensive review of the YOA has not been undertaken since the initial statutory review in 1998. Since that time, the youth justice landscape has changed significantly and we have learned much about what works to improve youth outcomes and reduce offending.

I agree that a review of the Young Offenders Act is desirable including thorough consultation with youth justice stakeholders and the public. Youth justice is a complex and important issue and it is vital that the review is not rushed; accordingly, a timeline for this review is yet to be determined.

I note that this Government has also made a reduction in youth offending a priority through its *Our Priorities: Sharing Prosperity* framework, setting a five-year target of no more than 50% of young people returning to sentenced detention.

Once again, thank you for raising your concerns with me.

Yours sincerely

HON FRANCIS LOGAN MLA
MINISTER FOR EMERGENCY SERVICES; CORRECTIVE SERVICES

27 NOV 2019