



## Ideas submission form

### Logan community summit—Sentencing for child homicide offences

16 July 2018

| Contact details (optional)*  |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Name                         |  |
| Organisation (if applicable) |  |
| Position                     |  |
| Email address                |  |
| Phone number                 |  |

**\* If you provide your contact details, we will treat your submission as public unless you indicate otherwise.**

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**Treat this submission as:**

Public

Public, but **remove my name** prior to publication

Confidential — I **do not** want my submission to be made public

**My reflections:**

There was strong perceptions from victim family and non-lawyers that many sentences for child homicide were too low and failed to properly acknowledge the value of the victim.

Lawyers, victim families and community members seem to be talking past each other – lawyers and judges devalue family grief, family and community often are unaware of the multitudinous factors that affect sentences.

**My ideas to improve current criminal justice system responses:**

Add a factor to s9(2) and/or 9(3) regarding causing death.

Consider increased minimum non-parole periods for murder for vulnerability of children (and other vulnerable people) similar to that for killing police.

Have differential discounts for early and late pleas.

Publish sentencing remarks, without fees.

Publish explanations of sentencing in layperson's language and perhaps include a link with online publication of sentencing remarks.

**Other comments/views:**

Families are insulted by substantial sentence discounts for cost and time savings for the Court. It seems to send a message that saving money and court convenience is more important than the homicide victim. Discounted sentences for guilty pleas should focus more on sparing families from pain, acknowledgement of guilt and remorse, rather than Court and State resources.

There should be better publication and explanation of sentencing factors, reasoning and comments.

**Thank you**

Completed forms can be provided to Council staff at the summit or sent via email or post by 31 July 2018 to:

**Email:** [info@sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au)  
**Mail:** Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council  
GPO Box 2360  
Brisbane Qld 4001

If you would prefer to provide your views by phone, **call:** (07) 3224 7375.