

From:

Sent: Friday, 31 May 2019 2:24 PM

To:

Cc:

Subject: Community Based Sentencing Orders, Imprisonment and Parole: Options Paper

Dear Ms Moore

I refer to the letter dated 9 May 2019 from the Chair of the Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council (QSAC) to the Director-General of the Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW), inviting submissions on the *Community Based Sentencing Orders, Imprisonment and Parole: Options Paper* recently released by QSAC.

I am pleased to set out below the important work DHPW is advancing in this area.

The Queensland Parole System Review (QPSR) Final Report was delivered in November 2016, and the Housing Taskforce was convened in response to Recommendation 34, that *“an intergovernmental taskforce, with representation from Department of Housing and Public Works (DHPW), Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) and the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (DPC), should be established to examine the issue of the availability of suitable long-term accommodation for prisoners and parolees”*.

The Housing Taskforce Final Report recommends the implementation of practice improvements, including the establishment of a revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DHPW and Queensland Corrective Services (QCS). The development of the MoU is underway and will outline arrangements to work collaboratively and cooperatively to ensure the coordination of housing assistance and related services for people exiting the criminal justice system.

Another initiative that will improve outcomes for people exiting prison is Next Step Home – Women on Parole. This three-year initiative involves integrating a property headleased for 12 months from the private market by DHPW along with non-government re-entry services, to support women exiting the criminal justice system achieve housing stability and other life outcomes. This initiative is being trialled in South-East Queensland and Townsville.

These pilots will be evaluated to understand both system impacts and the outcomes for the women participating to inform future service delivery.

If you have any questions, please contact

We look forward to the outcomes of the Review.

Yours sincerely