

Crime Survey - Have your say

Introduction

The Government is introducing a broad review of the youth justice system through 2013-14 which will culminate in the delivery of a Blueprint for the Future of Youth Justice in Queensland.

An information paper is available on the Department of Justice and Attorney-General's website at www.justice.qld.gov.au which outlines how the Blueprint will address community concerns around crime and the development of strategies that support:

- Boot Camps
- A Review of the Youth Justice Act
- Effective sentencing options
- Early Intervention and Diversion
- Responding to causes of crime
- Managing demand for youth justice services
- Improving youth detention services
- Effective non-government investment.

This survey is being used as one method to gather views from the community about the criminal justice system and possible changes. The information will be used to inform the development of the Blueprint for the Future of Youth Justice.

The survey should take about 5 minutes and there are no right or wrong answers. The survey is just asking about your opinions, so honesty is important. All answers will remain anonymous – unless you decide to include your name and address, and in that case all answers will remain confidential.

To have your say, the preferred method for completion of this survey is online at:

- www.qld.gov.au/youthjusticesurvey

If you wish to complete the survey in paper form, please either:

- Return to your Local Member of Parliament
- Post to:
Assistant Director-General, Youth Justice
Department of Justice and Attorney-General
GPO Box 149
Brisbane QLD 4001
- Fax to (07) 3033 0872

Demographics

In this section we collect general information about you to help us better understand your point of view.

Your post code: _____

Your gender

- Male
- Female

Your age

- Under 18 years
- 18-25 years
- 26-39 years
- 40-65 years
- Over 65 years

Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander origin?

- No
- Yes, Aboriginal
- Yes, Torres Strait Islander
- Yes, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander

Crime generally

This section asks about your beliefs about crime generally, including both youth and adult crime, and your experience of crime in your area.

Have you or a family member ever been a victim of crime?

- No
- Yes → If yes, did the crime occur within the last 12 months?
 - No
 - Yes

In general, compared to the rest of Queensland, how much crime do you think your area has?

- | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Much below
average | Below
average | About
average | Above
average | Much above
average | Don't
know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

If above average, what type specifically?

- Violent crime
- Property crime
- Hooning
- Drug/alcohol related crime
- Other

Please include any details below.

Crime prevention

This section identifies a range of crime prevention initiatives and asks you to indicate how effective you think each initiative is likely to be in preventing crime and disorder.

Strengthening families

How effective do you think the following measures are in preventing crime and disorder:

- Better supervision of young people by parents.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Providing programs that support parents to take better care of, and responsibility for, their children.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Providing better support to children experiencing violence and neglect.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Strengthening communities

How effective do you think the following measures are in preventing crime and disorder:

- Private companies (eg. banks, mining companies) being involved in delivering and supporting crime prevention initiatives.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

➤ Unpaid work by offenders in the community.

Not effective
at all

Not very
effective

Neither effective
nor not effective

Quite
effective

Very
effective

Don't
know

Strengthening justice responses

How effective do you think the following measures are in preventing crime and disorder:

- Prison sentences.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Improving the criminal justice system

How effective do you think the following measures are in preventing crime and disorder:

- Reducing court delays to decrease the length of time people are held on remand.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- Providing bail support programs.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Responding to the causes of crime

How effective do you think the following measures are in preventing crime and disorder:

➤ Better mental health care.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

➤ Treatment to tackle drug addiction.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

➤ Treatment to tackle binge drinking.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

➤ Providing education and employment.

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Do you have any suggestions for other ideas that may reduce crime?

Youth justice

This section identifies a range of initiatives that specifically target young offenders or young people at risk of engaging with the youth justice system. In Queensland, the youth justice system responds to young people between the ages of 10 and 16 years. In your opinion, how effective do you think each intervention is likely to be in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Early Intervention and Prevention

Prevention programs that are implemented early in a child's life aim to reduce the likelihood that they will offend in the future. These include early childhood development programs such as early childhood education programs, targeted maternal and child health care programs, parenting programs, and home visitation programs.

How effective do you think early intervention and prevention is in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Education programs

Education programs which are focused on keeping young people participating in, and engaged with, school, in order to reduce offending.

How effective do you think education programs are in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Employment programs

Employment programs which are focused on skilling young people and finding them jobs in order to reduce offending.

How effective do you think employment programs are in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective
at all

Not very
effective

Neither effective
nor not effective

Quite
effective

Very
effective

Don't
know

Community crime prevention

Community crime prevention initiatives focus on engaging, supporting and building local community capacity to address local crime and safety issues.

How effective do you think community crime programs are in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Targeted Interventions

Targeted programs aim to reduce offending by addressing specific risk behaviours (eg. programs which provide in-home treatment to families of young offenders, focusing on improving parenting skills).

How effective do you think targeted interventions are in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Prolific Offender Programs

Prolific offender programs use increased police supervision combined with other interventions for a small group of prolific offenders to address the issues that fuel criminal activity. Interventions can include referrals to drug or mental health treatment, or to job or housing programs.

How effective do you think prolific offender programs are in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Youth boot camps

The Government has commenced a youth boot camp trial which will include program components such as physical activity/experiential learning, intensive family support, offence focused programs, education, training and employment, health services, community reparation, and mentoring.

How effective do you think a trial of boot camps will be in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Naming and shaming

Currently, the identity of a child in Queensland is protected until the age of 17, on the basis that those who make mistakes when they are young should not be punished for life once they turn their lives around.

How effective do you think publishing of the details of young offenders would be in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Breach of bail

If a child breaches their bail conditions they can be returned to Court and re-sentenced for the original offence. Breach of bail itself is not an offence but it is an offence for the child not to appear in court on the date required by the bail undertaking. For adults, breach of bail is already an offence.

How effective do you think making it an offence for a child to breach their bail conditions would be in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Admissibility of findings of guilt in adult courts

If a young person is found guilty of an offence and no conviction is recorded, the Court will not be made aware of this finding should the young person appear before the Court as an adult. This principle is intended to recognise that mistakes made as a child should not follow a person into adulthood.

How effective do you think giving courts access to an adult offender's juvenile criminal history would be in making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Automatic transfer of 18 year olds to adult correctional centres

The *Youth Justice Act 1992* applies to children who have not yet turned 17 at the time of their offence. However, due to the length of time taken in the Court system and sometimes because of a lengthy period of detention, about one third of young people in Youth Detention Centres are aged 17 years and above and about 2% are aged 18 years and older. Currently, there is no automatic process to transfer offenders out of a youth detention centre and into an adult correctional facility once they turn 18 years of age.

How effective do you think automatically transferring offenders to adult correctional centres when they turn 18 would be in making Queensland safer?

Not effective at all	Not very effective	Neither effective nor not effective	Quite effective	Very effective	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Removal of detention as a last resort

Young offenders are currently sentenced to detention as a last resort. This principle is intended to recognise that young offenders should be given every opportunity to change their behaviour before being locked up.

How effective do you think the removal of the principle of detention as a last resort in relation to young offenders would be in preventing youth crime and making Queensland safer?

Not effective	Not very	Neither effective	Quite	Very	Don't
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at all

effective

nor not effective

effective

effective

know

Do you have any suggestions for addressing youth crime or improving the youth justice system?

What sort of activities would you like to see young offenders undertaking on community service orders?

Any other suggestions or comments?
