

STATE BUDGET

2020-21

MINISTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES HON MICHELLE LENSINK MLC MEDIA RELEASE

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Adelaide Youth Training Centre receives \$18.7 million injection to improve outcomes for children and young people in detention

The Marshall Liberal Government is investing \$18.7 million to consolidate the Adelaide Youth Training Centre (Kurlana Tapa) into a single, modernised site, with the aim of improving outcomes and services for children and young people in youth detention.

Following a successful trial, all residents are being accommodated at the newer, more modern 60-bed Goldsborough Road campus – and the campus will now be further upgraded. The Jonal Drive site is no longer required by the Government and the property will be sold in due course.

The new multi-million investment includes:

- A new 12-bed accommodation unit.
- A new 8-bed police custody unit to ensure this cohort will be accommodated separately from the general residential population.
- New classroom space.
- Extended visiting space to ensure children and young people have safe, secure and private interactions with families and visitors.

Minister for Human Services Michelle Lensink said the Marshall Liberal Government was committed to providing children and young people at Kurlana Tapa – and their families – with improved facilities to achieve positive outcomes.

“The Marshall Liberal Government has already made, and will continue to make, significant improvements in our youth justice system,” said Minister Lensink.

“Since coming into Government, we’ve banned the use of spit hoods, invested in full-body scanners and released our new Youth Justice State Plan 2020-30 to better support young people in the youth justice system.

“This \$18.7 million investment enables us to expand and upgrade the newer and more modern Goldsborough campus and ensures we can continue to provide significantly better facilities and care to children and young people at Kurlana Tapa.”

In 2019-20, the average daily occupancy at Kurlana Tapa was 34.5 people, down from 44.5 in 2017-18.

This year’s State Budget also commits new funding to help our most vulnerable families.

A total of \$8.9 million is committed to continue the Child and Family Assessment and Referral Network (CFARN) program.

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The CFARN program provides local level coordination and intensive support services to children and their families with complex needs to help them access services and supports they need.

In addition, \$900,000 is committed over two years for a new, trial program to support young, at-risk women who have experienced, or are at risk of, repeat removals of children from their care.

“Early intervention and prevention remains a Marshall Liberal Government priority,” said Minister Lensink.

“We’re committed to ensuring we’re better supporting our most vulnerable South Australian families – and that includes providing the right support, at the right time.”

In addition to this investment, the Marshall Liberal Government has committed \$600,000 per annum to enable the continuation of the successful domestic violence disclosure scheme and a life-saving mobile phone app as well as \$400,000 from 2021-22 to fund a telephone counselling service for perpetrators. -

Minister Lensink said keeping South Australian women and children safe was a priority.

“The Marshall Liberal Government is determined to do whatever we can to tackle the scourge of domestic, family and sexual violence and ensure South Australians feel safe and supported and know where to turn to for help,” said Minister Lensink.

“Thanks to a \$4.8 million commitment from the Federal Government we’ve been able to fast-track new measures to support women and children at risk in South Australia during the coronavirus pandemic.

“Our investment includes opening new safety hubs, providing women with financial support, funding a new Break the Cycle communications campaign, and in a state-first, committing dedicated funding to the Men’s Referral Service and supports.”

Minister Lensink said the Marshall Liberal Government continued to support vulnerable South Australians during COVID-19 through many new measures.

“The Marshall Liberal Government committed additional funding towards food relief and to support NGOs and charities to help protect South Australians from the impacts of the coronavirus pandemic,” said Minister Lensink.

“In addition to this, more than 24,000 households have now received a once-off \$500 cost of living concession boost totalling just over \$12 million.

“This measure was targeted specifically at South Australians who lost their jobs or are unemployed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and forms part of the Marshall Liberal Government’s \$1 billion stimulus to keep South Australians safe and strong.”