



ACT Government
2004-2005 BUDGET

MEDIA RELEASE

INCREASED SUPPORT FOR YOUTH JUSTICE CLIENTS

The Stanhope Government has delivered \$1.9 million over four years to support Youth Justice Clients in the 2004-05 Budget.

The funding will support Youth Justice Clients by providing greater capacity for early intervention and intensive case management. It will also fund an enhancement of current programs and services covering issues such as mental health, alcohol and other drugs, education and vocational training.

“There has been a significant increase in the number of Youth Justice Clients with complex problems. This funding will help us to support young people to make positive changes and reduce the likelihood of re-offending,” said Ms Katy Gallagher MLA, Minister for Education, Youth and Family Services.

“Many of our young people leave custody with community-based orders and this initiative will support improved transitions for those leaving custody. The ACT Government is also taking steps towards minimising the number of young offenders and their progression into the justice system by giving greater focus to early intervention.”

“This initiative will ensure that both high-risk and low-risk clients are equally managed and allocated support so young people can achieve positive outcomes and reach their full potential.”

“The diversion of young people from custody, reduction of re-offending and improved outcomes for youth at risk has a significant social benefit to young people and to the ACT community,” concluded Ms Gallagher.

Statement Ends