



ACT Government
2005-2006 BUDGET

MEDIA RELEASE

\$40 MILLION FOR NEW YOUTH DETENTION FACILITY

The Stanhope Government has provided \$40 million over four years for design and construction of a new youth detention facility in the Territory.

The Minister for Children, Youth and Family Support, Ms Katy Gallagher MLA said \$3.5 million would be available in 2005-06 for the first phase of the project, which included the development of planning studies and design of the facility.

“Preparatory work such as planning studies and design development will be undertaken in 2005-06, so that construction activities can commence in the 2006-07 financial year. “It is expected that the new facility will be completed by June 2008,” Ms Gallagher said.

“The design of the new centre will address future needs, as well as providing young offenders with opportunities for rehabilitation in a safe and secure environment.”

Ms Gallagher said the Stanhope Government was also providing \$1.4 million over four years to increase specialist staffing at the Quamby Youth Detention Centre.

“The funding is designed to ensure both the security and welfare of Quamby residents, while planning continues for the construction of the new facility.”

“The \$1.417 million will enable the placement of an additional team leader and youth workers at Quamby. This staffing increase will assist in reducing the risk of young people re-offending, by providing a secure and supportive environment for young people in the facility,” Ms Gallagher said.

Ms Gallagher also said \$900,000 would be provided in the 2005-06 Budget to refurbish and upgrade the ACT Government community facilities, managed by the Office of Children Youth and Family Support.”

“These facilities include large regional community centres, youth centres, neighbourhood centres and community halls. This funding will ensure these assets are managed appropriately, allowing for repairs, refurbishments and upgrades.” Ms Gallagher concluded.

Statement ends