

Youth Justice Inquiry NSW Hearing - Questions on Notice from Senator Thorpe

Non-Government Organisations Justice and Equity Centre

1. What does the federal government do to support your work in terms of:
 - a) funding,
 - b) resources,
 - c) access to incarcerated people in detention?

The Justice and Equity Centre ('JEC') is a Community Legal Centre.

The JEC does not receive any federal government funding or resources for its work on youth justice or the rights of incarcerated people.

The JEC does not receive any support from the federal government to access incarcerated people in detention.

In 2024-25 it received \$158,625 from the federal government through the Community Legal Centre Program funding stream. This funding supports delivery of the Homeless Persons' Legal Service to people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness in NSW.

2. What, if any, expert advice do you provide to the federal government? How is your expert advice used by the federal government?

The Justice and Equity Centre's youth justice work is primarily directed to the NSW State Government.

However, when federal law or policy have the potential to impact on children in the criminal legal system in NSW, the JEC contributes its expertise. This has included:

- *Providing a [submission](#) and appearing to give evidence to this inquiry.*
- *Providing a [submission](#) to the 2024 Australian Senate's Legal and Constitutional Affairs Reference Committee Inquiry into Australia's youth justice and incarceration system.*
- *Providing a [submission](#) to the Standing Committee on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs, Truth and Justice Bill Commission 2024.*
- *Providing a [submission](#) to the 2023 Australian Human Rights Commission's investigation into Youth Justice and Child Wellbeing Reform across Australia.*
- *Providing a [submission](#) to the 2023 Parliamentary Inquiry into Australia's Human Rights Framework.*
- *Providing a [submission](#) to the Council of Attorneys-General – Age of Criminal Responsibility Working Group review.*

The JEC also commissioned, with National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services, [expert legal advice](#) on the federal government's constitutional power to legislate on

select youth justice matters. A copy of this advice was provided to the Prime Minister, Attorney-General and the Minister for Indigenous Australians in September 2025.