



12 July 2023

## Media Statement

### OCC INQUIRY INTO TRANSFER OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM ALICE SPRINGS YOUTH DETENTION CENTRE

The A/ Children's Commissioner, Nicole Hucks has notified NT Government Ministers and relevant agencies of her decision to undertake an inquiry into the adequacy of planning and implementation of the transfer of young people from Alice Springs Youth Detention Centre (ASYDC) to Don Dale Youth Detention Centre (DDYDC).

The A/ Commissioner is obliged to ensure the safety and wellbeing of young people in the Northern Territory, and as such is undertaking this inquiry in line with Section 30 (1)(a) of the *NT Children's Commissioner Act (2013)*, and in accordance with the objects of the Act.

While the A/ Commissioner supports the redevelopment of ASYDC to meet key recommendations of the Royal Commission (2016), it is critical that the needs of young people are still met during their transition from ASYDC to DDYDC.

The ASYDC reduced capacity plan and subsequent transfer of young people to DDYDC commenced on 7 July 2023. Unmet requests for further information and critical transition detail have urged the commencement of this inquiry.

The A/ Commissioner will not be providing further comment on this inquiry until it is concluded.



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