

Quote in reply: Criminal Law and Children's Law Committees

20 September 2010

The Hon Karen Struthers MP  
Minister for Community Services and Housing and Minister for Women  
GPO Box 806  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Email: [communityservices@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:communityservices@ministerial.qld.gov.au)

Dear Minister

## **IMPRISONMENT OF 17 YEAR OLDS IN QUEENSLAND'S ADULT PRISONS**

We write to once again highlight the issue of the imprisonment of 17 year olds in Queensland's adult correctional facilities. When the legislation was proclaimed in 1992, it contemplated the imminent inclusion of these young people within the juvenile justice system. In this regard, the Society commends the Government for announcing its reconsideration of the treatment of 17 year olds as adults in the criminal justice system.

Due to the practice areas and expertise of our members, specifically those dealing in the area of Criminal Law and Children's Law, the Queensland Law Society has a strong interest in any developments in this area. We would therefore be happy to be involved in any legislative reform process or committee convened to review this policy.

If you would like to discuss any of the issues above in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact our Policy Solicitor, Ms Binny De Saram, on (07) 3842 5885 or via email [b.desaram@qls.com.au](mailto:b.desaram@qls.com.au).

Yours faithfully

Peter Eardley  
**President**