







21st July 2021



Dear Councillor Terry Landsberg,

The Sunshine Coast First Nations Network Group (SC1NG) is made up of Kabi Kabi/ Gubbi Gubbi Traditional Custodians, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Nations community members, and organisations across the Sunshine Coast. The purpose of SC1NG is to strengthen relationships between the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Nations communities, individuals, and service providers on the Sunshine Coast and to promote genuine partnerships across sectors for improved outcomes for the whole Sunshine Coast Community.

A significant number of community members have made representation to the SC1NG network about their concerns in relation to the proposed “Caloundra Youth Remand Centre”. We are writing to you to request that the following be tabled as a part of your Notified Motion in Sunshine Coast Councils Ordinary Meeting on Thursday July 22nd 2021:

-  That SC1NG have serious concerns that consideration is being given to the development of another Youth Remand Centre in Queensland.
-  That SC1NG are opposed to this being located in our community.
-  That SC1NG urges the Queensland Government to consult and engage the local community in developing relevant and effective solutions to the issues of youth crime on the Sunshine Coast for the whole community.
-  That SC1NG be considered as a critical body in that consultation and engagement due to the serious over representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander First Nations young people in the youth justice system and in particular the crisis of over representation of young First Nations people on remand.
-  That SC1NG urges the Queensland Government to consider alternative diversionary approaches like the current trial of the “On Country Program” being run in Far North Queensland by the Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs.
-  That SC1NG urges the Queensland Government to consider its allocation of the funding available (namely the 16.4 million dollars) into evidence-based programs that are targeted to early intervention, diversionary and at-risk youth programs for all young people.

We appreciate the issues of youth crime are complex and require careful consideration. We appreciate that the issues of youth remand are even more complex. We strongly urge the Queensland Government to reconsider this proposal and take into consideration the above mentioned.

Kind Regards



Kerry Turner
Co-Chair SC1NG

On Behalf of the SC1NG members