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YOUTH SUPPORT COORDINATOR INITIATIVE



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BACKGROUND

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- 2003 expanded by DET under the Education and Training Reforms for the Future (ETRF)
- 2006-2008 Phase 1 Evaluation DoC
- 2009 Phase 2 Evaluation DET
- 2011 Implement reforms



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POLICY CONTEXT

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- Education and Training Reforms for the Future (ETRF)
- Education (General Provisions) Act 2006
- Towards Q2 – Ambition Smart
- Queensland target of 92.5% of 20 -24 year olds having Year 12 or equivalent, or Cert II or above by 2015.



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- **Prep**
- **Compulsory Participation Phase** ends when young person
 - gains a QCE, Cert. III or IV; or
 - participated in eligible option for 2 years; or
 - turns 17 years of age



PURPOSE

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It is widely accepted that completing Year 12 and achieving a qualification are among the strongest indicators of a young person's future success.

OBJECTIVE

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- The objective of the YSCI is to support young people to achieve educational attainment and transitions. This means:

- attaining Year 12 (QCE),
- International Baccalaureate Diploma
- Qld Certificate of Individual Achievement
- Cert II or higher
- making a successful transition through education and on to further education, training or employment



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STAKEHOLDERS

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- DET fund \$9.6 million per annum
- DoC fund \$4 million per annum
- DET provide policy direction
- DoC program management

DET ROLES

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- **DET:**
 - lead agency for policy direction and evaluation of YSCI
 - provide \$9.6 million in funding
- **DET Regions:**
 - maintain stakeholder relationships
 - prioritisation of regional activities
 - policy and procedural support
- **Schools:**
 - lead YSC activities
 - facilitate YSC inclusion in school community
 - provide collaborative environment



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DoC ROLES

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- DoC purchases the YSCI services from non-government organisations.
- Office for Youth, DoC manages the Initiative.
- Contractual and operational control



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FTEs

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- Funding under the YSCI is provided for the employment of:
 - 105 YSCs
 - 7 Regional YSCs
 - 3 YSC Hub Facilitators

FOCUS

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- To support 14-17 year olds who have disengaged, or are at risk of disengaging from learning, to successfully transition into and through the Senior Phase.



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TARGET GROUP

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- Priority age group 14 – 17 year olds
- Approx 25% of clients can be outside of this age range

TARGET GROUP

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- Newly disengaged from education or training
- At risk of disengagement from education or training
- At risk of not making a transition to further education, training and employment
- Subject to a pattern of suspension
- Excluded or at risk of exclusion
- Enrolment in the compulsory participation phase cancelled
- Record of truancy



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TARGET GROUP

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- Determined by RDs in collaboration with Principals and other stakeholders.
- May include:
 - Homeless or at risk of homelessness
 - On a youth justice order
 - On a child protection order
 - Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background
 - Culturally and Linguistically Diverse backgrounds
 - Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender
 - Pregnant and/or parenting



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REFORMS

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- Aim to continue to improve the effectiveness and measurable outcomes of the YSCI has resulted in two key reforms:

- **Creation of Regional YSC positions**
- **Improved Data Management System**



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IMPROVED COORDINATION

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Regional YSCs

- 7 (1 in each DET region)
- Better coordination with other services
- Strengthen focus on educational outcomes
- Prioritisation
- Frontline service delivery

Data Management System

- An improved data system to collect more specific data on inputs and outcomes (retention, attainment, transitions)



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SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITIES

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- Multi-disciplinary approach
- Duty of care
- Principal leads YSC activities
- Input to Quarantined Funds



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PRINCIPALS AND YSC

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- YSCs work as part of the multidisciplinary support team in schools
- Communication strategy to Principals
- Regular YSC and Principal/delegate meetings
- School data reports



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LOCAL SERVICE SYSTEMS

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- There are many youth support funded services in the community and it is expected that local collaboration and consultative mechanisms will include other support services available in the community such as Get Set for Work Program, Youth At Risk funded services or Youth Connections providers.

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