

South Australia

# Young Offenders Act 1993

An Act to reconstitute the juvenile justice system in this State; and for other purposes.

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### Legislative history

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## The Parliament of South Australia enacts as follows:

### Part 1—Preliminary

#### 1—Short title

This Act may be cited as the *Young Offenders Act 1993*.

#### 3—Objects and statutory policies

- (1) The object of this Act is to secure for youths who offend against the criminal law the care, correction and guidance necessary for their development into responsible and useful members of the community and the proper realisation of their potential.
- (2) The powers conferred by this Act are to be directed towards that object with proper regard to the following statutory policies:
  - (a) a youth should be made aware of his or her obligations under the law and of the consequences of breach of the law;
  - (c) the community, and individual members of it, must be adequately protected against violent or wrongful acts.
- (2a) In imposing sanctions on a youth for illegal conduct—
  - (a) regard should be had to the deterrent effect any proposed sanction may have on the youth; and
  - (b) if the sanctions are imposed by a court on a youth who is being dealt with as an adult (whether because the youth's conduct is part of a pattern of repeated illegal conduct or for some other reason), regard should be had to—
    - (i) the deterrent effect any proposed sanction may have on other youths; and
    - (ii) the balance to be achieved between—
      - (A) the protection of the community; and
      - (B) the need to rehabilitate the youth.
- (3) Effect is to be given to the following statutory policies so far as the circumstances of the individual case allow:
  - (a) compensation and restitution should be provided, where appropriate, for victims of offences committed by youths;
  - (b) family relationships between a youth, the youth's parents and other members of the youth's family should be preserved and strengthened;
  - (c) a youth should not be withdrawn unnecessarily from the youth's family environment;
  - (d) there should be no unnecessary interruption of a youth's education or employment;
  - (e) a youth's sense of racial, ethnic or cultural identity should not be impaired.

#### 4—Interpretation

- (1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears—

**Chief Executive** means the Chief Executive of the Department;

**Court** or **Youth Court** means the *Youth Court of South Australia*;

**Department** means the administrative unit of the Public Service that is, under a Minister, responsible for the administration of the *Family and Community Services Act 1972*;

**domestic partner** means a person who is a domestic partner within the meaning of the *Family Relationships Act 1975*, whether declared as such under that Act or not;

**DPP** means the Director of Public Prosecutions;

**family conference**—see Part 2 Division 3;

**guardian**, in relation to a youth, means a parent of the youth or a person (other than the Minister) who is the guardian of the youth or has the immediate custody and control of the youth;

**home detention officer** means an employee of the Department assigned to the position of a home detention officer or authorised by the Minister (individually or by class) to exercise the powers of a home detention officer under this Act;

**homicide** means murder or manslaughter;

**immediate family** of a victim means—

- (a) a spouse or domestic partner;
- (b) a parent;
- (c) a grandparent;
- (d) a child (including an adult child);
- (e) a grandchild (including an adult grandchild);
- (f) a brother or sister;

**injury** means physical or mental injury, and includes pregnancy, mental shock and nervous shock;

**Judge** means a Judge of the Court;

**Minister** means the Minister to whom the administration of this Act is committed by the Governor or the Minister on whom, or to whom, the relevant Ministerial power or function is conferred or assigned under the *Administration of Acts Act 1910*;

**minor offence** means an offence to which this Act applies that should, in the opinion of the police officer in charge of the investigation of the offence, be dealt with as a minor offence because of—

- (a) the limited extent of the harm caused through the commission of the offence; and
- (b) the character and antecedents of the alleged offender; and
- (c) the improbability of the youth re-offending; and
- (d) where relevant—the attitude of the youth's parents or guardians;

**offence to which this Act applies** means any offence alleged to have been committed by a youth except an offence excluded by regulation;

**recidivist young offender** means a youth who is declared under Part 2 Division 2A of the *Criminal Law (Sentencing) Act 1988* to be a recidivist young offender;

**registered victim** includes a member of a victim's immediate family whose name is entered in the Victims Register;

**Registrar** means the Registrar of the Court;

**serious firearm offender** means a youth who is, pursuant to section 20AAB of the *Criminal Law (Sentencing) Act 1988*, a serious firearm offender;

**spouse**—a person is the spouse of another if they are legally married;

**training centre** means a home or facility established by the Minister under the *Community Welfare Act 1972* for the reception, detention, correction and training of youths;

**Training Centre Review Board** means the Training Centre Review Board established under Part 5;

**victim** of an offence means a person who suffers injury as a result of the offence;

**Victims Register**—see section 5A;

**working day** means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday;

**youth** means a person of or above the age of 10 years but under the age of 18 years and, in relation to proceedings for an offence or detention in a training centre, includes a person who was under the age of 18 years on the date of the alleged offence;

**Youth Justice Co-ordinator**—see Part 2 Division 3;

**Youth Parole Board** means the Training Centre Review Board as constituted from time to time under Part 5 Division 3 to review the progress and circumstances of a recidivist young offender, or hear and determine any other matter relating to a recidivist young offender assigned to the Board under this Act.

- (2) A reference in this Act to an **officer of the Department** includes a reference to—
- (a) a person who, immediately before the commencement of this subsection, held an appointment made by the Governor as an officer of the Department; or
  - (b) a person who, after the commencement of this subsection, is designated by the Minister as an officer of the Department under section 4A.

#### **4A—Designation as officers of Department for certain purposes**

- (1) The Minister may, by written notice, designate a person to whom this section applies as a person who is to be taken to be an officer of the Department for the purposes of this Act, the *Youth Court Act 1993* and any other prescribed Act.
- (2) The Minister may, by written notice, revoke—
  - (a) the appointment of an officer of the Department made by the Governor before the commencement of this section; or
  - (b) a designation made under subsection (1).

- (3) This section applies to a person if—
  - (a) the person is engaged by another person (the *contractor*) to carry out certain work in the course of and for the purposes of the contractor's business; and
  - (b) the contractor is engaged, in the course of and for the purposes of a business, by the Minister under a contract, arrangement or understanding for the purposes of this Act or another Act; and
  - (c) the Minister is satisfied that the person is a suitable person to be designated as an officer of the Department.
- (4) Section 74 of the *Public Sector Act 2009* does not apply to a person designated under subsection (1).

## 5—Age of criminal responsibility

A person under the age of 10 years cannot commit an offence.

### 5A—Victims Register

- (1) The Chief Executive must keep a Victims Register for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) The victim of an offence for which a youth is sentenced to detention or imprisonment or, if the victim is dead or under an incapacity or in prescribed circumstances, a member of the victim's immediate family, may apply in writing to the Chief Executive to have the following information entered in the Victims Register:
  - (a) the applicant's name;
  - (b) the applicant's contact address and (if supplied) telephone number or the name, contact address and (if supplied) telephone number of a person nominated by the applicant to receive information under this Act on his or her behalf;
  - (c) any information (including the name of the youth) in the applicant's possession that may assist the Chief Executive to identify the youth.
- (3) The Chief Executive is entitled to assume the accuracy of information supplied under subsection (2) without further inquiry.
- (4) The Victims Register must also contain any other information prescribed by the regulations.
- (5) The Chief Executive must, when requested to do so by the Training Centre Review Board, provide the Board with information derived from the Victims Register.
- (6) If the Victims Register includes particulars of a person nominated by a registered victim to receive information under this Act on his or her behalf, any information or notification required or authorised by this Act to be given to the registered victim must, instead, be given to the person so nominated (and where such information or notification is to be given at the request of the registered victim, the person so nominated is entitled to make such a request as if he or she were the registered victim).
- (7) A person must not divulge information derived from the Victims Register, being information obtained (whether by the person or some other person) in the administration or enforcement of this Act, except—
  - (a) as required or authorised by this Act or any other Act or law; or

- (b) as reasonably required in connection with the administration or enforcement of this Act or any other prescribed Act; or
- (c) for the purposes of legal proceedings arising out of the administration or enforcement of this Act; or
- (d) with the consent of the registered victim to whom the information relates.

## **Part 2—Minor offences**

### **Division 1—General powers**

#### **6—Informal cautions**

- (1) If a youth admits the commission of a minor offence, and a police officer is of the opinion that the matter does not warrant any formal action under this Act, the officer may informally caution the youth against further offending and proceed no further against the youth.
- (2) If a youth is informally cautioned under this section, no further proceedings may be taken against the youth for the offence in relation to which the youth was cautioned.
- (3) A record (whether made before or after the commencement of this subsection) of an informal caution given to a youth does not constitute a criminal record of the youth and may not be referred to—
  - (a) for the purposes of a criminal record check; or
  - (b) without the youth's consent—in any judicial proceedings.
- (4) A record of an informal caution made and kept before the commencement of this subsection will be taken to have been legally made and kept.

#### **7—More formal proceedings**

- (1) If a youth admits the commission of a minor offence, a police officer may deal with the matter as follows:
  - (a) the officer may deal with the matter under Division 2; or
  - (b) the officer may notify a Youth Justice Co-ordinator of the admission so that a family conference may be convened to deal with the matter; or
  - (c) the officer may lay a charge for the offence before the Court.
- (2) Before the police officer proceeds to deal with an offence under Division 2, or notifies a Youth Justice Co-ordinator of the admission so that a family conference may be convened—
  - (a) the officer should explain to the youth—
    - (i) the nature of the offence and of the circumstances out of which it is alleged to arise; and
    - (ii) that the youth is entitled to obtain legal advice; and
    - (iii) that the youth is entitled (irrespective of whether he or she exercises the right to obtain legal advice) to require that the matter be dealt with by the Court; and

- (b) if the youth does not require the matter to be dealt with by the Court, the officer should put the admission into written form and, if possible, get the youth to sign the admission.
- (3) An explanation given to a youth or the signing of an admission by a youth under subsection (2) should take place, if practicable, in the presence of—
  - (a) a guardian of the youth; or
  - (b) if a guardian is not available—an adult person nominated by the youth who has had a close association with the youth or has been counselling, advising or aiding the youth.
- (4) A charge may only be laid—
  - (a) if the youth requires the matter to be dealt with by the Court; or
  - (b) if, in the opinion of the police officer, the matter cannot be adequately dealt with by the officer or a family conference because of the youth's repeated offending or some other circumstance of aggravation.

## **Division 2—Sanctions that may be imposed by police officer**

### **8—Powers of police officer**

- (1) If a police officer decides to deal with a minor offence under this Division, the officer may administer a formal caution against further offending and exercise any one or more of the following powers:
  - (a) the officer may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to pay compensation to the victim of the offence;
  - (b) the officer may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to carry out a specified period (not exceeding 75 hours) of community service;
  - (c) the officer may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to apologise to the victim of the offence or to do anything else that may be appropriate in the circumstances of the case.
- (2) If a formal caution is to be administered—
  - (a) the police officer must explain to the youth the nature of the caution and the fact that evidence of the caution may, if the youth is subsequently dealt with for an offence, be treated as evidence of commission of the offence in respect of which the caution is administered; and
  - (b) the caution must, if practicable, be administered in the presence of—
    - (i) a guardian of the youth; or
    - (ii) if a guardian is not available—an adult person nominated by the youth who has had a close association with the youth or has been counselling, advising or aiding the youth; and
  - (c) the caution must be put in writing and acknowledged in writing by the youth.
- (3) Before requiring a youth to enter an undertaking under this section, the police officer must take all reasonable steps to give the guardians of the youth an opportunity to make representations with respect to the matter.

- (4) In exercising powers under this section, the police officer must—
  - (a) have regard to sentences imposed for comparable offences by the Court; and
  - (b) have regard to any guidelines on the subject issued by the Commissioner of Police.
- (5) If a youth enters into an undertaking under this section to apologise to the victim of the offence, the apology must be made in the presence of an adult person approved by a police officer.
- (6) If a youth enters into an undertaking under this section—
  - (a) the undertaking must be signed by the youth, a representative of the Commissioner of Police, and, if practicable, by the youth's parents or guardians; and
  - (b) the undertaking will have a maximum duration of three months.
- (7) If a youth does not comply with a requirement of a police officer under this section, or an undertaking under this section, the officer or some other police officer may—
  - (a) refer the matter to a Youth Justice Co-ordinator so that a family conference may be convened to deal with the offence; or
  - (b) if the youth requires the matter to be dealt with by the Court—lay a charge for the offence before the Court.
- (8) If—
  - (a) a youth is cautioned, and no further requirements are made of the youth, under this section; or
  - (b) all requirements made of the youth under this section (including obligations arising under an undertaking) are complied with,the youth is not liable to be prosecuted for the offence.
- (9) If a police officer deals with an offence under this Division, the officer must—
  - (a) ask the victim of the offence whether he or she wishes to be informed of the identity of the offender and how the offence has been dealt with; and
  - (b) if the victim indicates that he or she does wish to have that information—give the victim that information.

### **Division 3—Family conference**

#### **9—Youth Justice Co-ordinators**

- (1) The following are to be Youth Justice Co-ordinators:
  - (a) the Magistrates who are members of the Youth Court's principal or ancillary judiciary; and
  - (b) the persons who are appointed as Youth Justice Co-ordinators.
- (1a) Youth Justice Co-ordinators (who are not Magistrates) will be appointed under the *Courts Administration Act 1993*.

- (2) A person appointed as a Youth Justice Co-ordinator will be appointed for a term not exceeding three years specified in the instrument of appointment and is, on the expiration of a term of appointment, eligible for re-appointment.
- (3) A person cannot be appointed as a Youth Justice Co-ordinator unless the Senior Judge of the Youth Court has been consulted in relation to the proposed appointment.
- (4) A person appointed as a Youth Justice Co-ordinator is responsible to the Senior Judge of the Youth Court (through any properly constituted administrative superior) for the proper and efficient discharge of his or her duties.

### **10—Convening of family conference**

- (1) When a police officer notifies a Youth Justice Co-ordinator of an offence so that a family conference may be convened to deal with the matter, the officer must supply the Youth Justice Co-ordinator with the names and addresses of—
  - (a) the guardians of the youth; and
  - (b) any relatives of the youth who may, in the opinion of the officer, be able to participate usefully in the family conference; and
  - (c) any other person who has had a close association with the youth and may, in the opinion of the authorised officer, be able to participate usefully in the family conference; and
  - (d) the victim of the offence and, if the victim is a youth, the guardians of the victim.
- (2) The Youth Justice Co-ordinator—
  - (a) will fix a time and place for the family conference; and
  - (b) will issue a notice requiring the youth to attend at that time and place; and
  - (c) will invite the persons referred to in subsection (1) and, in the case of the victim of the offence, will invite the victim to bring along some person of the victim's choice to provide assistance and support; and
  - (d) will invite other persons, whom the Youth Justice Co-ordinator, after consultation with the youth and members of the youth's family, thinks appropriate to attend the conference at that time and place.

### **11—Family conference, how constituted**

- (1) A family conference consists of—
  - (a) a Youth Justice Co-ordinator (who will chair the conference); and
  - (b) the youth; and
  - (c) such of the persons invited to attend the conference as attend in response to that invitation; and
  - (d) a representative of the Commissioner of Police.
- (2) A family conference should act if possible by consensus of the youth and such of the persons invited to attend the conference as attend in response to that invitation.

- (3) A decision by a family conference is not however to be regarded as validly made unless the youth and the representative of the Commissioner of Police concur in the decision.
- (4) A youth is entitled to be advised by a legal practitioner at a family conference.
- (5) If a family conference fails to reach a decision, the Youth Justice Co-ordinator must refer the matter to the Court and the Court may decide any question, and exercise any power, that could have been decided or exercised by the family conference.

## **12—Powers of family conference**

- (1) A family conference has the following powers:
  - (a) the conference may administer a formal caution against further offending;
  - (b) the conference may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to pay compensation to the victim of the offence;
  - (c) the conference may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to carry out a specified period (not exceeding 300 hours) of community service;
  - (d) the conference may require the youth to enter into an undertaking to apologise to the victim of the offence or to do anything else that may be appropriate in the circumstances of the case.
- (2) In exercising powers under this section, the family conference must have regard to sentences imposed for comparable offences by the Court.
- (3) If a formal caution is administered, the caution must be put in writing and acknowledged in writing by the youth.
- (4) An undertaking will have a maximum duration of 12 months.
- (5) If a youth enters into an undertaking to pay compensation, a copy of the undertaking must be filed with the Registrar and payments of compensation must be made to the Registrar who will disburse the compensation to the victims named in the undertaking.
- (6) If a youth enters into an undertaking to carry out community service, a copy of the undertaking must be filed with the Registrar.
- (7) If a youth enters into an undertaking under this section to apologise to the victim of the offence, the apology must be made in the presence of an adult person approved by the family conference or a Youth Justice Co-ordinator.
- (8) If a youth—
  - (a) fails to attend at the time appointed for a family conference; or
  - (b) does not comply with a requirement of the family conference; or
  - (c) does not comply with an undertaking under this section,a police officer may lay a charge before the Court for the offence in relation to which the conference was convened.
- (9) A charge may be laid under subsection (8) even though a period of limitation relating to the commencement of proceeding for the relevant offence has expired, but the charge must be laid not more than 12 months after the expiration of that period of limitation.

- (10) If—
- (a) a youth is cautioned, and no further requirements are made of the youth, under this section; or
  - (b) all requirements made of the youth under this section (including obligations arising from an undertaking given by the youth) are complied with,
- the youth is not liable to be prosecuted for the offence.
- (11) If a family conference deals with an offence under this Division, the Youth Justice Co-ordinator must—
- (a) ask the victim of the offence whether he or she wishes to be informed of the identity of the offender and how the offence has been dealt with; and
  - (b) if the victim indicates that he or she does wish to have that information—give the victim that information.

## **Division 4—Limitation on publicity**

### **13—Limitation on publicity**

- (1) A person must not publish, by radio, television, newspaper or in any other way, a report of any action or proceeding taken against a youth by a police officer or family conference under this Part if the report—
- (a) identifies the youth or contains information tending to identify the youth; or
  - (b) reveals the name, address or school, or includes any particulars, picture or film that may lead to the identification, of any youth who is in any way concerned in the action or proceeding; or
  - (c) identifies the victim or any other person involved in the action or proceeding (other than a person involved in an official capacity) without the consent of that person.
- (1a) However, a person who proposes to make a documentary or undertake an educational or research project about juvenile justice matters may, in accordance with rules of court, apply to the Youth Court for permission to publish, for the purposes of the documentary or project, a report identifying a youth that would otherwise be suppressed from publication under this section.
- (1b) An application under subsection (1a) must be endorsed with the written consent of the youth and a guardian of the youth (*the consenting guardian*) to publication of the report.
- (1c) Subject to subsection (1d), the Court must give the following persons reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing of the application:
- (a) the applicant; and
  - (b) the youth; and
  - (c) the guardians of the youth; and
  - (d) such other persons as the Court believes have a proper interest in the matter.
- (1d) The Court is not obliged to give notice of the hearing to a person whose whereabouts cannot, after reasonable enquiries, be ascertained.

- (1e) In determining an application under subsection (1a), the Court must regard the welfare of the youth as the paramount consideration and, to that end, must take into account—
- (a) the impact on the youth of publication of the report; and
  - (b) the purpose to be served by publication of the report; and
  - (c) whether publication of the report is necessary for the purpose of the documentary or project; and
  - (d) considerations of public interest; and
  - (e) any other matter that is, in the Court's view, relevant.
- (1f) On completing the hearing of the application the Court may make any of the following orders:
- (a) an order permitting publication of the report as part of the documentary or project subject to—
    - (i) a condition that the youth and the consenting guardian are to be given a reasonable opportunity to view the documentary or project after its completion but before its release to the public; and
    - (ii) a condition that, if the documentary or project is so viewed, it must not be released to the public until at least 30 days after the viewing; and
    - (iii) such other conditions (if any) as the Court thinks fit; or
  - (b) an order refusing the application; or
  - (c) any ancillary order it thinks fit (including an order as to costs).
- (1g) The youth or consenting guardian may, at any time before the release to the public of a documentary or project the subject of an order under subsection (1f)(a), apply to the Court for revocation or variation of the order on the ground that the report included or to be included in the documentary or project of the proceedings under this Part—
- (a) is not a fair report of the proceedings; or
  - (b) includes material not in the contemplation of the Court at the time the order was made,
- and that the release to the public of the documentary or project while it contains that report would prejudice the welfare of the youth.
- (1h) If an application for revocation or variation is made under subsection (1g), the documentary or project must not, while it contains the report to which the application relates, be released to the public until the application has been determined or withdrawn.
- (1i) The Court must give the following persons reasonable notice of the time and place of the hearing of an application under subsection (1g):
- (a) the youth; and
  - (b) the consenting guardian; and
  - (c) the person who was the applicant for the order sought to be revoked or varied.

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- (1j) On completing the hearing of an application under subsection (1g), the Court may make any of the following orders:
- (a) an order revoking the order the subject of the application; or
  - (b) an order varying or revoking any condition of the order or imposing a new condition; or
  - (c) an order refusing the application; or
  - (d) any ancillary order it thinks fit (including an order as to costs).
- (2) A person employed or engaged in the administration of this Act must not divulge information about a youth against whom any action or proceeding has been taken under this Part except in the course of his or her official functions or where the information is given to a person for the purposes of a publication the subject of an order under subsection (1f)(a).
- (3) A person who contravenes this section or a condition of publication imposed under subsection (1f) or (1j) is guilty of an offence.  
Maximum penalty: \$10 000.
- (4) This section does not prevent the disclosure of information under any other provision of this Act.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, a documentary or project is released to the public when it is released for viewing by persons other than those involved in the making or undertaking of it.

## **Part 3—Arrest and custody of suspected offenders**

### **14—Application of general law**

- (1) The law of the State relating to criminal investigation, arrest, bail, remand and custody before proceedings for an offence are finally determined applies, subject to this Act, to youths with necessary adaptations and any further adaptations and modifications that may be set out in the regulations.
- (2) If a youth is arrested on suspicion of having committed an offence, and the youth is to be dealt with under this Act for the offence, the officer responsible for the arrest and custody of the youth must, as soon as practicable after the arrest—
- (a) explain to the youth the nature of the allegations against him or her; and
  - (b) inform the youth of his or her right to seek legal representation; and
  - (c) take all reasonable steps to inform—
    - (i) the guardian of the youth;
    - (ii) if a guardian is not available—an adult person nominated by the youth who has had a close association with the youth or has been counselling, advising or aiding the youth,of the arrest and invite him or her to be present during any interrogation or investigation to which the youth is subjected while in custody.

## 15—How youth is to be dealt with if not granted bail

- (1) Subject to this section, if a youth is not granted bail under the *Bail Act 1985*, the youth must be detained by the Chief Executive with a person (where practicable), or in a place (other than a prison), approved by the Minister.
- (1a) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to a youth who is already in custody in a prison.
- (2) If a youth is arrested outside an area specified in the regulations and it is not reasonably practicable to detain the youth as provided by subsection (1), the youth may be detained—
  - (a) in a police prison; or
  - (b) in a police station, watch-house or lock-up approved by the Minister.
- (3) If a youth is detained in a police prison, police station, watch-house or lock-up in accordance with subsection (2), the person for the time being in charge of the police prison, police station, watch-house or lock-up must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to keep the youth from coming into contact with any adult person detained in that place.

## Part 4—Court proceedings against a youth

### Division A1—Interpretation

#### 15A—Interpretation

For the purposes of this Part, the following matters must be taken into consideration by the DPP or the Magistrates Court (as the case requires) in deciding whether a youth poses an appreciable risk to the safety of the community:

- (a) the gravity of the offence with which the youth is to be charged;
- (b) if the offence to be charged is part of a pattern of repeated offending by the youth—that fact and the circumstances surrounding the alleged offence;
- (ba) if the youth is a serious firearm offender;
- (c) the degree to which the youth has previously complied—
  - (i) with any undertaking entered into by, or requirement or obligation imposed on, the youth under this Act; or
  - (ii) with any bail agreement under the *Bail Act 1985*;
- (d) if the youth has previously been detained under this Act—
  - (i) the behaviour of the youth while so detained; and
  - (ii) any rehabilitation of the youth while so detained;
- (e) if the youth has previously been released on licence under this Act—the degree to which the youth complied with any condition specified in the licence;
- (f) any other matter that the DPP or the Magistrates Court (as the case may be) thinks fit in the circumstances.

## Division 1—The charge

### 16—Where charge is to be laid

- (1) Subject to this section, if a youth is to be charged with an offence to which this Act applies, the charge must be laid before the Court.
- (2) The DPP may, instead of laying a charge of an offence against a youth before the Court, lay the charge before the Magistrates Court if—
  - (a) the youth is charged with a major indictable offence; and

**Note—**

See also section 102 of the *Summary Procedure Act 1921*.

- (b) the DPP is of the opinion that the youth poses an appreciable risk to the safety of the community and should, therefore, be dealt with in the same way as an adult.

### 17—Proceedings on charge laid before Youth Court

- (1) Subject to this Act, the Court will deal with a charge laid before the Court in the same way as the Magistrates Court deals with a charge of a summary offence and, in doing so, has the powers of the Magistrates Court.
- (2) The Court may, even though a charge has been laid, refer the subject matter of the charge (after the youth's guilt has been established either by admission or by the Court's findings) to be dealt with by a police officer or by a family conference.
- (3) If—
  - (a) the offence with which the youth is charged is a homicide, or an offence consisting of an attempt to commit, or assault with intent to commit homicide; or
  - (b) the offence with which the youth is charged is an indictable offence and the youth, after obtaining independent legal advice, asks to be dealt with in the same way as an adult; or
  - (c) the Court or the Supreme Court determines, on the application of the DPP or a police prosecutor, that the youth should be dealt with in the same way as an adult because of the gravity of the offence, or because the offence is part of a pattern of repeated offending,

the Court will conduct a preliminary examination of the charge, and may commit the youth for trial or sentence (as the case requires) to the Supreme Court or the District Court.

### 17A—Proceedings on charge laid before Magistrates Court

- (1) Subject to this section, Part 5 of the *Summary Procedure Act 1921* applies to the procedure to be followed in relation to a charge of an offence that has, under this Division, been laid against a youth before the Magistrates Court.

- (2) At the conclusion of the preliminary examination, the Magistrates Court may—
- (a) if of the opinion that the youth poses an appreciable risk to the safety of the community—commit the youth for trial or sentence (as the case requires) to the Supreme Court or the District Court;
  - (b) in any other case—commit the youth for trial or sentence (as the case requires) to the Court.

## **Division 2—Procedure on preliminary examination and trial in Youth Court**

### **18—Procedure on trial of offences**

The procedure to be followed by and the powers of the Court on the trial of an offence are, subject to this Act, to be the same as for the trial of a summary offence in the Magistrates Court.

### **19—Committal for trial**

If a preliminary examination is to be conducted by the Court, the procedure to be followed by and the powers of the Court are, subject to this Act, the same as for a preliminary examination in the Magistrates Court.

### **20—Change of plea**

Even though a plea of guilty to a charge has been entered, the Court may direct at any stage of proceedings before their final determination that the plea be withdrawn and a plea of not guilty entered.

### **21—Recording of convictions**

If the Court finds a youth guilty of a major indictable offence, the Court should record a conviction for the offence unless there are in the opinion of the Court special reasons for not doing so, and a formal record of those is made in the Court's reasons for judgment.

## **Division 3—Sentence**

### **22—Power to sentence**

- (1) Subject to this Division, the Court has the same powers to sentence a youth for an offence—
- (a) if the offence is a summary offence—as the Magistrates Court; or
  - (b) if the offence is an indictable offence—as the District Court.
- (2) Any powers conferred on a Minister of the Crown by the *Criminal Law (Sentencing) Act 1988* are exercisable, in relation to a youth or a sentence imposed on a youth, by a Minister assigned by the Governor to exercise such powers in relation to youths.

### **23—Limitation on power to impose custodial sentence**

- (1) Subject to subsection (6), the Court cannot sentence a youth to imprisonment.

- (2) If an offence of which a youth is convicted, or found guilty, is punishable by imprisonment where committed by an adult, the Court may sentence the youth to—
- (a) detention in a training centre for a period not exceeding three years; or
  - (b) home detention for a period not exceeding six months, or for periods not exceeding 6 months in aggregate over one year or less; or
  - (c) detention in a training centre for a period not exceeding two years to be followed by home detention for a period not exceeding six months or for periods not exceeding 6 months in aggregate over one year or less.
- (3) If, however, the maximum term of imprisonment prescribed for the offence is less than three years, the period of detention to which the youth is sentenced cannot exceed that maximum.
- (4) A sentence of detention must not be imposed for an offence unless—
- (a) the offender is a recidivist young offender or a serious firearm offender; or
  - (b) in any other case—the Court is satisfied that a sentence of a non-custodial nature would be inadequate—
    - (i) because of the gravity or circumstances of the offence; or
    - (ii) because the offence is part of a pattern of repeated offending.
- (5) A sentence of home detention—
- (a) must not be imposed unless the Court is satisfied that the residence the Court proposes to specify in its order is suitable and available for the detention of the youth and that the youth will be properly maintained and cared for while detained in that place; and
  - (b) should not be imposed if the Court is not satisfied that adequate resources exist for the proper monitoring of the youth while on home detention by a home detention officer.
- (6) If the Court sentences a youth to detention in respect of an offence and does not suspend the sentence—
- (a) where the youth is already in custody in a prison, the youth will serve the detention, or such part of it as the Court may direct, in a prison; or
  - (b) where the youth has previously served a sentence of imprisonment or detention in a prison, the Court may direct that the youth serve the detention in a prison.
- (7) The *Correctional Services Act 1982* applies to and in relation to a youth serving detention in a prison under subsection (6).

## **24—Limitation on power to impose fine**

The Court may not impose a fine exceeding \$2 500 for an offence.

## **25—Limitation on power to require community service**

- (1) The Court may not require a youth to carry out community service if the aggregate requirement to which a youth is subject at any one time exceeds 500 hours.

- (2) The period, to be stipulated by the Court, over which community service is to be performed may not exceed 18 months.

### **26—Limitation on Court's power to require bond**

- (1) The Court may not, in the exercise of its power to sentence a youth for an offence, require the youth to enter into a bond.
- (2) The Court may, however, by order of the Court, impose an obligation of the kind that might otherwise have been imposed under a bond.
- (3) The obligations imposed under subsection (2) may, for example, include the following:
  - (a) an obligation to submit to supervision as ordered by the Court;
  - (b) an obligation to participate in a specified programme, or to attend a specified activity centre;
  - (ba) an obligation to carry out specified work (whether for the benefit of a victim of the offence or for any other person or body);
  - (c) an obligation to reside where directed by the Court.
- (4) A person who fails to comply with an obligation imposed under this section is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500 or detention for 6 months (or both).

### **27—Court may require undertaking from guardians**

The Court may release a youth on an undertaking on condition that the guardians of the youth enter into a supplementary undertaking with the Court—

- (a) to guarantee the youth's compliance with the conditions of the youth's undertaking; and
- (b) to take specified action to assist the youth's development and to guard against further offending by the youth; and
- (c) to report at intervals stated in the supplementary undertaking on the youth's progress.

### **28—Power to disqualify from holding driver's licence**

- (1) If the Court is of the opinion that a youth who has been found guilty of an offence is not a fit and proper person to hold or obtain a licence to drive a motor vehicle, or that disqualification from holding such a licence is an appropriate penalty for the offence committed, the Court may make an order disqualifying the youth from holding or obtaining such a licence, except for such purposes (if any) as may be specified in the order, for a period of stated duration commencing from a specified time.
- (2) On application by the youth, a Judge or Magistrate of the Court may, if satisfied that it is just or expedient to do so, vary or revoke any order for disqualification made under subsection (1).
- (3) A youth is not entitled to apply to the Magistrates Court for an order removing a disqualification pursuant to section 172 of the *Road Traffic Act 1961* until after attaining the age of 18 years.

## **Division 4—Sentencing of youth by Supreme or District Court**

### **29—Sentencing youth as an adult**

- (1) Subject to this Act, where a youth is committed to the Supreme Court or the District Court for trial, and is found guilty on trial in that court, or is committed to the Supreme Court or the District Court for sentence, that court, on sentencing the youth, may—
  - (a) deal with the youth as an adult; or
  - (b) make any order in relation to the youth that may be made by the Youth Court on sentencing a youth; or
  - (c) remand the youth to the Youth Court for sentencing.
- (2) If a youth is found guilty by the Supreme Court or the District Court of an offence that is a lesser offence than the one on which the youth was committed for trial, the court cannot deal with the youth for that offence as if he or she were an adult unless—
  - (a) the offence is an indictable (but not minor indictable) offence; and
  - (b) the court is satisfied that, because of the gravity of the offence or the youth's history of offending, the youth should be dealt with as if he or she were an adult.
- (3) If a youth is committed for trial or sentence in the Supreme Court or the District Court at his or her own request, the court cannot deal with the youth for the offence as if he or she were an adult unless the court is satisfied that, because of the gravity of the offence or the youth's history of offending, the youth should be dealt with as if he or she were an adult.
- (4) A youth who is found guilty of murder—
  - (a) must be sentenced to imprisonment for life; and
  - (b) must be dealt with as an adult.

## **Division 5—Miscellaneous**

### **30—Court to explain proceedings etc**

- (1) A court before which criminal proceedings are brought against a youth must satisfy itself that the youth understands the nature of those proceedings.
- (2) If the youth is not represented by counsel or solicitor, the court—
  - (a) must explain to the youth in simple language the elements of the offence charged, the nature of the allegations against the youth and the legal implications of those allegations; and
  - (b) must provide the youth with a written statement in the prescribed form of the youth's rights in respect of legal representation and of the way to proceed in order to obtain legal advice, representation or assistance.
- (3) If a youth is sentenced to a fine or ordered to make any other payment of money, the court must give the youth a notice stating in simple language the amount the youth must pay and the time and place at which payment is to be, or may be, made.

- (4) Non-compliance with this section does not invalidate a judgment or order of the court.

### **31—Prohibition of joint charges**

A youth cannot be charged jointly with an adult unless the charge is to be heard and determined by the Supreme Court or the District Court.

### **32—Reports**

- (1) The Chief Executive must, at the request of a court by which a youth is to be sentenced, have a report prepared on the social background and personal circumstances of the youth.
- (2) Such a report may not contain any recommendation about sentence.
- (3) Subject to subsection (5), no report relating to the social background or personal circumstances of a youth may be tendered to a court before the court has found an offence proved against the youth.
- (4) If a youth is found not guilty by a court, any report relating to the social background or personal circumstances of the youth prepared for the purposes of the proceedings must be destroyed.
- (5) This section does not prevent the court from receiving during the course of a hearing any psychiatric or medical evidence relating to the youth, insofar as that evidence is relevant to the guilt or innocence of the youth.
- (6) The court in determining sentence must not take into account any matter given in evidence, or appearing in any report presented, to the court, if the matter is disputed by the youth, any guardian of the youth or the prosecutor, unless the court has decided that the matter has been proved beyond reasonable doubt.

### **33—Reports to be made available to parties**

- (1) In criminal proceedings against a youth, a copy of every report received by the court must, subject to any contrary order of the court, be furnished to the youth, to any guardian of the youth who is present in court, and to the prosecutor.
- (2) The court may order that a copy of a report, or part of a report, be not furnished to a particular person if of the opinion that its disclosure to that person may be prejudicial to the welfare of the youth.

### **34—Attendance at court of guardian of youth charged with offence**

- (1) Where a youth is before a court in proceedings under this Part, the court may order a guardian or guardians to attend at the court until the proceedings are completed, unless sooner excused by the court.
- (2) When the court makes an order under subsection (1), it may adjourn the hearing of the case and have the order served on the guardian named in the order.
- (3) Any person who, having been served with an order under this section, fails to attend the court in compliance with the order is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$750.

### **35—Counsellors etc may make submissions to court**

In proceedings for an offence against a youth, a court may, on the application of a person who has been counselling, advising or aiding the youth, or on the application of a guardian of the youth, hear submissions that the person or guardian wishes to make in relation to the youth.

## **Part 5—Custodial sentences**

### **Division 1—Youth sentenced as adult**

#### **36—Detention of youth sentenced as adult**

- (1) Subject to any direction of the sentencing court to the contrary, a youth who has been dealt with as an adult and sentenced to imprisonment will serve that sentence in a training centre.
- (2) If a youth is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a training centre, the sentencing court must, before the youth reaches 18 years of age, review the detention and either direct that the imprisonment in a training centre continue or that the youth be transferred to a prison.
- (3) Subject to subsection (4), while a youth is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a training centre, this Act applies to the youth, to the exclusion of the *Correctional Services Act 1982*, as if the youth had been sentenced to detention in a training centre.
- (4) The following provisions of the *Correctional Services Act 1982* apply to and in relation to a youth who is serving a sentence of imprisonment in a training centre:
  - (b) Division 3 of Part 6 (release on parole) applies to a youth in respect of whom a non-parole period has been fixed, with the following modifications:
    - (i) a reference to the Board will be taken to be a reference to the Training Centre Review Board;
    - (ii) a reference to a prisoner will be taken to be a reference to a youth;
    - (iii) a reference to a prison will be taken to be a reference to a training centre;
    - (iv) a reference to a community corrections officer will be taken to be a reference to an officer or employee of the Department whose duties include the supervision of youths in the community.
- (5) If a youth who is on parole attains the age of 18 years—
  - (a) the preceding provisions of this section cease to apply in relation to the youth; and
  - (b) any reference in the parole conditions to the Training Centre Review Board will be taken to be a reference to the Parole Board; and
  - (c) any reference in the parole conditions to an officer of the Department will be taken to be a reference to a community corrections officer.

## Division 1A—Detention or imprisonment in a prison

### 36A—Transfer following imposition of concurrent prison sentence

- (1) If a youth who is serving a sentence of detention or imprisonment in a training centre (the *youth sentence*) is sentenced to imprisonment for an offence committed after turning 18 years of age and that sentence is to be served concurrently with the youth sentence, the youth must, unless the sentencing court directs otherwise, be transferred to, and will serve those sentences in, a prison.
- (2) The *Correctional Services Act 1982* applies to and in relation to a youth transferred to a prison under this section.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, a sentence of detention includes an order for detention issued for the enforcement of a community service order.

## Division 2A—Home detention

### 37A—Conditions of home detention

- (1) A sentence of home detention imposed on a youth by a court is subject to the following conditions:
  - (a) the youth must remain at a residence specified by the court throughout the period of home detention and must not leave that residence at any time except for the following purposes:
    - (i) remunerated employment; or
    - (ii) urgent medical or dental treatment for the youth; or
    - (iii) attendance at a course of education, training or instruction or any other activity as required by the court or as approved or directed by the home detention officer to whom the youth is assigned; or
    - (iv) any other purpose approved or directed by the home detention officer;
  - (b) the youth must be of good behaviour throughout the period;
  - (c) the youth must obey the lawful directions of the home detention officer throughout the period;
  - (d) such other conditions as the Court may specify.
- (2) The Court may vary or revoke a condition imposed under subsection (1)(d).
- (3) In this section—

*residence* includes, if the youth is an Aborigine who resides on tribal lands or an Aboriginal reserve, such area of land as the Court may specify.

### 37B—Home detention officers

- (1) On receiving a copy of an order for home detention, the Chief Executive must assign the youth to a home detention officer and may from time to time re-assign the youth to another home detention officer.

- (2) A home detention officer to whom a youth is assigned—
- (a) may give reasonable written directions to the youth—
    - (i) requiring the youth to take up, or not to give up, some particular course of education, training or instruction; or
    - (ii) requiring the youth to take up, or not to give up, some particular employment; or
    - (iii) requiring the youth to attend some particular counselling course; and
  - (b) may give the youth other written directions of a kind authorised by the Minister either generally or in relation to the particular youth.
- (3) Any home detention officer may at any time—
- (a) enter or telephone the residence of a youth serving a sentence of home detention; or
  - (b) telephone the youth's place of employment or any other place at which the youth is required or permitted to attend; or
  - (c) question any person at that residence or place,
- for the purposes of ascertaining whether or not the youth is complying with the conditions to which his or her home detention is subject.
- (4) A person must not—
- (a) hinder a home detention officer in the exercise of powers under this section; or
  - (b) fail to answer truthfully a question put to the person by a home detention officer pursuant to those powers.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500.

### **37C—Variation or revocation of home detention order**

- (1) The Court may vary an order for home detention if satisfied that the residence specified in the order is no longer suitable for detention of the youth and that there is some other suitable residence available for his or her detention.
- (2) If the Court is satisfied that—
  - (a) a youth serving a sentence of home detention has breached a condition to which the home detention was subject; or
  - (b) the residence specified in the order is no longer suitable for the youth and no other suitable residence is available for his or her detention,
 the Court may revoke the order for home detention.
- (3) A youth is not in breach of the condition requiring the youth to remain at his or her residence if he or she leaves the residence for the purpose of averting or minimising a serious threat of risk or injury (to the youth or some other person).
- (4) If the Court revokes an order for home detention it may impose some other sentence on the youth and, in doing so, must take into account the period served by the youth under the order.

- (5) If an order for home detention is revoked on the ground of breach of condition, the Court may sentence the youth to detention for a term not exceeding the balance of the period of home detention unexpired as at the date on which the breach occurred, but a sentence of detention may not be imposed in the case of revocation on any other ground.
- (6) The Court may, if it thinks it is necessary to do so, issue a warrant for the apprehension and detention of a youth pending determination of proceedings under this section.

### **37D—General provisions**

- (1) A youth is, on breaching the condition requiring the youth to remain at his or her residence, unlawfully at large.
- (2) The Crown is not liable to maintain a youth who is serving a sentence of home detention.

## **Division 3—Release from detention**

### **Subdivision 1—Training Centre Review Board**

#### **38—Establishment of Training Centre Review Board**

- (1) The *Training Centre Review Board* is established.
- (2) The Training Centre Review Board consists of the following members:
  - (a) the Judges of the Youth Court; and
  - (b) 2 persons with appropriate skills and experience in working with young people, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Attorney-General; and
  - (c) 2 persons with appropriate skills and experience in working with young people, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister; and
  - (ca) 2 persons with appropriate skills and experience in matters related to the impact of crime on victims and the needs of victims of crime in relation to the criminal justice system, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Attorney-General; and
  - (d) 2 persons (who must be police officers or former police officers) with appropriate skills and experience, appointed by the Governor on the recommendation of the Minister responsible for the administration of the *Police Act 1998*; and
  - (e) 2 Aboriginal persons with appropriate skills and experience, appointed by the Governor on the nomination of the Minister responsible for the administration of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1988*.
- (3) At least 1 of the persons appointed under subsection (2)(b), (c) and (e) must be a woman and at least 1 such person must be a man.

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- (4) An appointed member of the Training Centre Review Board holds office for such term, and on such conditions, as the Governor determines and specifies in the instrument of appointment and, on the expiration of a term of office, is eligible for reappointment.
  - (5) The Governor may appoint a suitable person to be a deputy of an appointed member of the Training Centre Review Board and such a person may act as a member of the Training Centre Review Board in the absence of that member.
  - (6) A member of the Training Centre Review Board is entitled to receive such allowances and expenses as the Governor may from time to time determine.
  - (7) The Governor may remove an appointed member of the Training Centre Review Board from office on the grounds of—
    - (a) mental or physical incapacity; or
    - (b) dishonourable conduct; or
    - (c) neglect of duty.
  - (8) The office of an appointed member of the Training Centre Review Board becomes vacant if the member—
    - (a) dies; or
    - (b) completes a term of office; or
    - (c) resigns by notice in writing given to the Attorney-General; or
    - (d) is removed from office by the Governor under subsection (7).

### **39—Reviews etc and proceedings of Training Centre Review Board**

- (1) The Training Centre Review Board has the following functions in respect of a youth who has been sentenced to detention in a training centre:
  - (a) to conduct a review of the progress and circumstances of the youth while in the training centre—
    - (i) at intervals of not more than 6 months; and
    - (ii) at any other time on the request of the Chief Executive;
  - (b) to hear and determine any other matter relating to the youth assigned to the Board under this Act.
- (2) The following provisions apply in proceedings before the Training Centre Review Board under this Act in respect of a youth:
  - (a) if the youth is not a recidivist young offender—the Training Centre Review Board must be constituted of—
    - (i) a Judge (who will preside at the sitting); and
    - (ii) 4 of the appointed members (of whom at least 1 must be a member appointed under section 38(2)(e) if the youth is an Aboriginal youth);
  - (b) if the youth is a recidivist young offender—the Training Centre Review Board will sit as the Youth Parole Board and be constituted of—
    - (i) a Judge (who will preside at the sitting); and

- (ii) 4 of the appointed members, of whom—
  - (A) at least 1 must be a member appointed under section 38(2)(ca); and
  - (B) at least 1 must be a member appointed under section 38(2)(d); and
  - (C) if the recidivist young offender is an Aboriginal youth—at least 1 must be a member appointed under section 38(2)(e).
- (3) The Training Centre Review Board must notify the following persons of the day and time fixed by the Board for proceedings before the Board:
  - (a) the youth to whom the proceedings relate;
  - (b) a guardian of the youth;
  - (c) the Chief Executive;
  - (d) if, in relation to an offence for which the youth was detained, there is a registered victim—the registered victim.
- (4) However, the Training Centre Review Board is not required to notify the registered victim if the victim has indicated to the Board that he or she does not wish to be so notified.
- (5) In any proceedings before the Training Centre Review Board relating to a youth (whether or not a recidivist young offender)—
  - (a) the legal representative, and a guardian, of the youth must be given the opportunity to make submissions to the Board; and
  - (b) the registered victim may make such submissions to the Board as he or she thinks fit in writing or, by prior arrangement with the Board, in person.
- (6) If a period of detention to which a youth has been sentenced will extend past the youth's 18th birthday, the Training Centre Review Board must, at the last periodical review before that birthday, consider whether the youth should be transferred to complete the period of detention in a prison (and, if the Board does so determine, the youth will be transferred to prison on or after his or her birthday in accordance with the Board's determination).

## **Subdivision 2—Leave of absence**

### **40—Leave of absence**

- (1) The Chief Executive may, by written order, grant a youth detained in a training centre leave of absence from the training centre—
  - (a) for the medical or psychiatric examination, assessment or treatment of the youth; or
  - (b) for the attendance of the youth at an educational or training course, a personal development programme or a work programme, project or camp; or
  - (c) for such compassionate purpose as the Chief Executive thinks fit; or
  - (d) for any purpose related to criminal investigation; or
  - (e) for the purpose of enabling the youth to perform community service.

- (2) Leave of absence under this section may be subject to such conditions as the Chief Executive thinks fit, including, if the Chief Executive thinks appropriate, a condition that the youth will be in the custody of and supervised by one or more officers of the Department authorised by the Minister for the purpose.
- (3) A leave of absence under this section that allows a youth to leave the State may only be granted with the Minister's consent.
- (4) The Chief Executive may, by written order, revoke any leave of absence granted under this section, or vary or revoke any of the conditions to which it is subject.
- (5) A youth who is at large after the revocation or expiry of leave of absence may be apprehended without warrant by a police officer or an officer of the Department authorised by the Minister for the purpose.
- (6) A youth who is still at large after the expiry of leave of absence will be taken to be unlawfully at large.
- (7) A youth is not, while still at large after revocation of leave of absence, serving his or her sentence of detention.

#### **40A—Leave may be authorised by Board**

- (1) The Training Centre Review Board may authorise the Chief Executive to grant a youth, subject to conditions that the Board considers proper, periods of leave from a training centre during which the youth will not be subject to the supervision of the Chief Executive.
- (2) The Training Centre Review Board may, by written order, revoke any period of leave granted under this section, or vary or revoke any of the conditions to which it is subject.
- (3) A youth who is still at large after the revocation or expiry of a period of leave may be apprehended without warrant by a police officer or an officer of the Department authorised by the Minister for the purpose.
- (4) A youth who is still at large after the expiry of a period of leave will be taken to be unlawfully at large.
- (5) A youth is not, while still at large after revocation of a period of leave, serving his or her sentence of detention.

### **Subdivision 3—Conditional release from detention**

#### **41—Application and interpretation of Subdivision**

- (1) This Subdivision does not apply to a youth—
  - (a) who has been dealt with as an adult and is serving a sentence or part of a sentence of imprisonment in a training centre; or
  - (b) to whom Division 2 applies; or
  - (c) who is serving a sentence of detention of less than 2 months.
- (2) In this Subdivision, if a reference to the *Training Centre Review Board*, or the *Board*, is made in relation to a youth who is a recidivist young offender—
  - (a) the reference will be taken to be a reference to the *Youth Parole Board*; and

- (b) in carrying out any function assigned to the Training Centre Review Board under this Subdivision, the Board must be constituted as the Youth Parole Board in accordance with section 39(2)(b).

#### **41A—Conditional release from detention**

- (1) A youth who is serving a period of detention in a training centre may be released from detention by the Training Centre Review Board in accordance with this Subdivision.
- (2) The provisions set out below apply to the release from detention of a youth other than a recidivist young offender:
  - (a) the youth must have completed at least two thirds of the period of detention in a training centre to which he or she has been sentenced;
  - (ab) an application for release of the youth from detention may be determined by the Training Centre Review Board no earlier than 7 days before completion by the youth of at least two thirds of the period of detention in a training centre to which he or she has been sentenced;
  - (b) in determining whether the youth should be released from detention, the Training Centre Review Board—
    - (i) must be satisfied that—
      - (A) the behaviour of the youth during the period of detention has been satisfactory; and
      - (B) there is no undue risk that the youth would, if released under this Subdivision, re-offend;
    - (ii) if, in relation to an offence for which the youth was detained, there is a registered victim—must take into consideration the impact that the release of the youth is likely to have on the registered victim and the registered victim's family;
  - (c) the release of the youth must be subject to the following conditions:
    - (i) a condition that he or she not commit any offence;
    - (ii) a condition that he or she be under the supervision of an officer of the Department and that the youth obey the directions of that officer;
    - (iia) a condition prohibiting the youth from possessing a firearm or ammunition (both within the meaning of the *Firearms Act 1977*) or any part of a firearm;
    - (iib) a condition requiring the youth to submit to such tests (including testing without notice) for gunshot residue as may be reasonably required by an officer of the Department who is supervising the youth;
    - (iii) any other condition that the Board thinks fit;
  - (d) a decision of the majority of the Board is a decision of the Board.

- (3) The provisions set out below apply to the release from detention of a youth who is a recidivist young offender:
- (a) the recidivist young offender must have completed at least four fifths of the period of detention in a training centre to which he or she has been sentenced;
  - (ab) an application for the release of the recidivist young offender may be determined by the Youth Parole Board no earlier than 7 days before completion by the offender of at least four fifths of the period of detention in a training centre to which he or she has been sentenced;
  - (b) in determining whether the recidivist young offender should be released from detention—
    - (i) despite any other provision of this Act, the paramount consideration of the Youth Parole Board must be the safety of the community; and
    - (ii) the Youth Parole Board must also take the following matters into consideration:
      - (A) the likelihood of the recidivist young offender re-offending if released from detention;
      - (B) the likelihood of the recidivist young offender complying with the conditions of release;
      - (C) if, in relation to an offence for which the recidivist young offender was sentenced to a period of detention in a training centre, there is a registered victim—the impact that the release of the recidivist young offender is likely to have on the registered victim and the registered victim's family;
      - (D) the behaviour of the recidivist young offender while in detention;
      - (E) the behaviour of the recidivist young offender during any previous release from detention;
      - (F) any reports provided to the Board as required by the Board;
      - (G) the probable circumstances of the recidivist young offender after release from detention;
      - (H) any other matters that the Board thinks are relevant;
  - (c) the release of the recidivist young offender must be subject to the following conditions:
    - (i) a condition that he or she not commit any offence;
    - (ii) a condition that he or she be under the supervision of an officer of the Department and that he or she obey the directions of that officer;
    - (iia) a condition prohibiting the youth from possessing a firearm or ammunition (both within the meaning of the *Firearms Act 1977*) or any part of a firearm;

- (iib) a condition requiring the youth to submit to such tests (including testing without notice) for gunshot residue as may be reasonably required by an officer of the Department who is supervising the youth;
    - (iii) any other condition that the Board thinks fit;
  - (d) a decision of the majority of the Board is a decision of the Board.
- (4) A condition of release of a youth under this section may, for any proper reason, be varied or revoked at any time as follows:
  - (a) in the case of a condition under subsection (2)(c)—by the Training Centre Review Board;
  - (b) in the case of a condition under subsection (3)(c)—by the Youth Parole Board.
- (4a) The Board may only vary or revoke the conditions imposed by subsection (2)(c)(ia) and (iib), or subsection (3)(c)(ia) and (iib), on the release from detention of a youth if the youth satisfies the Board that—
  - (a) there are cogent reasons to do so; and
  - (b) the possession of a firearm, ammunition or part of a firearm by the youth does not represent an undue risk to the safety of the public.
- (5) If, in relation to an offence for which a youth was detained, there is a registered victim and the release of the youth under this section is subject to a condition that relates to the victim or the victim's family, the Training Centre Review Board must notify the victim of the terms of the condition.
- (6) However, the Training Centre Review Board is not required to notify the registered victim if—
  - (a) the victim has indicated to the Board that he or she does not wish to be so notified; or
  - (b) the Board is satisfied that, in the circumstances of the case, it is not appropriate to so notify the victim.
- (7) A decision of the Training Centre Review Board to notify or not notify a victim of the terms of any such condition is final and is not reviewable by a court.
- (8) Subject to this Subdivision, the conditions on which a youth is released from a training centre under this Subdivision are binding on the youth for the unexpired period of the detention order.

#### **41B—Release on condition of home detention**

- (1) The Training Centre Review Board may release a youth on condition that the youth remain at a residence specified by the Board for the remainder of the unexpired balance of the term of detention or such shorter period as the Board may specify and, if a youth is released on such a condition, the provisions of Division 2A (except for subsections (4), (5) and (6) of section 37C and section 37D(1)) apply as if—
  - (a) the order of the Board were a sentence of home detention imposed by the Court; and
  - (b) a reference to the Court were a reference to the Board.

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- (2) The Training Centre Review Board—
- (a) must not release a youth on home detention unless it is satisfied that accommodation is available at the residence it proposes to specify; and
  - (b) should not release a youth on home detention if it is not satisfied that adequate resources exist for the proper monitoring of the youth while on home detention by a home detention officer.

#### **41C—What happens if youth fails to observe condition of release**

- (1) If a police officer or the Minister considers that a youth has failed to observe any condition imposed by the Training Centre Review Board under this Subdivision, the police officer or the Minister (as the case may be) (the *applicant*) may apply to the Board for an order that the youth be returned to a training centre.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3), the applicant must cause a copy of an application under subsection (1) to be served on the youth and a guardian of the youth, and the application must be endorsed with a notice of the place, date and time for the hearing of the application.
- (3) If the applicant believes on reasonable grounds that, if served with any such application, the youth would be likely to abscond, the applicant may apply to the Youth Court—
  - (a) to issue a warrant for the apprehension of the youth; and
  - (b) to dispense with service of the application.
- (4) The Court will not grant an application under subsection (3) unless satisfied, by information given on oath, that there are reasonable grounds to believe that, if served with the application, the youth would be likely to abscond.
- (5) If—
  - (a) a youth on whom an application is to be served cannot be found; or
  - (b) a youth, having been served with the application, fails to attend before the Training Centre Review Board on an application,a member of the Board may apply to the Youth Court for a warrant for the apprehension of the youth or may, with the concurrence of a second member of the Board, issue such a warrant.
- (6) The Court must, on application under subsection (5), issue a warrant for the apprehension of the youth unless it is apparent, on the face of the application, that no reasonable grounds exist for the issue of the warrant.
- (7) A warrant issued under this section authorises the apprehension of the youth referred to in the warrant by a police officer or an officer of the Department authorised for the purpose.
- (8) A youth who has been apprehended on a warrant issued under this section must be brought before the Training Centre Review Board as soon as reasonably practicable, and may be detained by the Chief Executive in any place (other than a prison) approved by the Minister until brought before the Board.

- (9) The Training Centre Review Board may order that a youth who has been brought before the Board under this section be returned to detention under the original order if satisfied that the youth has contravened a condition.
- (10) If a youth is returned to detention under the original order—
  - (a) he or she is liable to serve the balance of the sentence unexpired as at the date on which the breach of condition occurred; and
  - (b) the youth will be taken to have been serving that balance of sentence during any period spent in custody pending determination of the proceedings for breach of condition.
- (11) However, instead of exercising its powers under subsection (9), the Training Centre Review Board may impose a further condition on the youth's release requiring the youth to perform a specified number of hours of community service if the Board is of the opinion that the breach of condition was not so serious as to warrant returning the youth to detention.

#### **Subdivision 4—Absolute release from detention by Court**

##### **42—Absolute release from detention by Court**

- (1) Where a youth who was detained by order of the Youth Court has been released from custody, the Court may, on the application of the youth, a guardian of the youth, or the Chief Executive made on a recommendation of the Training Centre Review Board, order that the youth be discharged absolutely from the detention order.
- (2) An application under this section cannot be made if a previous application in respect of the youth has been determined by the Court within the preceding period of three months.
- (3) The Court may, for the purposes of determining an application under this section, hear, or receive submissions from, any person it thinks fit.

#### **Division 3A—Directions relating to firearms etc**

##### **42A—Training Centre Review Board may direct youth to surrender firearm etc**

- (1) The Training Centre Review Board may, in relation to the release from detention of a youth that is subject to the condition imposed by section 41A(2)(c)(ia) or (3)(c)(ia), direct the youth to surrender forthwith at a police station specified by the Training Centre Review Board any firearm, ammunition or part of a firearm owned or possessed by the defendant.
- (2) A youth who refuses or fails to comply with a direction under subsection (1) is guilty of an offence.  
Maximum penalty: \$10 000 or imprisonment for 2 years.
- (3) No criminal liability attaches to a person to the extent that he or she is complying with a direction under this section.
- (4) The Commissioner of Police must deal with any surrendered firearm, ammunition or part of a firearm in accordance with the scheme set out in the regulations.

- (5) No compensation is payable by the Crown or any other person in respect of the exercise of a function or power under this section.
- (6) The regulations may provide for the payment, recovery or waiver of fees in respect of this section.

## Division 4—Transfer of youths under detention

### 43—Interpretation

In this Division—

*appropriate authority* of another State means a person who is vested with authority under a corresponding law—

- (a) to authorise or arrange for the transfer of a young offender to this State; or
- (b) to authorise or arrange for the transfer of a young offender from this State to that State;

*correctional order* means an order under a law of this State or any other State for dealing with youths who commit offences, being an order—

- (a) for the detention (other than remand) of such a youth;
- (b) requiring such a youth to perform community service;
- (c) providing for the conditional release of such a youth;
- (d) placing such a youth on probation or parole or under any form of supervision;

*correctional system*, in relation to a State, means the system of law, judicial and administrative authorities, correctional and other institutions under which youths who commit offences are dealt with in that State;

*corresponding law* means a law of another State declared by regulation to be a law corresponding to this Division;

*escort* means a person in whose custody a young offender is placed for the purpose of bringing the young offender into the State, or taking the young offender out of the State, in pursuance of arrangements made under this Division;

*State* includes the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory;

*young offender* means a person—

- (a) who has been found guilty of an offence committed while under the age of 18 years; and
- (b) who is subject to a correctional order.

### 44—Transfer of young offenders to other States

- (1) The Minister may make arrangements with the appropriate authority of another State for the transfer of a young offender to that other State.
- (2) Before entering into arrangements under this section, the Minister must be satisfied—
  - (a) that any rights of appeal against the correctional order have been exhausted or have expired; and

- (b) that the young offender will be dealt with in the correctional system of the other State in substantially the same way as if he or she had remained in the correctional system of this State; and
  - (c) that the transfer is in the best interests of the young offender; and
  - (d) that—
    - (i) the young offender consents to the transfer; or
    - (ii) there are special reasons justifying the transfer although the young offender does not consent.
- (3) Before entering into arrangements under this section, the Minister must allow the guardians of the youth a reasonable opportunity to make representations on the question whether the transfer is in the best interests of the young offender.
- (4) Before consenting to a transfer, a young offender must be allowed a reasonable opportunity to obtain independent legal advice on the question of whether the transfer is in his or her best interests.
- (5) An arrangement under this section will not be carried into effect unless it has been ratified by the Court.
- (6) Where a young offender is transferred to another State in pursuance of an arrangement under this section, the Minister will transmit to the appropriate authority of that other State—
  - (a) a copy of the relevant correctional order; and
  - (b) a statement of—
    - (i) any period of detention served by the young offender in pursuance of the order; and
    - (ii) any community service performed by the young offender in pursuance of the order; and
    - (iii) any period for which the young offender has been subject to conditional release; and
    - (iv) any period for which the young offender has been on probation or parole or under supervision; and
    - (v) any remissions of sentence to which the young offender has become entitled; and
  - (c) a report on the young offender.
- (7) Where the Minister arranges for the transfer to another State of a young offender who is in detention, the Minister will arrange for the young offender to be taken to the other State in the custody of a suitable escort and delivered into detention in that other State.
- (8) Where a young offender goes or is transferred to another State and is accepted into the correctional system of that other State in pursuance of arrangements under this section, the relevant correctional order ceases to operate in this State.

**45—Transfer of young offenders to this State**

- (1) The Minister may make arrangements with the appropriate authority of another State for the transfer of a young offender from that other State to this State.
- (2) Before entering into arrangements under this section, the Minister must be satisfied—
  - (a) that the young offender is over the age of 10 years;
  - (b) that there is in force in this State a law that substantially corresponds to the law against which the young offender offended;
  - (c) that the young offender is not liable to detention for an indeterminate period;
  - (d) that the young offender will be dealt with in the correctional system of this State in substantially the same way as if he or she had remained in the correctional system of the other State.
- (3) Before entering into arrangements under this section, the Minister must allow the guardians of the youth a reasonable opportunity to make representations on the question whether the transfer is in the best interests of the young offender.
- (4) Where a young offender is transferred to this State in pursuance of arrangements under this section—
  - (a) a copy of the correctional order must be filed in the Court; and
  - (b) the young offender will be dealt with under the law of this State as if—
    - (i) the correctional order had been made under the law of the State;
    - (ii) any period of detention, community service, conditional release, probation, parole or supervision served by the young offender in pursuance of the order had been served in the State;
    - (iii) any entitlement to remission of sentence that had accrued prior to the transfer had accrued under the law of the State.

**46—Adaptation of correctional orders to different correctional systems**

- (1) An arrangement made under this Division for the transfer of a young offender may provide that the correctional order will operate with such modifications as are necessary to ensure its effective operation in the correctional system of the State to which the young offender is to be transferred.
- (2) Any such modifications relating to a correctional order made under the law of another State must be endorsed on the order on its filing under this Act.

**47—Custody during escort**

- (1) An escort in whose custody a young offender has been placed for the purpose of bringing the young offender into, or taking the young offender out of, the State has, while in the State, lawful custody of the young offender.
- (2) If a young offender escapes from the custody of an escort, the young offender may be arrested without warrant for the purpose of being returned to lawful custody.

## **Division 5—Escape from custody**

### **48—Escape from custody**

- (1) A youth who is subject to detention—
  - (a) who escapes from a training centre or from any person who has the lawful custody of the youth; or
  - (b) who is otherwise unlawfully at large,is guilty of an offence.  
Maximum penalty: Detention for 6 months.
- (2) A term of detention to which a youth is sentenced for an offence against this section must be served immediately and any other detention or imprisonment to which the youth is liable is suspended while that term is being served.
- (3) If the youth is in prison at the time at which a sentence imposed under this section is due to commence, the sentence must be served in prison.
- (4) A youth is not, while unlawfully at large, serving his or her sentence of detention.
- (5) For the purposes of this section, a youth is subject to detention if the youth—
  - (a) is subject to detention in a training centre or other place (not being a prison) by order of a court; or
  - (b) is in the custody of an escort under Division 4.
- (6) This section does not apply to a youth serving a sentence of home detention or a youth who has been released on home detention by the Training Centre Review Board in accordance with section 41.

## **Part 6—Community service and other work related orders**

### **49—Community service and work orders cannot be imposed unless there is a placement for the youth**

- (1) No order, direction or requirement can be made by virtue of which a youth will be required to perform community service or participate in a particular work project, programme or camp unless there is, or will be within a reasonable time, a suitable placement for the youth in a community service programme, or in that work project, programme or camp.
- (2) When a court sentences a youth to community service, it must nominate an appropriate person who is, on the satisfactory completion by the youth of the community service, to certify that fact to the court.

### **49A—Restrictions on performance of community service and other work orders**

If a youth is required to perform community service or to carry out work pursuant to an order or undertaking under this Act, the following provisions apply:

- (a) the youth cannot be required to attend at a place for the purpose of performing community service or work at a time that would—

- (i) interfere with the youth's paid employment or with a course of training or instruction relating to, or likely to assist him or her in obtaining, paid employment; or
  - (ii) cause unreasonable disruption of the youth's commitments in caring for his or her dependants; or
  - (iii) cause the youth to offend against a rule of a religion that he or she practises; and
- (b) the youth cannot be required to perform community service or work—
- (i) for less than 4 hours in a week; or
  - (ii) for more than 8 hours in any one day,
- except in circumstances approved by the Minister; and
- (c) if on any day a period of community service or work is to exceed four continuous hours, the next hour must be a meal break; and
- (d) the youth will not be paid for the performance of the community service or work.

#### **50—Insurance cover for youths performing community service or other work orders**

A youth who is required to perform community service or other work pursuant to an order or undertaking under this Act must be insured against death or bodily injury arising out of, or occurring in the course of, performance by the youth of that community service or work.

#### **51—Community service or other work orders may only involve certain kinds of work**

- (1) The work selected for the performance of community service or other work pursuant to an order or undertaking under this Act must be for the benefit of—
- (a) the victim of the offence; or
  - (b) persons who are disadvantaged through age, illness, incapacity or any other adversity; or
  - (c) an organisation that does not seek to secure a pecuniary profit for its members; or
  - (d) a Public Service administrative unit, an agency or instrumentality of the Crown or a local government authority.
- (2) The attendance by a youth at an educational or training course approved by the Minister for the purposes of this section will be taken to be the performance of community service.

## **Part 8—Miscellaneous**

### **57—Determination of a person's age**

- (1) A court, family conference, or police officer will, in determining the age of a person for the purpose of this Act, act on the best evidence or information that is reasonably available but, in the absence of any such evidence or information, may itself estimate the age of the person.
- (2) If, in any proceedings before a court, it becomes apparent to the court that the person the subject of those proceedings should, by reason of age, be dealt with in some other court, the court may remand that person to appear in the appropriate court.

### **58—Prior offences**

- (1) If a person has been dealt with under this Act by a police officer or a family conference, and the question of prior offences subsequently arises in proceedings relating to offences committed by that person as an adult, the offences for which the person was dealt with by the police officer or family conference will be disregarded.
- (2) Records of admissions of guilt on the basis of which a youth was dealt with by a police officer or family conference under this Act are admissible as evidence of prior offending in subsequent proceedings relating to offences committed before the youth reached 18 years of age but any offences so dealt with will be regarded as of minor significance.

### **59—Detention and search by officers of Department**

An officer of the Department authorised by the Chief Executive for the purpose is entitled to the lawful custody of a youth against whom proceedings under this Act have been, or are about to be, brought, while that youth is being conveyed to or from a court, or while the youth is within the precincts of the court, and may, at any time, search the youth and remove any object that the officer considers may cause injury or damage to any person or property.

### **59A—Power of arrest by officers of the Department**

- (1) An officer of the Department may, without warrant, apprehend any youth who has escaped from custody or who the officer has reasonable grounds to believe is otherwise unlawfully at large.
- (2) An officer of the Department may, in exercising powers under subsection (1), break into any premises where the officer reasonably suspects the youth to be.
- (3) A youth apprehended under this section must be returned forthwith to a training centre.
- (4) However, if the youth is arrested outside an area specified in the regulations, the youth may be detained—
  - (a) with a person or in a place (other than a prison) approved by the Minister; or
  - (b) if it is not reasonably practicable to detain the youth as provided by paragraph (a), in a police prison, or in a police station, watch-house or lock-up approved by the Minister,

but only until such time as it is reasonably practicable to transfer the youth to a training centre.

- (5) The person for the time being in charge of a police prison, police station, watch-house or lock-up in which a youth is detained under this section must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to keep the youth from coming into contact with any adult person detained in that place.

### **60—Hindering an officer of the Department**

A person who hinders an officer of the Department in the exercise of powers under this Act is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$2 500.

### **61—Issue of warrant**

No person may issue an order for the removal of a youth from any place, or a warrant for the arrest of a youth, unless the allegations made in respect of the youth by the person seeking the order or warrant have been substantiated on oath or by affidavit.

### **62—Detention of youths in emergencies**

- (1) Despite any other provision of this Act, if the Minister is of the opinion that an emergency has arisen (whether out of an industrial dispute or any other circumstance) by virtue of which it is impossible or impracticable to detain youths in training centres or other approved places as provided by this Act, a youth who is to be detained under this Act may be detained—
  - (a) in a police prison; or
  - (b) in a police station, watch-house or lock-up approved by the Minister,until the emergency is, in the opinion of the Minister, over.
- (2) The person for the time being in charge of the place in which a youth is being detained under this section must take such steps as are reasonably practicable to keep the youth from coming into contact with any adult person being detained in the same place.

### **63—Transfer of youths in detention to other training centre or prison**

- (1) If a youth has been detained in, or remanded to, a training centre pursuant to an order of a court, the Chief Executive may, in such circumstances as the Chief Executive thinks fit, direct that the youth be removed and placed in some other training centre.
- (2) If a person who is of or above the age of 18 years is detained in, or remanded to, a training centre or any other place pursuant to an order of a court, the person or the Chief Executive on behalf of the person may apply to a Judge of the Youth Court for an order that the person be transferred to a prison for the remainder of the period of detention or remand.
- (3) The Court will not make an order under subsection (2) unless satisfied that, in the circumstances, a prison would be an appropriate place for the person to be held for the remainder of the period of detention or remand.

- (4) Where, on application made to a Judge of the Youth Court by the Chief Executive, the Court is satisfied that a person who is of or above the age of 16 years and has been remanded to, or is being detained in, a training centre or any other place pursuant to an order of a court—
- (a) cannot be properly controlled in that training centre or other place; or
  - (b) has within the period of 14 days preceding the date of the application been found guilty of assaulting a person employed, or detained, in that training centre or other place; or
  - (c) has persistently incited others in the training centre or other place to cause a disturbance; or
  - (d) has escaped or attempted to escape from the training centre,
- the Court may, by order, direct that the person be transferred to a prison for the remainder of the period of remand or detention.
- (5) If the Court is satisfied, on an application under subsection (4), that the person is likely to be a danger to others, the Court may order that the person be held in custody in a prison until the Court has determined the application.
- (6) The Court may, on the application of the Chief Executive, the person or a guardian of the person, revoke an order made under subsection (4).
- (7) If a person is held in custody in a prison by order under this section, the *Correctional Services Act 1982* applies to and in relation to that person.

### 63A—Effect of remand in prison

- (1) If a youth who is serving a sentence of detention or imprisonment in a training centre (a *youth sentence*) is remanded to a prison in relation to an offence alleged to have been committed after turning 18 years of age (an *adult offence*), the youth must be transferred to a prison and will be taken to be serving the youth sentence during the period of the remand.
- (2) If, at the end of a period of remand in prison for an adult offence—
- (a) a youth sentence is still running; and
  - (b) no immediately servable sentence of imprisonment was imposed for the adult offence,
- the youth must be transferred to a training centre.
- (3) The *Correctional Services Act 1982* applies to and in relation to a youth transferred to a prison under subsection (1).
- (4) For the purposes of this section, a sentence of detention includes an order for detention issued for the enforcement of a community service order.

### **63B—Application of *Correctional Services Act 1982* to youth with non-parole period**

If a youth is serving a non-parole period in a training centre, Division 3 of Part 6 (release on parole) of the *Correctional Services Act 1982* applies to and in relation to the youth as if the youth were a prisoner in a prison subject to the following modifications:

- (a) a reference to the Parole Board will be taken to be a reference to the Training Centre Review Board;
- (b) a reference to a community corrections officer will be taken to be a reference to an officer or employee of the Department whose duties include the supervision of youths in the community.

### **63C—Restrictions on reports of proceedings**

- (1) A person must not publish, by radio, television, newspaper or in any other way, a report of proceedings in which a child or youth is alleged to have committed an offence, if—
  - (a) the court before which the proceedings are heard prohibits publication of any report of the proceedings; or
  - (b) the report—
    - (i) identifies the child or youth or contains information tending to identify the child or youth; or
    - (ii) reveals the name, address or school, or includes any particulars, picture or film that may lead to the identification, of any child or youth who is concerned in those proceedings, either as a party or a witness.
- (2) The court before which the proceedings are heard may, on such conditions as it thinks fit, permit the publication of particulars, pictures or films that would otherwise be suppressed from publication under subsection (1)(b).
- (3) A person who contravenes this section, or a condition imposed under subsection (2), is guilty of an offence.

Maximum penalty: \$10 000.

### **64—Information about youth may be given in certain circumstances**

- (1) If a youth is proceeded against or dealt with under this Act for an alleged offence, a person who has suffered injury, loss or damage in consequence of the circumstances alleged to constitute the offence is entitled, on application in writing to the Commissioner of Police, to be informed of the name and address of that youth.
- (2) If a youth is sentenced to detention or imprisonment for an offence, an eligible person may apply in writing to the Chief Executive for the release to him or her of any of the following information relating to the youth:
  - (a) the name and address of the place in which the youth is for the time being held in custody;
  - (b) details of any transfer of the youth from 1 place in which the youth is being held in custody to another;

- (c) details of the sentence or sentences that the youth is liable to serve;
  - (d) the date on which and circumstances under which the youth was, is to be, or is likely to be, released from custody for any reason;
  - (e) details of any escape from custody by the youth.
- (3) The Chief Executive has an absolute discretion to grant or refuse an application for release of information to an eligible person.
- (4) A decision of the Chief Executive as to whether a person is an eligible person or to grant or refuse an application under this section is final and is not reviewable by a court.
- (5) The Chief Executive must not release information relating to a youth's conditional release from detention by the Training Centre Review Board without the consent of the Board (but the Board may waive this requirement in such circumstances as it thinks fit).
- (6) For the purposes of this section, a person is an *eligible person* in relation to a youth who is sentenced to detention or imprisonment for an offence if he or she is—
- (a) a registered victim in relation to the offence; or
  - (b) a member of the youth's family or a close associate of the youth; or
  - (c) a legal practitioner who represents the youth; or
  - (d) any other person who the Chief Executive thinks has a proper interest in the release of such information.

## 65—Regulations

- (1) The Governor may make regulations for the purposes of this Act.
- (2) The regulations may, for example—
- (a) regulate the administration and management of training centres; and
  - (b) regulate the practice and procedure of the Training Centre Review Board; and
  - (c) prescribe forms to be used under this Act; and
  - (d) prescribe the procedures to be observed in relation to the detention of a youth prior to being dealt with by a court, or while a youth is being conveyed to or from any court, or while a youth is in attendance at any court; and
  - (e) prescribe fines, not exceeding \$1 250 in each case, for breach of the regulations.

## Legislative history

### Notes

- Amendments of this version that are uncommenced are not incorporated into the text.
- Please note—References in the legislation to other legislation or instruments or to titles of bodies or offices are not automatically updated as part of the program for the revision and publication of legislation and therefore may be obsolete.
- Earlier versions of this Act (historical versions) are listed at the end of the legislative history.
- For further information relating to the Act and subordinate legislation made under the Act see the Index of South Australian Statutes or [www.legislation.sa.gov.au](http://www.legislation.sa.gov.au).

### Principal Act and amendments

New entries appear in bold.

Year	No	Title	Assent	Commencement
1993	57	<i>Young Offenders Act 1993</i>	27.5.1993	1.1.1994 ( <i>Gazette 4.11.1993 p2178</i> )
1994	35	<i>Statutes Amendment (Truth in Sentencing) Act 1994</i>	2.6.1994	1.8.1994 ( <i>Gazette 14.7.1994 p69</i> )
1995	85	<i>Statutes Amendment (Courts Administration Staff) Act 1995</i>	30.11.1995	14.12.1995 ( <i>Gazette 14.12.1995 p1641</i> )
1996	68	<i>Statutes Amendment (Sentencing of Young Offenders) Act 1996</i>	15.8.1996	8.10.1996 ( <i>Gazette 29.8.1996 p810</i> )
1998	41	<i>Statutes Amendment (Young Offenders) Act 1998</i>	13.8.1998	Pt 4 (ss 10—15)—1.10.1998 ( <i>Gazette 10.9.1998 p815</i> )
1999	42	<i>Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Justice Portfolio) Act 1999</i>	5.8.1999	Pt 13 (ss 57—59)—3.10.1999 ( <i>Gazette 23.9.1999 p1208</i> )
2000	18	<i>Statutes Amendment (Warrants of Apprehension) Act 2000</i>	1.6.2000	Pt 4 (ss 6—11)—1.7.2000 ( <i>Gazette 15.6.2000 p3131</i> )
2000	33	<i>Young Offenders (Publication of Information) Amendment Act 2000</i>	6.7.2000	20.8.2000 ( <i>Gazette 10.8.2000 p444</i> )
2000	57	<i>Statutes Amendment and Repeal (Attorney-General's Portfolio) Act 2000</i>	20.7.2000	Pt 16 (s 32)—14.8.2000 ( <i>Gazette 10.8.2000 p444</i> )
2004	23	<i>Statutes Amendment (Courts) Act 2004</i>	8.7.2004	Pt 10 (s 28)—1.9.2004 ( <i>Gazette 26.8.2004 p3402</i> )
2007	57	<i>Statutes Amendment (Young Offenders) Act 2007</i>	29.11.2007	Pt 4 (ss 6—11)—3.2.2008 ( <i>Gazette 31.1.2008 p349</i> )
2009	52	<i>Statutes Amendment (Recidivist Young Offenders and Youth Parole Board) Act 2009</i>	5.11.2009	Pt 4 (ss 12—23) and Pt 5 (s 24)—27.6.2010 ( <i>Gazette 17.6.2010 p3077</i> )
2009	63	<i>Correctional Services (Miscellaneous) Amendment Act 2009</i>	26.11.2009	Sch 1 (cll 1 & 2)—1.1.2010 ( <i>Gazette 10.12.2009 p6167</i> )
2009	84	<i>Statutes Amendment (Public Sector Consequential Amendments) Act 2009</i>	10.12.2009	Pt 168 (ss 381 & 382)—1.2.2010 ( <i>Gazette 28.1.2010 p320</i> )

## Young Offenders Act 1993—14.11.2013 to 2.2.2014

### Legislative history

2012	17	<i>Statutes Amendment (Attorney-General's Portfolio) Act 2012</i>	24.5.2012	Pt 13 (s 25)—5.8.2012 ( <i>Gazette</i> 2.8.2012 p3302)
2012	33	<i>Statutes Amendment (Serious Firearm Offences) Act 2012</i>	27.9.2012	Pt 7 (ss 32—37)—4.3.2013 ( <i>Gazette</i> 21.2.2013 p485)
2013	31	<i>Statutes Amendment (Fines Enforcement and Recovery) Act 2013</i>	1.8.2013	Pt 12 (s 50)—3.2.2014 ( <i>Gazette</i> 30.1.2014 p422)
<b>2013</b>	<b>61</b>	<b><i>Statutes Amendment (Young Offenders) Act 2013</i></b>	<b>14.11.2013</b>	<b>Pt 2 (ss 3—5) &amp; Sch 1—14.11.2013</b>

## Provisions amended

New entries appear in bold.

Entries that relate to provisions that have been deleted appear in italics.

Provision	How varied	Commencement
Pt 1		
s 2	<i>omitted under Legislation Revision and Publication Act 2002</i>	<i>1.9.2004</i>
s 3		
s 3(2)	(b) deleted by 68/1996 s 30(a)	8.10.1996
s 3(2a)	inserted by 68/1996 s 30(b)	8.10.1996
	amended by 57/2007 s 6	3.2.2008
s 4		
s 4(1)	s 4 redesignated as s 4(1) by 63/2009 Sch 1 cl 1	1.1.2010
Chief Executive	inserted by 68/1996 s 31(a)	8.10.1996
Department	substituted by 84/2009 s 381	1.2.2010
<i>Director-General</i>	<i>deleted by 68/1996 s 31(b)</i>	<i>8.10.1996</i>
domestic partner	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(1)	27.6.2010
home detention officer	inserted by 68/1996 s 31(c)	8.10.1996
immediate family	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(2)	27.6.2010
injury	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(2)	27.6.2010
<i>police officer</i>	<i>deleted by 52/2009 s 12(3)</i>	<i>27.6.2010</i>
recidivist young offender	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(3)	27.6.2010
registered victim	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(3)	27.6.2010
serious firearm offender	inserted by 33/2012 s 32	4.3.2013
spouse	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(4)	27.6.2010
victim	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(5)	27.6.2010
Victims Register	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(5)	27.6.2010
Youth Parole Board	inserted by 52/2009 s 12(6)	27.6.2010
s 4(2)	inserted by 63/2009 Sch 1 cl 1	1.1.2010
s 4A	inserted by 63/2009 Sch 1 cl 2	1.1.2010
s 5A	inserted by 52/2009 s 13	27.6.2010

Pt 2		
s 6		
s 6(3)	substituted by 52/2009 s 14	27.6.2010
s 6(4)	inserted by 52/2009 s 14	27.6.2010
s 9		
s 9(1)	amended by 85/1995 s 18(a)	14.12.1995
s 9(1a)	inserted by 85/1995 s 18(b)	14.12.1995
s 13		
s 13(1a)—(1j)	inserted by 33/2000 s 3(a)	20.8.2000
s 13(2)	amended by 33/2000 s 3(b)	20.8.2000
s 13(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 32	8.10.1996
	amended by 33/2000 s 3(c)	20.8.2000
s 13(5)	inserted by 33/2000 s 3(d)	20.8.2000
Pt 3		
s 15		
s 15(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 33	8.10.1996
	amended by 41/1998 s 10(a)	1.10.1998
s 15(1a)	inserted by 41/1998 s 10(b)	1.10.1998
s 15(3)	amended by 41/1998 s 10(c)	1.10.1998
Pt 4		
Pt 4 Div A1	inserted by 57/2007 s 7	3.2.2008
s 15A	amended by 33/2012 s 33	4.3.2013
Pt 4 Div 1		
s 16		
s 16(1)	s 16 amended and redesignated as s 16(1) by 57/2007 s 8(1), (2)	3.2.2008
s 16(2)	inserted by 57/2007 s 8(2)	3.2.2008
s 17		
s 17(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 34	8.10.1996
	amended by 57/2007 s 9(1)	3.2.2008
s 17(3)	amended by 57/2007 s 9(2)	3.2.2008
s 17A	inserted by 57/2007 s 10	3.2.2008
Pt 4 Div 2		
heading	amended by 57/2007 s 11	3.2.2008
s 18	amended by 68/1996 s 35	8.10.1996
s 19	amended by 68/1996 s 36	8.10.1996
Pt 4 Div 3		
s 23		
s 23(1)	amended by 41/1998 s 11(a)	1.10.1998
s 23(4)	substituted by 52/2009 s 15	27.6.2010
	amended by 33/2012 s 34	4.3.2013
s 23(5)	substituted by 68/1996 s 37	8.10.1996
s 23(6)	deleted by 68/1996 s 37	8.10.1996

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	inserted by 41/1998 s 11(b)	1.10.1998
s 23(7)	inserted by 41/1998 s 11(b)	1.10.1998
s 24	amended by 68/1996 s 38	8.10.1996
s 25		
s 25(1)	s 25 redesignated as s 25(1) by 68/1996 s 39	8.10.1996
s 25(2)	inserted by 68/1996 s 39	8.10.1996
s 26		
s 26(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 40(a)	8.10.1996
s 26(4)	amended by 68/1996 s 40(b)	8.10.1996
s 28		
s 28(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 41	8.10.1996
Pt 4 Div 4		
s 29		
s 29(4)	<b>amended by 61/2013 s 3</b>	<b>14.11.2013</b>
Pt 4 Div 5		
s 30		
s 30(1)—(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 42	8.10.1996
s 32		
s 32(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 43	8.10.1996
s 34		
s 34(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 44	8.10.1996
Pt 5		
s 36		
s 36(2a)	<i>inserted by 68/1996 s 45</i> <i>deleted by 41/1998 s 12</i>	<i>8.10.1996</i> <i>1.10.1998</i>
s 36(4)	(a) deleted by 35/1994 s 19 amended by 42/1999 s 57(a)	1.8.1994 3.10.1999
s 36(5)	amended by 42/1999 s 57(b)	3.10.1999
Pt 5 Div 1A	inserted by 41/1998 s 13	1.10.1998
<i>Pt 5 Div 2 before deletion by 61/2013</i>		
s 37		
s 37(1a)	<i>inserted by 52/2009 s 16(1)</i>	<i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(3a) and (3b)	<i>inserted by 33/2013 s 35</i>	<i>4.3.2013</i>
s 37(5a)—(5c)	<i>inserted by 52/2009 s 16(2)</i>	<i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(7)	<i>amended by 18/2000 s 6(a)</i> <i>amended by 52/2009 s 16(3)</i>	<i>1.7.2000</i> <i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(8)	<i>amended by 18/2000 s 6(b)</i> <i>amended by 52/2009 s 16(4)</i>	<i>1.7.2000</i> <i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(9)	<i>amended by 52/2009 s 16(5)</i>	<i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(9a)	<i>inserted by 18/2000 s 6(c)</i> <i>amended by 52/2009 s 16(6)</i>	<i>1.7.2000</i> <i>27.6.2010</i>
s 37(11)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 46</i>	<i>8.10.1996</i>

<b>Pt 5 Div 2</b>	<b><i>deleted by 61/2013 s 4</i></b>	<b>14.11.2013</b>
Pt 5 Div 2A	inserted by 68/1996 s 47	8.10.1996
Pt 5 Div 3		
Pt 5 Div 3 Subdiv 1		
heading	inserted by 52/2009 s 17	27.6.2010
s 38		
s 38(2)	amended by 68/1996 s 48(a), (b)	8.10.1996
	amended by 52/2009 s 18(1)—(3)	27.6.2010
s 38(3)	amended by 68/1996 s 48(c)	8.10.1996
s 38(6a) and (6b)	<i>inserted by 68/1996 s 48(d)</i>	8.10.1996
	<i>deleted by 84/2009 s 382</i>	1.2.2010
s 38(9)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 48(e)</i>	8.10.1996
	<i>deleted by 52/2009 s 18(4)</i>	27.6.2010
s 38(10)	<i>deleted by 52/2009 s 18(4)</i>	27.6.2010
s 39 before substitution by 52/2009		
s 39(1)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 49</i>	8.10.1996
s 39	substituted by 52/2009 s 19	27.6.2010
Pt 5 Div 3 Subdiv 2		
heading	inserted by 52/2009 s 20	27.6.2010
s 40		
s 40(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 50(a), (b)	8.10.1996
s 40(2) and (4)	amended by 68/1996 s 50(a)	8.10.1996
s 40(5)	amended by 18/2000 s 7(a)	1.7.2000
s 40(6) and (7)	inserted by 18/2000 s 7(b)	1.7.2000
s 40A	inserted by 18/2000 s 8	1.7.2000
s 41 before substitution by 52/2009		
s 41(1)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 51(a)</i>	8.10.1996
	<i>deleted by 18/2000 s 9(a)</i>	1.7.2000
s 41(3)	<i>substituted by 68/1996 s 51(b)</i>	8.10.1996
s 41(5)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 51(c)</i>	8.10.1996
	<i>amended by 18/2000 s 9(b)</i>	1.7.2000
s 41(5a)	<i>inserted by 68/1996 s 51(d)</i>	8.10.1996
	<i>amended by 18/2000 s 9(c)</i>	1.7.2000
s 41(5b)	<i>inserted by 68/1996 s 51(d)</i>	8.10.1996
s 41(10)	<i>amended by 18/2000 s 9(d)</i>	1.7.2000
s 41(10a)	<i>inserted by 18/2000 s 9(e)</i>	1.7.2000
s 41(12)	<i>amended by 68/1996 s 51(a)</i>	8.10.1996
s 41(14) and (15)	<i>inserted by 68/1996 s 51(e)</i>	8.10.1996
s 41	<i>deleted by 52/2009 s 21</i>	27.6.2010
Pt 5 Div 3 Subdiv 3	inserted by 52/2009 s 21	27.6.2010

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s 41A		
s 41A(2)	amended by 17/2012 s 25(1)	5.8.2012
	amended by 33/2012 s 36(1)	4.3.2013
s 41A(3)	amended by 17/2012 s 25(2)	5.8.2012
	amended by 33/2012 s 36(2)	4.3.2013
s 41A(4a)	inserted by 33/2012 s 36(3)	4.3.2013
Pt 5 Div 3 Subdiv 4		
heading	inserted by 52/2009 s 22	27.6.2010
s 42		
s 42(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 52	8.10.1996
Pt 5 Div 3A	inserted by 33/2012 s 37	4.3.2013
<b>s 42A</b>		
<b>s 42A(1)</b>	<b>amended by 61/2013 s 5</b>	<b>14.11.2013</b>
Pt 5 Div 5		
s 48		
s 48(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 53(a)	8.10.1996
s 48(6)	inserted by 68/1996 s 53(b)	8.10.1996
	amended by 18/2000 s 10	1.7.2000
Pt 6	heading amended by 68/1996 s 54	8.10.1996
s 49		
s 49(1)	substituted by 68/1996 s 55	8.10.1996
s 49A	inserted by 68/1996 s 56	8.10.1996
	amended by 31/2013 s 50	uncommenced—not incorporated
s 50	amended by 68/1996 s 57	8.10.1996
s 51		
s 51(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 58	8.10.1996
<i>Pt 7 before deletion by 23/2004</i>		
s 56		
s 56(1) and (2)	amended by 68/1996 s 59	8.10.1996
<i>Pt 7</i>	<i>deleted by 23/2004 s 28</i>	<i>1.9.2004</i>
Pt 8		
s 59	amended by 68/1996 s 60	8.10.1996
s 59A	inserted by 68/1996 s 61	8.10.1996
s 60	amended by 68/1996 s 62	8.10.1996
s 61	amended by 18/2000 s 11	1.7.2000
s 63		
s 63(1)	amended by 68/1996 s 63	8.10.1996
s 63(2)	amended by 68/1996 s 63	8.10.1996
	amended by 41/1998 s 14(a), (b)	1.10.1998
s 63(3)	amended by 41/1998 s 14(c)	1.10.1998
s 63(4)	amended by 68/1996 s 63	8.10.1996
	amended by 41/1998 s 14(d)	1.10.1998

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s 63(6)	amended by 68/1996 s 63	8.10.1996
s 63(7)	amended by 41/1998 s 14(e)	1.10.1998
s 63(8)	<i>deleted by 41/1998 s 14(f)</i>	<i>1.10.1998</i>
s 63A	inserted by 41/1998 s 15	1.10.1998
s 63B	inserted by 41/1998 s 15	1.10.1998
	amended by 42/1999 s 58	3.10.1999
	amended by 57/2000 s 32	14.8.2000
s 63C	inserted by 42/1999 s 59	3.10.1999
s 64		
s 64(1)	s 64 redesignated as s 64(1) by 52/2009 s 23	27.6.2010
s 64(2)—(6)	inserted by 52/2009 s 23	27.6.2010
s 65		
s 65(2)	amended by 68/1996 s 64	8.10.1996

### **Transitional etc provisions associated with Act or amendments**

#### ***Statutes Repeal and Amendment (Children's Protection and Young Offenders) Act 1993***

#### **3—Interpretation**

In this Act—

***commencement day*** means the day on which this Act comes into operation;

***new legislation*** means—

- (a) the *Young Offenders Act 1993*; and
- (b) the *Youth Court Act 1993*;

***former legislation*** means the *Children's Protection and Young Offenders Act 1979*.

#### **19—Transitional provisions—offences**

- (1) Proceedings in relation to an offence alleged to have been committed before the commencement day may be taken under the new legislation.
- (2) Proceedings before the Children's Court of South Australia under the former legislation in relation to such an offence may be continued and completed before the Youth Court of South Australia under the new legislation.
- (3) A person may not be subjected to a penalty under the new legislation for an offence committed before the commencement day unless—
  - (a) the penalty is of the same nature as could have been imposed under the former legislation (and for this purpose an order under section 26 of the *Young Offenders Act 1993* is to be taken to be of the same nature as a bond); and
  - (b) the penalty is no more severe than could have been properly imposed under the former legislation.

- (4) A judge or magistrate who was a judicial officer of the Children's Court of South Australia may (even though not a judicial officer of the Youth Court of South Australia) sit as a member of the Youth Court of South Australia for the purpose of continuing and completing the hearing and determination of proceedings commenced or part heard before the commencement day.
- (5) An order or bond in force under Part 7 of the former legislation immediately before the commencement day remains in force under, but subject to, the former legislation.
- (6) The former legislation remains in force in relation to an order or bond to which subsection (5) applies, and any further order or bond imposed on breach of the order or bond or in relation to the same offence, as if references to the Children's Court of South Australia were references to the Youth Court of South Australia, and with any further modifications that may be prescribed by regulation.

### ***Statutes Amendment (Courts Administration Staff) Act 1995***

#### **20—Transitional provision**

- (1) An appointment to a non-judicial office or position made or purportedly made before the commencement of this Act in accordance with an Act that is amended by this Act will be taken to have been duly made under the statutory provisions that, as amended by this Act, provide for the making of such an appointment as if this Act had been enacted and in force at the relevant time.

### ***Statutes Amendment (Recidivist Young Offenders and Youth Parole Board) Act 2009, Pt 5***

#### **24—Social Development Committee to inquire into and report on operation of Act**

The Social Development Committee of the Parliament must, within 3 years after the commencement of Parts 3 and 4 of the *Statutes Amendment (Recidivist Young Offenders and Youth Parole Board) Act 2009*, in consultation with the Attorney-General, inquire into, consider and report on the operation of the Act (including any effect the operation of the Act has had on the criminal justice system in South Australia).

### ***Statutes Amendment (Young Offenders) Act 2013, Sch 1—Transitional provisions***

#### **1—Interpretation**

In this Schedule—

*repealed section* means section 37 of the *Young Offenders Act 1993* repealed by section 4.

#### **2—Applications under section 37 of *Young Offenders Act 1993***

- (1) Despite section 16 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1915* or a provision of any other Act or law, any right accrued but not yet exercised, or, if exercised, not yet determined, under the repealed section is, by force of this subclause, extinguished.

- (2) To avoid doubt, subclause (1)—
- (a) prevents an application for release on licence from being made under the repealed section regardless of whether the youth could have made such an application before the commencement of that subclause; and
  - (b) defeats any application for release on licence made by a youth under the repealed section that had not yet been determined before the commencement of that subclause.

### **3—Youths currently subject to licence**

- (1) Subject to this clause, a release on licence of a youth under the repealed section that has not been cancelled will be taken to continue in accordance with its terms.
- (2) Section 37 of the *Young Offenders Act 1993*, as in force immediately before the commencement of this clause, will be taken to continue to apply in relation to a release on licence continued under this clause as if that section had not been repealed.

### **Historical versions**

Reprint No 1—1.8.1994

Reprint No 2—14.12.1995

Reprint No 3—8.10.1996

Reprint No 4—1.10.1998

Reprint No 5—3.10.1999

Reprint No 6—1.7.2000

Reprint No 7—20.8.2000

1.9.2004

3.2.2008

1.1.2010

1.2.2010

27.6.2010

5.8.2012

4.3.2013