1. The Queensland Government’s youth justice initiatives in the *Working Together Changing the Story: Youth Justice Strategy 2019-2023* (Youth Justice Strategy) and the *Five-Point Action Plan* (5PP) are having a positive impact on overall youth crime trends, with an overall decrease in unique youth offenders.
2. However, there remains a small cohort of recidivist youth offenders engaging in persistent, impulsive and high-risk criminal behaviour which places the community and the youth themselves at risk of harm.
3. To respond to this cohort of youth offenders, the Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 (the Bill) implements priority reforms to the *Youth Justice Act 1992* to:
   * introduce GPS electronic monitoring in certain circumstances for youths aged 16 or 17 years as a condition of the youth’s bail;
   * provide an additional consideration when determining bail suitability that a parent, guardian or another person assist the bail decision maker by stating their ability to support the youth on bail and to seek assistance where the ability of the youth to comply with bail conditions becomes an issue;
   * provide for a presumption against bail for youths charged with certain other offence/s while on bail for an indictable offence/s;
   * codify that offences committed by youths while subject to bail for other offence should be considered as an aggravating factor in sentencing proceedings;
   * ensure the principle that the community should be protected from recidivist high- risk offenders is a primary consideration in the charter of youth justice principles; and
   * ensuring a youth cannot be remanded in custody on the sole basis that they have no or inadequate accommodation and/or family support, with no other indicator of risk.
4. The Bill also makes amendments to the *Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000* to*:*
   * strengthen existing owner onus provisions for hooning offences; and
   * provide police with the power to stop for the purposes of electronic scanning a person (without reasonable suspicion as publicly announced) for knife possession in public spaces inside Safe Night Precincts.
5. Twelve-month trials will be undertaken of the use of electronic monitoring as a condition of bail in specific locations, and the use of electronic scanning to detect knife possession in the Gold Coast Safe Night Precincts only.
6. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021 into the Legislative Assembly.
7. Attachments
   * [Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
   * [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF) and [Erratum](Attachments/Erratum.PDF)
   * [Statement of Compatibility](Attachments/SoC.PDF)