

Travelling and accommodation assistance for carers of detainees

When to use this procedure

Use this procedure to understand your role when a child or young person is in custody on Control or Remand.

Before using this procedure

Related Procedures, Resources and Forms

- Community Supervision and Casework
- General Court Intake and Remand Intervention procedure
- Community Funded Service Procedure

Start using this procedure

Your responsibilities

Find your role. Find what you need to do.

Role	When required	Responsibilities
Juvenile Justice Officer/Counsellor	Always	Juvenile Justice Officer/Counsellor steps
Centre Manager (or delegate)	Always	Assistant Managers steps

Procedural steps

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Role	Responsibilities			
Juvenile Justice Officer/Counsellor	 Note: If a client is made subject to a control order under section 19 of the Children's (Criminal Proceedings) Act 1987 and will be transferred to adult custody prior to their release, the JJC Assistant Manager (Client Services) is to assume case management responsibilities. These clients will not be allocated to a JJO/C. The Assistant Manager (Client Services) will assume responsibility for travelling and accommodation assistance for carers of these detainees, in consultation with the relevant Area Manager. 			
	Travelling and accommodation assistance for carers of detainees			
	People you need:			
	Assistant Manager			
	Centre Manager			
	Record details.			
	Contact applicant within five (5) days of referral and arrange unit / home visit. NOTE: This request must be submitted before intended visitation.			
	Interview applicant and obtain details about: • family / other relationship details (if not known) • type of visit to Juvenile Justice Centre to see child • foreseen/ unforseen barriers and circumstances restricting this contact (financial / other) • transport situation			
	4. Complete Application for expenditure			
	5. Submit application to Centre Manager for determination			
	 Discuss exceptional circumstances of those families that fall outside financial assistance criteria with Regional Director. 			
	7. Gain Regional Director's approval where required.			
	8. Advise parent / significant other of assessment decision process.			
	9. Visit/contact family and advise of decision/reason for approval/ non approval.			
	10. Contact/advise family promptly if approved.			
	11. Arrange payment as approved by management			

NOTE: If accommodation is approved, Unit Manager at detention centre must book accommodation in a hotel/motel/ other lodging.

Assessment guidelines for financial assistance

People you need:

- · Assistant Manager (Client Services)
- · Assistant Manager
- Area Manager

NOTE: to ensure consistency and efficient service the following must be maintained when assessing parents/significant others for financial assistance.

- Check family meets eligibility criteria for family assistance as assessing officer e.g. parents on a pension/ on a benefit scheme/ Health Care card.
- Check family's eligibility is based on initial/ ongoing assessments as well as regular face to face contact.
- 3. Ensure a visit to a young person in detention is approved every three months.
- Consider any request for financial assistance before intended visit by parent/significant other.

Note: There may be times when short notice will be accepted. Such situations would include sickness/injury of detainee or unforseen financial/ other circumstances which prevent parent/significant other from visiting.

- Negotiate with Assistant Manager (Client Services) regarding any instances above.
- Ensure Unit Manager consults/ advises you on juvenile's case plan and approval granted for visitation to centre.
- 7. Ensure Unit Manager informs you about:
 - extent of parent/significant others request for financial assistance with transport/ accommodation
 - arrangements made tentatively to foster family contact with a young person.
- Interview parent/significant other applying for assistance within (5) five days of request being made.
- 9. Make immediate contact to confirm application.
- 10. Arrange a suitable interview time with parent/significant other.

NOTE: In some situations this assessment can occur by phone interview i.e. geographical/ other constraints of JJO/JJC and applicant.

11. Complete

- case plan
- · details and costs of parent/significant other needs
- fares / accommodation to visit a young person.
- 12. Present this report to Assistant Manager for approval.
- 13. Complete assessment process before intended applicant(s) departure

- Notify applicant(s) immediately regarding decision / reasons if application isn't approved
- 15. Check mode of payment occurs as directed by management if approved.
- 16. **Include** on application whether applicant intends to have regular contact during term of young person's control order
- 17. **Ensure** Unit Manager includes this strategy in young person's case plan.

NOTE: The department's criteria allows for a visit every three months. Parents/ significant others who've reasons for seeking financial assistance to visit more often then stated criteria should feel able to advocate for assistance with supervising Juvenile Justice Officer.

- 18. **Ensure** you're aware of needs and circumstances of each family / significant other and young person's individual situation.
- 19. Advocate on their behalf when assessed as appropriate.
- 20. Gain approval from Area Manager for these exceptional situations NOTE: if parent / significant others reside outside NSW responsibility for assessing and approving assistance rests with Regional Director of Juvenile Justice Centre where young person is a resident.

Travelling and accommodation assistance for carers of detainees

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- Centre Manager
- · Regional Director
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- 3. Interview applicant and obtain details about:
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 - transport situation
- 4. **Complete** Application for expenditure
- 5. Submit application to Centre Manager for determination (
- Discuss exceptional circumstances of those families that fall outside financial assistance criteria with Regional Director.
- 7. **Gain** Regional Director's approval where required.
- 8. **Advise** parent / significant other of assessment decision process.
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Centre Manager (or delegate)

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People you need:

- Juvenile Justice officer
- Juvenile Justice Counsellor
- 1. Establish/regularly update list of available accommodation near your centre including:
 - hotels/motels
 - Aboriginal / CALD / disability/ services
 - church
 - · community groups.
- 2. **Advise** parent/significant other whether they're eligible to visit and when such a visit and its duration can occur.
- 3. Take parents details if they confirm their willingness to visit but disclose financial difficulties restricting their visiting attempts:
 - name
 - address
 - telephone number.
- 4. **Inform** parent / significant other assessment regarding finance will be undertaken by their local JJO/JJC.
- 5. **Contact** local agencies that could help with accommodation, food etc.
- 6. **Make** enquiries about accommodation, preferably "self-contained" type, if no voluntary agencies exist.
- 7. Contact JJO/JJC supervising area where applicant resides and confirm:
 - applicant's details
 - young person's case plan
 - facilities available at Juvenile Justice Centre (i.e. accommodation, food, local transport)
 - whether accommodation is available at a local hotel/motel/lodge etc (if no

	NOTE: Department doesn't pay for phone calls, videos, mini bar/ room service – basic accommodation only				
All staff	Legislation Children's (Criminal Proceedings) Act 1987 Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998				
All staff	Date	Reason for change	Details of change		
	December 2012	'Casework standards and procedures document' replaced with Community Supervision and Casework procedures.	Procedural content for travelling and accommodation assistance for carers of detainees transferred in to standalone procedure.		