



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO POLICE SERVICE

Written Response to the First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality, Diversity on the Support Programmes and Services for Children whose Parent or Guardian was the Perpetrator or Victim of a Violent Offence

The findings of this report have been noted and the recommendations of the Committee as outlined on pages Forty (40) to fifty one (51) of the report have been reviewed.

As an organization, we remain committed to providing the best quality policing services to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago and to working in partnership with stakeholders on the issues raised. We agree that adequate resources are required to fulfill our responsibility and that collaboration and partnership with stakeholders are critical components to achieve success.

Recommendations 4.18, 4.9 and 4.10 – We are in agreement with these recommendations.

Recommendations 4.31 – 4.41 – We are in agreement with these recommendations.

Recommendation 4.42 - This recommendation is inconsistent with model that we have utilized for the VWSUs in the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. The VWSU being housed within the Police Station or at least in close proximity to the station effectively facilitates victims' and witness' ease of access to the Unit. It was therefore intended to be adjunct to the police station.

Recommendations 4.49 – 4.51 – We are in agreement with these recommendations. Additionally, we suggest the following:

Recommendation 4.49 – It is suggested that key stakeholders be consulted as part of the process towards the establishment of an interagency database and that clear protocols be established to guide the management, operations, access and maintenance. It is suggested that such a database would also be useful to identify the specific types of interventions/programmes/services that the child receives at each agency and give clear information on follow-up action to be taken and or referrals made.



JSC on Human Rights, Equality, Diversity on the Support Programme and Services for Children whose Parent or Guardian was the Perpetrator or Victim of a Violent Offence
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Recommendation 4.50 - In addition to the final expected outcome to improve and increase access to programmes and services for children whose parent or guardian was a victim or perpetrator of a violent offence, due effort should be also made to ensure that the child derives maximum benefit from the service/programme and that there are adequate resources for the programme/services' continuity. It is suggested that consideration be given to the development and implementation of tool to measure areas such as the quality of the service/programme, the accessibility to the child, the time it takes for the child to access and the benefits derived.

Recommendation 4.51 - Quarterly meetings can also serve as a forum to

- strengthen partnership among agencies through the development of joint programmes and interventions
- joint effort for problem resolution