



NATSILS

National Aboriginal and
Torres Strait Islander Legal Services

TRUE JUSTICE FOR OUR PEOPLE

MEDIA RELEASE

Children pay the price for justice system failures

6th May 2026

The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Legal Services (NATSILS) shares its deepest condolences for the family of Kumanjayi Little Baby and stands in solidarity with the community in Mparntwe who mourn this tragic loss.

Nerita Waight, Chair of NATSILS, says this is a profound failure of the so-called justice system, which relies on incarceration and racism to operate, instead of prevention and community safety.

“This is a failure of the system to prevent crime. Our current so-called justice system only encourages crime by failing to provide evidence-based prevention and effective programs and supports.

“There is a moral imperative for politicians to create laws and policies that stop crimes from occurring. Instead, they are encouraging laws that incarcerate people and make communities more dangerous.

“State and Territory governments who oversee their justice systems have the power to implement evidence-based solutions that prevent crime.

“The Prime Minister has the responsibility, and the Commonwealth Government has the power, to hold State and Territory governments to account and make our communities safe, he just has to choose to act,” says Ms Waight.

Media contact: Catalina Casar, 0421 547 759, catalina.casar@essentialmedia.com.au