Child Safe Organisations Australian Frameworks 2018: An Update



Commissioner for Children and Young People WA – Child Safe Organisations



Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse – Child Safe Standards



Australian Human Rights Commission – Draft National Statement of Principles for Child Safe Organisations

Frameworks

Each of these frameworks outline the key elements and strategies leaders and staff of organisations must understand and implement to provide comprehensive and tailored approaches to help children and young people to feel safe and be safe.

Consultations with children and young people, research and the work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse inform each of the frameworks. The Commissioner for Children and Young People WA and the Australian Human Rights Commission frameworks focus on promoting children and young people's rights and preventing all types of harm.

The Australian Human Rights Commission plan for their Principles to be signed off by the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) in July 2018.

Implementation

These frameworks are principle based, flexible and should be applied according to the nature and characteristics of the organisation.

Organisations must pay attention to the needs of all children and young people they service and particularly:

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children; children with disability; children from diverse religious and cultural communities; very young children; children who have experienced trauma; lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex children; gender differences and challenges for children living in remote locations.

The Royal Commission's National Child Safe Standards have been reflected in the Principles prepared for COAG agreement. The Royal Commission has recommended the Standards **become mandatory** for organisations that engage in child-related work and that they are **independently monitored** by oversight bodies who provide advice, information and support on the Standards to organisations.

The Royal Commission provides further information through <u>Appendix A Practical guidance for implementing the Child Safe Standards</u>.