



Work Plan 2019

Strategic priorities

1. Promoting the rights, voices and contributions of children and young people
2. Monitoring and advocacy to strengthen the wellbeing of all WA children and young people
3. Prioritising the needs of children and young people who are our most disadvantaged and vulnerable

Current projects

Current projects	Overview	Strategic priority link		
		1	2	3
Implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Child Safe Organisations – CCYP will support agencies and others to develop their own industry appropriate training of the Child Safe Organisations standards and practice. Our future direction will be training and support that targets Executive and Board level training.2. Harmful Sexual Behaviours – monitor and support the development of policy and practice within agencies in addressing Harmful Sexual Behaviours.3. Monitor and inform the implementation of all recommendations with particular priority to Child Safe Standards, therapeutic responses, and independent oversight.	✓	✓	✓

Speaking Out Survey	<p>This project will involve surveying approximately 4500 students from Year 4 – 12 in the first half of 2019. Supported by Telethon Kids Institute, the survey will be analysed in the second half of 2019 and a report is scheduled to be tabled in early 2020.</p>	✓	✓	
Wellbeing Monitoring Framework	<p>The wellbeing monitoring project has three components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A demographic profile of WA children and young people, which was published in November 2018, includes a section that reports the data on children and young people deemed vulnerable or in hardship. 2. An online report on key indicators of wellbeing that focus on the domains essential for every child or young person’s wellbeing, growth and development. The first tranche of data, Learning and Participation, was released in November 2018. The second (Healthy and Connected) and third (Safe and Supported) tranches will be released in the first half of 2019. 3. A register to track strategic policy frameworks and recommendations for action aimed at addressing areas of concern, including the progress of implementation and evaluation of effectiveness. This will also track the Commissioner’s recommendations from work in relation to the: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. School and Learning Consultation. From the middle of 2019, monitor all recommendations of the School and Learning report. Develop a reference group to specifically investigate models of social and personal support within schools as per recommendation 13. 	✓	✓	✓

	<p>b. Mental Health Inquiry. Further monitor the progress on the implementation on the 12 recommendations.</p> <p>c. Oversight of Services for Children and Young People in Western Australia. Investigate ways of improving oversight in high risk environments through a collaborative approach with other organisations and development of improved advocacy based on children and young people’s service delivery experiences.</p>			
Review progress on the implementation of the government’s response to the sexual abuse of children in the West Pilbara	<p>Progress work with key stakeholders to monitor the government’s response to the sexual abuse of children and young people in the West Pilbara including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the nature of additional resources provided to support children, young people and their families • the accessibility and appropriateness of responses and resources in meeting the needs of children, young people and their families affected by abuse. 	√	√	√
Vulnerability Speakers Series	<p>A final report of this series conducted throughout 2018 will be produced in early 2019. Further work will be developed from the report including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCYP facilitating a group of Aboriginal leaders to investigate processes to develop responses to issues raised in the Aboriginal Forum • ensuring the consideration of factors that increase an individual’s vulnerability are addressed in policy and practice, particularly in relation to education, mental health, child protection and youth justice. 		√	√
			√	√

Child Protection Case Practice Framework	<p>In 2018 the Australian Children’s Commissioners and Guardians group published a report undertaken by the Australian Centre for Child Protection to review of case practice frameworks used in child protection services. The report identified clear findings on the need to strengthen practice frameworks across 11 core domains. In 2019 the Commissioner will undertake work to influence the use of the report to develop case practice in Western Australian services working with children in the child protection system with priority to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people.</p>		√	√
Complaints Monitoring	<p>Release the third report in relation to the Commissioner’s statutory responsibility to monitor complaints made by children and young people to government agencies.</p>	√	√	
Promotion of the Commissioner’s Statement of Commitment	<p>Promotion of young people’s rights including advocacy for the implementation of impact statements on children and young people in future government legislation and policy development.</p>		√	
Consultation on Adoption	<p>Following the release of the government’s report on the Review of the Adoption Act, CCYP will work with young people who have experience of adoption to provide their input on the recommendations of the review.</p>	√	√	

<p>Living environments and the impact on children and young people</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Commission a background research paper to understand the impact of living environments on the mental health of children and young people, including increasing urban density and community decline in regional areas, to inform community planning for the future. 2. Our Communication and engagement team will explore a “We are 10” style of consultation about the impact the environment has on children across the state. Possibly aimed at early teen years, this project will be predominantly conducted in the latter half of 2019 and may inform further work with the research project above. 	<p>√</p>	<p>√</p>	
<p>Advisory Committee</p>	<p>In 2019, the Commissioner’s Advisory Committees will work to support the living environments project.</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>√</p>	

Ongoing work

The Commissioner will continue to undertake a substantial body of work on an ongoing basis, including publishing submissions, supporting research, seminars and presentations and media activity, to advocate for what is in the best interests of WA children and young people across a range of issues.

In undertaking this work, the Commissioner will draw on his ongoing program of meetings with children and young people, their families, and service providers in metropolitan and regional areas, in addition to contemporary research and evidence of existing and emerging issues.

The Commissioner is also planning for future work as resources are made available. These are listed below as Horizon projects.

Horizon projects

Horizon projects	Overview	Strategic priority link		
		1	2	3
Vulnerable groups to consult/advocate/monitor or research	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children with disabilities – investigate the impact of the roll out of the NDIS on children and young people with a disability. Include the impact to family support and the wellbeing of each child as a result of the NDIS. 2. In partnership with groups like CoLab, advocate for a better understanding of and approaches to poverty on a child and young person’s life. 3. Access to justice for children and young people in the criminal justice system. 		✓	✓