

TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT

Third Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2021

Implementing the
Recommendations of the Royal Commission into
Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse



Support services

The work of the Royal Commission and the Tasmanian Government's response may be distressing to some people in our community. If at any time you feel that you would like to speak with someone there are services and support groups that can help.

Some options for advice include:

- 1800 Respect
- Lifeline on 13 11 14
- Sexual Assault Support Service (SASS) on 1800 697 877
- Relationships Australia on 1300 364 277
- The National Redress Scheme Information Line on 1800 146 713

Tasmanian Government

Third Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2021

Published: December 2020

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BACKGROUND

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) was established by the Australian Government on 11 January 2013.

Tasmania, along with all state and territory governments, established concurrent inquiries appointing the same Commissioners to comprehensively respond to the problem of child sexual abuse in institutional contexts, which has occurred contemporarily and historically, in a variety of institutional settings.

The Royal Commission conducted 57 formal public hearings over 400 days around Australia (including two hearings in Tasmania), 8,013 private sessions with people affected by sexual abuse, received 25,964 letters and emails, and handled 42,041 calls.

On 15 December 2017 the Royal Commission presented its Final Report to the Governor-General, detailing the culmination of a five-year inquiry into institutional responses to child sexual abuse and related matters.

The Final Report comprises an executive summary and 17 volumes over a broad range of areas. The Royal Commission's Final Report and three earlier reports contain a total of 409 recommendations. The Final Report includes 189 recommendations of which 105 are relevant to the Tasmanian Government.

The Royal Commission released the following earlier reports:

- The *Working with Children Checks Report* in August 2015, including 36 recommendations, of which 35 are relevant to Tasmania.
- The *Redress and Civil Litigation Report* in September 2015, including 99 recommendations, of which 84 are relevant to Tasmania.
- The *Criminal Justice Report* in August 2017, including 85 recommendations, of which 83 are relevant to Tasmania.

The Royal Commission's recommendations aim to:

- prevent child sexual abuse or, at the very least, identify it and appropriately respond to it as early as possible;
- improve the way perpetrators of child sexual abuse are investigated, prosecuted and sentenced; and
- improve access to justice and ongoing support for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse.

The Royal Commission's recommendations recognise that governments, institutions and the broader community share responsibility for keeping children safe. Recommendations



can be arranged by the following themes:

- Theme 1: Making institutions safe for children
- Theme 2: Causes, support and treatment
- Theme 3: Redress and civil litigation
- Theme 4: Criminal justice and the protection of children
- Theme 5: Accountability and annual reporting

In Volume 17 of its Final Report, the Royal Commission makes a number of recommendations that are intended to hold government and other institutions to account for the implementation of the recommendations. These include timeframes for initial government responses to the recommendations, ongoing periodic reporting on implementation progress and a 10-year review of implementation and its effectiveness.

The Royal Commission recommended (recommendation 17.1) that the Australian Government and state and territory governments should each issue an initial formal response to this Final Report within six months of it being tabled, indicating whether recommendations are accepted, accepted in principle, rejected, noted or subject to further consideration.

The Royal Commission recommended that following Australian governments' initial formal responses to the Final Report, each state and territory government should report on their implementation of the Royal Commission's Final Report recommendations and its earlier Working With Children Checks, Redress and Civil Litigation and Criminal Justice reports, through five consecutive annual reports tabled before their respective parliaments.

This report is the Tasmanian Government's Third Annual Progress Report and Action Plan for 2021.



MESSAGE FROM THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL



On 20 June 2018, I tabled a formal response to the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) in the Tasmanian Parliament.

The Tasmanian response outlines the Government's support for the majority of the Royal Commission's recommendations providing actions to be implemented by state and territory governments.

Since that report, the Tasmanian Government has released two Annual Progress Reports on the Government's activities to implement the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

I am pleased to present the Tasmanian Government's Third Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2021.

This year, we have experienced the unprecedented and far-reaching impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on our State. The Tasmanian community has faced many challenges while we continue to work to manage the ongoing risk. The Tasmanian Government has worked hard to protect the health and safety of Tasmanians and to save lives. Our State Service has had to support the response by undertaking different duties, working under different conditions and supporting new initiatives. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work, agility and commitment demonstrated by the State Service throughout this difficult period.

Notwithstanding these challenges, I am proud to release this progress report, representing the third year of activity in response to the Royal Commission's recommendations. It continues the work that will be built on over a number of years to fully realise the necessary improvements in institutional child safety.

This year, the Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit continues to lead the implementation of whole-of-government projects, arising from the work of the Royal Commission. The Unit is currently responsible for the following priority government initiatives:

- the implementation of the 3-year Pilot Intermediary Scheme to support Tasmania Police and Tasmanian Courts; and
- the development of a Child Safe Organisations legislative framework for Tasmania incorporating the implementation of Child Safe Standards and a Reportable Conduct Scheme.

The Pilot Intermediary Scheme is an important program that will ensure that children and people with difficulty communicating will have the best opportunity to effectively participate in



the criminal justice system. The Scheme, commencing on 1 March 2021, enables the use of witness intermediaries, or communication experts, in court proceedings and assists vulnerable witnesses to give their best evidence. The Scheme will provide services to Tasmanian Courts and Tasmania Police state-wide.

This year the Tasmanian Government introduced legislation that removed outdated terminology for sexual offending in the *Criminal Code Act 1924*, including renaming the charge of ‘maintaining sexual relationship with a young person’ to ‘persistent penetrative sexual abuse of a child [or young person]’. These reforms were undertaken in response to community concerns and are an important step in recognising the realities of child sexual abuse.

The Tasmanian Government will shortly release for public consultation a draft of the Child Safe Organisations Bill 2020. This Bill is the first stage of the Child Safe Organisations framework that will include a Reportable Conduct Scheme in later tranches. This Bill will implement the intent of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Royal Commission’s recommendations relating to Child Safe Standards.

The Unit also manages the Tasmanian Government’s commitments under the National Redress Scheme including:

- responding to information requests from the Scheme Operator for departmental information relating to claims;
- managing access to counselling and psychological care for all Tasmanian recipients of Redress;
- managing a register and the outgoing recruitment of approved counselling and psychological care providers to ensure that the provision of counselling and psychological care is conducted by appropriately qualified and trauma-informed professionals; and
- facilitating and supporting Tasmanian Government departments responsible for abuse to provide an appropriate direct personal response including an apology.

For the 2019-20 reporting period, I am pleased to report that 100 per cent of claims against Tasmanian Government Agencies were responded to by CARCRU within the statutory timeframe for responding to claims.

In February 2021, it is anticipated that the National Redress Scheme’s Second Anniversary evaluation will be complete and include recommendations to improve the Scheme’s operations.

I have previously expressed concerns about the delays in processing claims and the quality of engagement with victims and survivors of child sexual abuse by the National Redress Scheme.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Australian Government and my state and



territory counterparts to ensure that the National Redress Scheme achieves effective, efficient, equal and appropriate redress to victims and survivors of child sexual abuse.

This year the Tasmanian Government has undertaken organisational changes and implemented new guidelines for the management of civil litigation arising from child abuse to support the effective and trauma-informed management of civil claims.

The Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit will now support the Office of the Solicitor-General's Litigation Division by undertaking the investigative and factual analysis of child abuse related claims against the State of Tasmania. The management of these claims by the Department of Justice will ensure that all matters receive a consistent and expedient response, for claims arising from any Government Agency.

Many Tasmanians are now coming forward and sharing their experiences of abuse. Due to their courage, we have learned that there is still much work to do to ensure that Tasmanian Government Agencies are effectively responding to allegations of child sexual abuse.

On 23 November 2020, the Honourable Peter Gutwein MP, Premier, announced a Commission of Inquiry to investigate Tasmanian Government Agencies and their management of historical allegations of child sexual abuse. The Inquiry will commence in early 2021.

The establishment of a Commission of Inquiry will build on the extensive work of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and ensure the effective implementation of its recommendations in Tasmania.

I wish to acknowledge the courage and bravery of victims and survivors who have told us of their personal experiences of abuse. Through sharing your stories, the Tasmanian Government has the opportunity to learn from your experiences and to improve our systems so that children in our care are kept safe and are afforded every opportunity to reach their full potential.



Hon Elise Archer MP

**Attorney-General
Minister for Justice**



2019-2020 SNAPSHOT

✓ A Pilot Intermediary Scheme for Tasmania

On 15 September 2020, the Evidence (Children and Special Witnesses) Amendment Bill 2020 was introduced in the Tasmanian Parliament establishing a 3-year Pilot Intermediary Scheme for Tasmania.

The Pilot will commence operation on 1 March 2021.

✓ Progress legislation establishing a framework for Child Safe Organisations for Tasmania

The Tasmanian Government will release a draft Bill for consultation shortly representing the first step towards establishing a framework for Child Safe Organisations in Tasmania incorporating the Australian Human Rights Commission's Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Royal Commission's Child Safe Standards.

✓ Finalise the Quality and Continuous Improvement Framework for Out-of-Home Care and commence implementation of the Tasmanian Standards for Out-of-Home Care

Draft Tasmanian Standards for Children and Young People in Care will be released for consultation shortly. The development of these Standards is one element of the broader quality framework, building on the *Tasmanian Outcomes Framework for Children in Out-of-Home Care*.

The implementation of the Standards will support a future-focused system for the out-of-home care sector establishing accountability for how children and young people are supported. It is anticipated that the Standards will be finalised in early 2021.

✓ Develop options for implementing a Tasmanian Carers Register

The Department of Communities Tasmania has been working with the states and territories through the Children and Families Secretaries Child Safety Working Group to identify the requirements for implementing nationally consistent Carers Registers.



- ✓ **Undertake a tender process for the construction of the building upgrade to the Ashley Youth Detention Centre**

This year, significant progress has been achieved on the redevelopment of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre. The planning phase is complete and has ensured the best outcomes will be achieved in the infrastructure redevelopment of the facility. A construction tender process is now complete with contract negotiations being finalised. Preparatory site works commenced in November 2020.



THEME 1: MAKING INSTITUTIONS SAFE

The Royal Commission's Final Report made several recommendations about improving child safety within institutions. These recommendations include:

- Volume 6 - Making institutions child safe (Recommendations 6.1 to 6.24);
- Volume 7 - Improving institutional responding and reporting (Recommendations 7.1 to 7.12);
- Volume 8 - Recordkeeping and information sharing (Recommendations 8.1 to 8.23);
- Volume 12 - Contemporary out-of-home care (Recommendations 12.1 to 12.22);
- Volume 13 - Schools (Recommendations 13.1 to 13.8);
- Volume 14 - Sport, recreation, arts culture, community and hobby groups (Recommendations 14.1 to 14.4); and
- Volume 15 - Contemporary detention environments (Recommendations 15.1 to 15.15).

Making institutions child safe

This year, the Tasmanian Government has been developing a legislative framework for Child Safe Organisations for Tasmania that supports the intent of the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations and the Royal Commission's recommendations relating to Child Safe Standards. It is anticipated that the legislative framework will be released for stakeholder and public consultation shortly.

The Child Safe Organisations Bill 2020 will:

- Include Principles for the Safety and Wellbeing of Children;
- Include Child Safe Standards;
- Require all organisations engaged in services involving interaction with children to embed the principles and the standards in policies, practices and procedures;
- Require Tasmanian Government entities to embed the principles and standards in funding agreements with non-government organisations;
- Require Tasmanian Government entities to report annually on implementation of, and compliance with, the principles and standards; and



- Require Tasmanian Government entities to require funded non-government organisations to report annually on the implementation of, and compliance with, the principles and standards through funding agreements.

Improving institutional responding and reporting

In 2020, the Department of Communities Tasmania continued to review of departmental complaints management processes. Further opportunities for accommodating feedback from children and young people will be considered in 2021.

The Strong Families Safe Kids Advice and Referral Line is now fully operational as the first point of contact for child wellbeing and safety and is accessible both by phone and online for information or concerns relating to children and young people.

The Child Advocate website contains easy-to-use information and a step-by-step guide for children and young people about what to do if something is not okay, supporting children and young people to raise concerns about their experience in out-of-home care.

In addition to online resources, information about the role of the Child Advocate was distributed directly to all children and young people in out-of-home care in April 2020. There is ongoing distribution of child friendly information, and socialisation of awareness of the Child Advocate website and social media presence.

Recordkeeping and information sharing

The Office of the State Archivist has completed work with Tasmanian Government Agencies to increase minimum records retention periods, consistent with recommendations of the Royal Commission.

The new Disposal Schedule will apply to all organisations (including Government Agencies) as defined in the *Archives Act 1983*.

This year, amendments to strengthen the information sharing provisions of the *Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997* have commenced to enable Tasmania's participation in a national information sharing system (Connect for Safety). This will ensure that Tasmania is able to obtain information from other jurisdictions relevant to the safety and wellbeing of children in Tasmania in a timely manner.

Contemporary Out-of-Home Care

The Department of Communities Tasmania finalised the Stability and Permanency Framework for Child Safety to assist the provision of safe and stable placements for children and young people. Staff will use the newly developed framework to inform their work with



children, young people and families in the child safety system.

The Stability and Permanency Framework defines the hierarchy of placement pathways for achieving stability as preservation, restoration, Third Party Guardianship, adoption and parental responsibility resting with the State as a last resort reflecting the principles of the *Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997*. One of the overarching principles of the Stability Framework is that people caring for children are supported to ensure that children have the best possible outcomes.

Schools

The Tasmanian Government's commitment to develop a legislative framework for Child Safe Organisations will include all schools (government and independent).

On 27 August 2020, the Tasmanian Government announced an inquiry into the systems (including legislation, policies, practices and procedures) of the Department of Education arising from historical cases where teachers who were able to repeatedly commit acts of child sexual abuse over a number of years.

This Inquiry will be subsumed into the work of the Commission of Inquiry due to commence in early 2021.

Sport, recreation, arts, culture, community and hobby groups

The Government's commitment to develop a legislative framework for Child Safe Organisations will include consultation with organisations such as sporting bodies, associations and community groups to carefully consider the implementation in that sector.

Contemporary detention environments

The Tasmanian Government has committed \$7.3 million for the redevelopment of Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC). The Centre is being redesigned and upgraded to meet modern standards and to ensure the physical design elements reduce the risk to young people.

This year, significant progress has been achieved on the redevelopment of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre. The planning phase is complete and has ensured the best outcomes will be achieved in the infrastructure redevelopment of the facility. A construction tender process is now complete with contract negotiations finalised. Preparatory site works commenced in November 2020.

Key initiatives are being implemented to deliver an integrated therapeutic youth justice model at Ashley.



In 2021, the Tasmanian Government will:

- Continue to progress the legislative framework for Child Safe Organisations.
- Continue to progress the redevelopment of the Ashley Youth Detention Centre including key initiatives to deliver an integrated therapeutic youth justice model.
- Finalise and commence implementation of Tasmanian Standards for Children and Young People in Out-of-Home Care.
- Continue to work collaboratively nationally to develop and implement a nationally consistent Carers Register.
- Implement the Stability and Permanency Framework to assist in the provision of safe and stable placements for children and young people.
- Work with Aboriginal organisations to identify actions to further improve and embed the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principles across the Child Safety Service System.



THEME 2: CAUSES, SUPPORT AND TREATMENT

The Royal Commission's Final Report looked at complex issues about why and how child sexual abuse happens in institutions. It also looked at how to support and respond to children with harmful sexual behaviours.

The Royal Commission made recommendations about how victims can be better supported to recover from trauma. These recommendations include:

- Volume 9 - Advocacy, support and therapeutic treatment services (Recommendations 9.1 to 9.9);
- Volume 10 - Children with harmful sexual behaviours (Recommendations 10.1 to 10.7); and
- Volume 12 - Contemporary Out-of-Home Care (Recommendations 12.12 to 12.15).

Safe Homes Families Communities Tasmania's Action Plan for Family and Sexual Violence 2019-2022

This year, work has continued under the *Safe Homes Families Communities Tasmania's Action Plan for Family and Sexual Violence 2019-2022* (the Action Plan). This is the Tasmanian Government's coordinated, whole-of-government action plan to respond to family and sexual violence.

The Tasmanian Government has committed \$26 million over three years for activities under three priority areas:

- Primary prevention and early intervention (\$3.3 million);
- Response and recovery (\$14.8 million); and
- Strengthening the service system (\$7.9 million).

Redevelopment of Ashley Youth Detention Centre

Alongside the Ashley Youth Detention Centre redevelopment, work is continuing to develop a therapeutic approach for young people detained in the facility.

Consultation is being undertaken with Ashley Youth Detention Centre staff, the Department of Education and Forensic Health Services. The enhanced approach will provide a practice framework and supporting programs for progress to a therapeutic model of care at Ashley Youth Detention Centre encompassing:



- programs for young people;
- systems and processes to support practice; and
- staff training, supervision and support.

National Strategy to Prevent Child Abuse

In October 2019, the Tasmanian Government participated in the first meeting of the Inter-jurisdictional Working Group on Therapeutic Responses for Children with Problematic and Harmful Sexual Behaviours. The Working Group is tasked to develop actions to address the gaps and inconsistencies in access to therapeutic supports for harmful sexual behaviours as identified by the Royal Commission.

The key objectives of the Inter-jurisdictional Working Group are to:

- develop a set of nationally consistent and outcomes-focused measures for the prevention, early intervention and tertiary responses for children and young people with problematic and harmful sexual behaviours, for inclusion in a National Strategy to Prevent Child Abuse;
- develop a set of actions including ongoing initiatives, for inclusion in the National Strategy, which will address existing gaps and inconsistencies, support implementation of nationally consistent and outcomes-focused measures, drive continuous improvement and build on the current evidence base; and
- consider the need for consistent skills, experience, training and qualifications for the workforce of practitioners who work with children with harmful sexual behaviours to ensure that the workforce is supported and to avoid further harm to children.

In 2021, the Tasmanian Government will continue to participate in the development of these important initiatives.

In 2021, the Tasmanian Government will:

- Continue to implement Tasmania's Action Plan for Family and Sexual Violence 2019 – 2022.
- Work with other jurisdictions to prioritise the inclusion of the complex issue of children's harmful sexual behaviours in the National Strategy to Prevent Child Sexual Abuse.
- Implement the therapeutic harmful sexual behaviours program commencing in early 2021.



THEME 3: REDRESS AND CIVIL LITIGATION

REPORT PROGRESS

The Australian Government established the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse in response to 84 recommendations in the *Redress and Civil Litigation Report*. The Tasmanian Government commenced participation on 1 November 2018.

The *Redress and Civil Litigation Report* also contains 15 recommendations aimed at improving access to justice for victims of child sexual abuse through reforms to civil law processes.

National Redress Scheme

On 1 November 2018, Tasmania commenced participation in the National Redress Scheme for Institutional Child Sexual Abuse (the Scheme).

The Scheme will operate for 10 years. The Scheme offers survivors access to psychological counselling, a direct personal response from the responsible institution and a monetary payment of up to \$150 000.

The Department of Justice's Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit leads the management of the Tasmanian Government's commitments under the National Redress Scheme to ensure:

- the timely response to information requests from the Scheme Operator for departmental information relating to claims;
- all Tasmanian recipients of Redress have supported access to counselling and psychological care; and
- that Tasmanian Government departments, responsible for abuse, are supported to provide an appropriate direct personal response, including an apology.

This year, the Tasmanian Government will finalise the legal arrangements for the participation of the local government sector in the National Redress Scheme with the support of the Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit.

The Tasmanian Government continues to support and implement changes to the National Redress Scheme that will improve its operations and support it to achieve its intended outcomes. These outcomes include providing an opportunity for victims and survivors of child abuse to achieve effective and efficient justice that cannot be obtained through civil litigation processes.

In 2021, the National Redress Scheme's formal evaluation will be completed and publicly released.



Civil Litigation

This year, the Tasmanian Government has undertaken organisational changes and implemented new guidelines for the management of civil litigation arising from child abuse to support the effective and trauma-informed management of civil claims.

The Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit will now support the Office of the Solicitor-General's Litigation Division by undertaking the investigative and factual analysis of child abuse related claims against the State of Tasmania. The management of these claims by the Department of Justice will ensure that all matters receive a consistent and expedient response, for claims arising from any Government Agency.

- ✓ The Tasmanian Government has completed the implementation of recommendations made under the *Redress and Civil Litigation Report*.



THEME 4: CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Royal Commission's *Working with Children Checks* and *Criminal Justice Reports* made a number of recommendations aimed at better protecting children from child sexual abuse, including:

- strengthening protections under state and territory Working with Children Checks Schemes (*Working with Children Checks Report*, Recommendations 1 to 36); and
- reforming the criminal justice system (*Criminal Justice Report*, Recommendations 1 to 85).

Volume 7 of the Royal Commission's *Final Report* also recommended several changes to strengthen:

- Mandatory reporting; and
- Reportable conduct schemes.

Working with Children Checks

In December 2017, the Australian Government agreed to fund developing a centralised database for Working with Children Checks as part of jurisdictional endorsement of the National Standards for Working with Children Checks. The National Reference System sits within the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission.

The National Reference System provides a record of all relevant outcomes of decisions regarding working with children applications and registrations across all states and territories in Australia and allows states and territories to record, maintain and share key decisions.

The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission developed the NRS in full consultation with screening units across Australia with on-boarding available to states and territories from July 2019.

In November 2019, Tasmania was one of the first jurisdictions to successfully integrate our local systems with the National Reference System. Western Australia has also integrated its systems with the other states and territories expected to follow over the coming year. The National Reference System should be fully operational, with all the final states and territories integrated into the system by the end of the third quarter in 2021.

The National Reference System will eventually be accessible to all jurisdictional screening units and facilitate access to relevant registration outcomes across Australia which will assist jurisdictions to achieve national consistency across Australia in accordance with the National



Standards for Working with Children Checks and the Working with Children Checks report from the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Criminal Justice

The Tasmanian Government is committed to supporting the continual improvement of the criminal justice system to respond to child sexual abuse and has already implemented many of the recommendations of the Royal Commission's *Criminal Justice Report*.

This year, Tasmania Police established a working group to oversee the implementation of eleven recommendations relating to policing. The new Crime and Intelligence Command will enhance collaboration with Tasmania Police and other government Agencies by facilitating a consolidated strategic approach to crime investigations.

The Tasmania Police Business Priorities 2020-2021 place importance on family violence and sexual assault response and these priorities align with the crime functions and capabilities of Tasmania Police and the recommendations of the Royal Commission.

Tasmania Police has prioritised the development and implementation of the recommendations and embedding new practises will be a key focus in 2020-21.

In March 2021, the 3-year Pilot Intermediary Scheme for children and adults with communication needs (other than linguistic diversity) will commence. The Pilot Scheme will be administered by the Child Abuse Royal Commission Response Unit. The Scheme will provide services to Tasmanian Courts and Tasmania Police state-wide.

The Pilot will apply to children who are victims and witnesses of sexual crimes and homicide-related matters; and adults with a communication need who are victims and witnesses of sexual crimes and homicide-related matters.

Adult victims and witnesses with a communication need will be eligible for the use of an intermediary where the quality or clarity of their evidence may be diminished by their ability to understand, process or express information. The cause of the communication need may be permanent or transitory and may be due to a disability, mental illness, trauma or some other cause.

The implementation of the Pilot Intermediary Scheme is supported and monitored by the Pilot Intermediary Scheme Steering Committee including members from the judiciary, key legal stakeholders and Tasmania Police.

Reportable Conduct Scheme

The Tasmanian Government will progress the development of a Reportable Conduct Scheme for Tasmania following the implementation of the legislative framework for Child Safe Organisations.



In 2021, the Tasmanian Government will:

- Implement further legislative reforms arising from the Criminal Justice Report.



THEME 5: ACCOUNTABILITY AND ANNUAL REPORTING

The Royal Commission made specific recommendations intended to hold Australian governments to account for monitoring, evaluating and reporting on the implementation of recommendations. These recommendations include:

- Volume 17 - Beyond the Royal Commission recommendations (Recommendations 17.1-17.6).

On 20 June 2018, the Tasmanian Government tabled a formal response to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse's recommendations in the Tasmanian Parliament.

On 15 December 2018, the Tasmanian Government released its First-Year Progress Report and Action Plan 2018-19 for implementing the recommendations of the Royal Commission. This is consistent with recommendation 17.2, which requires each state and territory to report annually on implementation activities.

On 15 December 2019, the Tasmanian Government released its Second Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2020.

This Report is the Tasmanian Government's Third Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2021.

The Government will release its Fourth Annual Progress Report and Action Plan 2022 in December 2021.



USEFUL LINKS AND CONTACTS

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

<https://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au/>

National Redress Scheme

<https://www.nationalredress.gov.au/>

Department of Justice Tasmania

<https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/>

National Principles for Child Safe Organisations

<https://www.humanrights.gov.au/our-work/childrens-rights/national-principles-child-safe-organisations>

Australian Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.childabuseroyalcommissionresponse.gov.au/>

Tasmanian Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.justice.tas.gov.au/national-redress-scheme/response-to-final-report>

New South Wales Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/projects-and-initiatives/the-nsw-government-response-to-the-royal-commissions-final-report/>

Victoria Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.justice.vic.gov.au/institutionalchildsexualabuse>

Queensland Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au/newsroom/royal-commission.aspx>

Western Australia Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.wa.gov.au/organisation/department-of-the-premier-and-cabinet/royal-commission-institutional-responses-child-sexual-abuse>

South Australia Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.childprotection.sa.gov.au/department/royal-commissions-and-reviews/royal-commission-institutional-responses-child-sexual-abuse>

Australian Capital Territory Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://www.act.gov.au/childabuseroyalcommission/documents>

Northern Territory Government Response to the Royal Commission

<https://rmo.nt.gov.au/uploads/tabling-of-the-royal-commission-into-the-protection-and-detention-of-children-in-the-northern-territory-annual-report>

