



Select Committee on Child Protection

TERMS OF REFERENCE

To inquire into and report upon the adequacy of Tasmania's child protection systems, including:—

- (a) early identification, intervention and prevention strategies currently in place within all relevant agencies including the Department of Health and Human Services (including Family Support and Child Protection Services), the Office of the Commissioner for Children, Department of Education, Department of Justice, Tasmania Police, and the non-government sector including Gateway service providers, and including comparison with child protection regimes in other Australian jurisdictions;
- (b) mechanisms currently in place, and where improvements can be made to enhance the integration between all relevant agencies to ensure that the welfare of any identified child at risk is paramount and that all agencies work together to provide best practice care and service delivery;
- (c) review the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997, including all proposed amendments to the Act as mentioned in the Tasmanian Government's response to recommendations in the Commissioner for Children's report on his inquiry into the circumstances of a 12 year old child under guardianship of the Secretary, October 2010;
- (d) other long term contributors to child abuse and neglect, such as poverty, drug and alcohol misuse and mental health issues;
- (e) the appropriateness, and need for, any further inquiry including but not limited to a Commission of Inquiry as established under the Commissions of Inquiry Act 1995; and
- (f) other matters incidental thereto.