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1 August 2025

Mr Paul Anastassiou KC
Commissioner
Child Safety Commission
GPO Box 783
Brisbane Qld 4000

By email to: info@childsafetyinquiry.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Anastassiou

RACP Response to the Queensland Child Safety Commission of Inquiry

Introduction

The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) is a membership organisation that connects, trains and represents over 30,000 specialist physicians and trainees from 33 different specialties across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, including paediatricians and other specialists with expertise relevant to your Inquiry.

The RACP's Queensland Committee represents 3,578 physicians and 1,636 physicians-in-training throughout Queensland.

The Paediatric and Child Health Division of the RACP (PCHD) trains and represents 7,173 paediatricians and trainee paediatricians across Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

The PCHD aims to improve the health and wellbeing of neonates, infants and children, as well as adolescents and young adults (known as young people) through education and training, research, and policy and advocacy. The PCHD advocates on behalf of members and is committed to promoting the study of paediatric medicine by encouraging excellence in skills, expertise and ethical standards. The PCHD promotes the health and wellbeing of neonates, children and young people, with a focus on:

- Health promotion
- Managing disease relating to growth and development
- Palliative care
- Social impacts on health
- Protection, development and behaviour, and public health
- The rights of children and young people.

RACP resources to assist the Inquiry

We write to engage with your Inquiry, provide some background documents that may be of use to you and your staff, and to offer additional expertise and perspectives throughout the course of your work.

We respectfully draw your attention to the following RACP documents:

- RACP [submission](#) to the Queensland Youth Justice Reform Select Committee's Inquiry into Youth Justice Reform (2024)
- Position Statement: [Health Care of Children in Care and Protection Services](#) (2023)
- Position Statement: [Indigenous Child Health](#) (2020)
- Position Statement: [Early Childhood: The Importance of the Early Years](#) (2019)

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- Position Statement: [Inequities in Child Health](#) (2018).

In particular you may find the recommendations of the [Health Care of Children in Care and Protection Services](#) position statement useful to guide or inform your own Inquiry's recommendations. The position statement considers current evidence and proposes strategies and recommendations to deliver effective health care to children and young people who are in, or at risk of entering, out-of-home care.

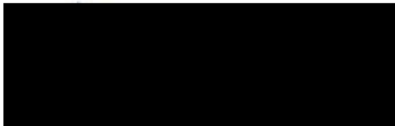
Recommendations are directed to the Commonwealth and State/Territory Governments, as well as providers/workers involved with children and young people, health and care and protection services, across Australia (refer to pages 10 – 13).

The RACP takes a keen interest in the course and outcomes of your Inquiry.

Many of our members have specific clinical knowledge, professional expertise, published research you may wish to draw on.

To seek their input or advice, or to discuss this matter, you are welcome to contact Mr Samuel Dettmann, Senior Policy Officer, via policy@racp.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Dr Niroshini Kennedy
President
Paediatric and Child Health Division



Dr Sarah Brown
Chair
RACP Queensland Committee