

Attachment 1 – Overview of South Australian activity

SA acknowledges the analysis provided in the 2017 report and has reflected upon its findings. Under a new government, SA is committed to ensure there is focussed collaborative effort to improve outcomes for Aboriginal children. This effort is focussed on culturally safe and responsive child-centred quality practice, while encouraging a partnership and participatory approach with Aboriginal community controlled organisations, families, carers and communities. It is also equally focussed on ensuring mechanisms are in place to ensure government is accountable for action and outcomes.

SA recognises the fundamental importance of having strategic, legislative and governance frameworks in place if it is to achieve its goals. This has been the focus of much of SA activity since the 2017 report. Relevantly 2018 marked the commencement of the *Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017* ('the Act') which embeds SA commitment to full implementation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle including the five principles as a framework for broader action, and introduces a range of specific mechanisms to increase the participation of Aboriginal children, families and carers in decision making. This includes through the commitment to develop a strategy and clear policy to support more Aboriginal gazetted organisations to be recognised under the Act. SA is also currently working to develop an across government strategic framework through which it can ensure it can deliver on, and be held accountable, for its commitment to reduce the over representation of Aboriginal children in care.

The Department for Child Protection has introduced a new organisational structure, critically including a new Aboriginal Practice Directorate, to provide advice and to ensure Aboriginal governance is embedded in all policy, programs and practice. Principal Aboriginal Consultants have been recruited and are now located in each service directorate and the department has committed to achieve a 10% workforce participation rate (currently 5%). More broadly the government has established the Office of the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People. The role will work to ensure the voices of all Aboriginal children and young people are represented in government decision making, and will promote the rights, development and wellbeing of Aboriginal children in South Australia. Once appointed the Commissioner will consult on the establishment of an appropriate Aboriginal community engagement mechanism.

Other relevant activity includes:

- The Early Intervention Research Directorate (EIRD) core focus on building the evidence base around practice and investment in prevention and early intervention supports for Aboriginal children. An Aboriginal Leaders Group has been established to provide governance in relation to the Australian Centre for Child Protection's research activity commissioned by EIRD.
- A commitment to develop targeted cross sector responses and partnerships, most relevantly in the past 12 months with the domestic and family violence sector and with education.
- The new legislation specifically introduces Family Group Conferencing which will support increased Aboriginal family-led decision making. A trial is currently being undertaken in partnership with Aboriginal families to inform statewide expansion.
- The newly established Multi Agency Assessment Unit provides integrated cross-agency approach to responding to new notifications, including notifications regarding Aboriginal children and families, and making referrals to appropriate early interventions through both government and non-government partners.
- The Aboriginal Cultural Identity Support Tool (ACIST) was developed and is being implemented following evaluation. The ACIST ensures cultural considerations are incorporated into case management Aboriginal children and young people.

- The Winangay carer assessment tool was adopted and is being implemented to support assessment that is culturally appropriate and meets Aboriginal carer and children's needs.
- The Aboriginal Family Scoping Unit works closely with case managers, and focuses on finding kinship placements and identifying family decision makers for Aboriginal children in Out of Home Care, and supporting connections to culture.
- The Kangurengi programs aim to meet the needs of Aboriginal families and children through relationship building, intensive and culturally specific case management and service delivery, and providing Aboriginal interpretations and meaning to child protection practice.
- Responsibility for cultural safety and responsiveness has been embedded across DPC performance frameworks, and the Senior Executive Group is participating in an Aboriginal Learning Circle.
- Focussed effort to improve relevant data collection.

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON INVESTMENT IN ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITY-CONTROLLED CHILD PROTECTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Real recurrent expenditure on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community controlled services for 2016-17 (\$ and % of total expenditure) using ROGS definitions and counting rules

	\$ Total expenditure	\$ Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled services	% of total expenditure on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community-controlled services
Family support	47,850,000 <i>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.6</i>	NA	NA
Intensive family support	30,307,000 <i>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.30</i>	13,638,000	45%
Child protection (<i>protective intervention services as per ROGS</i>)	32,875,000 <i>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.6</i>	7,561,000	23%
Out-of-home care	399,038,000 <i>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.33</i>	131,683,000	33%
TOTAL	510,070,000 <i>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.6</i>		

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

ROGS 2018, Chapter 16. Link <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services/2018/community-services/child-protection/rogs-2018-partf-chapter16-attachment.xlsx>

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON ACCESS TO FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

Children commencing intensive family support services, by Indigenous status, 2016-17 (number)

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Indigenous children	Program name / type (if data can be disaggregated by program)
Children commencing intensive family support services	*172 TI *234 FPR 406 Total <small>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.31</small>	*259 TI *241 FPR 500 Total <small>ROGS 2018 Table 16A.31</small>	Targeted intervention services Family preservation and reunification services

Add additional lines for multiple programs if required

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

Blue cells – Total data is in the public domain, figures with asterisk are NOT.

ROGS 2018, Chapter 16. Link <https://www.pc.gov.au/research/ongoing/report-on-government-services/2018/community-services/child-protection/rogs-2018-partf-chapter16-attachment.xlsx>

Children accessing family support services (non-intensive), by Indigenous status, 2016-17 (number)

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Indigenous children	Program name / type (if data can be disaggregated by program)
Children accessing a family support service	NA	NA	NA

Add additional lines for multiple programs if required

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

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3. Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who were admitted to an adoption order during the 2016-17 year.
4. For Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children admitted to an adoption order, number who were adopted by an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person

	Number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Number of non-Indigenous children	Number of Indigenous children adopted by an Indigenous person
Children adopted	0	3 Local * 11 Inter-country* 14 Total <i>AIHW AA 16-17, Table S1</i>	Not applicable

Please also provide data for 2017-18 if available

Source:

AIHW Adoptions Australia 2016-17, Data Tables. Link
<https://www.aihw.gov.au/getmedia/8f628aa2-2501-4a41-a424-16cb6378b9dd/aihw-cws-61-data-tables.xlsx.aspx>

PROFORMA FOR PROVIDING DATA ON REUNIFICATION / RESTORATION AND RECONNECTION

Please provide whatever data is available across each and any of the variables for each and any of the years, even if the tables are incomplete.

REUNIFICATION / RESTORATION

Year	Metric	Total Frequency	Indigenous children	All other children
2010/11	Children admitted to care and protection orders	966	240	726
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	494	105	389
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	NA	NA	NA
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	NA	NA	NA
2011/12	Children admitted to care and protection orders	936	264	672
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	522	143	379
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	NA	NA	NA
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	NA	NA	NA
2012/13	Children admitted to care and protection orders	513	160	353
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	457	139	318
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	94	22	72
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	160	39	121
2013/14	Children admitted to care and protection orders	457	130	327
	Children admitted to care and	396	109	287

	protection orders for the first time			
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	116	43	73
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	215	76	139
2014/15	Children admitted to care and protection orders	676	186	490
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	614	163	451
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	88	27	61
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	171	59	112
2015/16	Children admitted to care and protection orders	889	328	561
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	825	298	527
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	152	34	118
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	239	54	185
2016/17	Children admitted to care and protection orders	746	212	534
	Children admitted to care and protection orders for the first time	682	21	661
	Number of children who were reunified / restored to birth parents within 12 months of admission	155	57	98
	Overall number of children reunified / restored to birth parents in the year	254	83	171

Reunified data is for reunification to family not specifically birth parents

Reunification data prior to 2011-12 is not available

Blue cells – data is in the public domain

RECONNECTION

Year	Metric	Number	% of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out-of-home care
2016/17	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children placed with relatives/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers	711 (at 30 June 2017) ROGS 2018, Table 16A.20	61.8%* (1150 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in out of home care at 30 June 2017 ROGS 2018, Table 16A.20)
	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children who had been living in a placement with non-relative/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carer/s who changed to a placement with relatives/kin or other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander carers	117	8.8% (1329 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in at least one out of home care placement in 2016-17)

Please also include data for 2017/18 if available

Blue cells – data is in the public domain. Note that the % is not in the public domain, but could be calculated by any member of the public with the two source figures.