

# Annual Report 2021-22

'Every young South Australian counts'



Government of  
South Australia



Child  
Development  
Council

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## Letter of transmission

Hon Blair Boyer MP  
Minister for Education, Training and Skills

Dear Minister

I submit to you for presentation to Parliament the Child Development Council's annual report 2021-22.

This annual report has been prepared to meet the statutory reporting requirements of the *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Act 2016 (Act)* and the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular *PC013 Annual Reporting*.

In compliance with the *Public Sector Act 2009* and the *Public Finance and Audit Act 1987*, reporting of the management of human resources and financial issues has been included in the annual report 2021-22 of the Department for Education.

Submitted on behalf of the Child Development Council by:

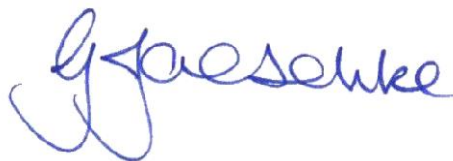
Graham Jaeschke

Acting Presiding Member

13/09/2022

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Date



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Signature

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## Executive summary

The five oversight and advocacy bodies under the [Children and Young People \(Oversight and Advocacy Bodies\) Act 2016](#) have unique roles of oversight and advocacy, which collectively serve to proactively consider the rights, development and wellbeing of South Australia's children and young people (birth to 18 years).

The Child Development Council and the Commissioner for Children and Young People have a responsibility to **all** children and young people in South Australia<sup>1</sup> (ss 55 and 14(1)(a) respectively). Through its key function to develop and maintain South Australia's Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People, including the Charter for Children and Young People, the Council also has a specific requirement in connection with improving outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people (regulation 12(2)(d)).<sup>2</sup>

The framework is an overarching point of reference to guide all State authorities to work individually and collectively to improve outcomes for children and young people. Reporting under the framework informs<sup>3</sup> a whole-of-government approach to funding, objectives, developing and implementing strategies, policies and services, and meets the requirement that the framework will 'be instrumental in guiding the Government's work for children and young people across South Australia'.

In 2021, there were 372,300 children and young people under 18 years living in South Australia (including 18,200 Aboriginal children and young people). The introduction to this report includes a table of disaggregated information by age groups and snapshot infographics for geographic location, socioeconomic status, disability and out-of-home care.

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<sup>1</sup> In carrying out their functions for all children and young people (birth to 18 years), the Council and the Commissioner must both engage children and young people (ss 57(4)(c) and 14(2), respectively). The Council has a further obligation to engage their parents, carers and families (s 57(4)(c)).

<sup>2</sup> The Council's statutory requirements state it must engage children and young people (ss57(4)(c); 14(2)) *and* their parents, carers and families (s57(4)(c)). There is, additionally, a specific requirement to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children (reg 12(2)(d)).

<sup>3</sup> South Australia, Parliamentary Debates, Legislative Council, 20 September 2016 (The Hon. P. Malinauskas, Minister for Police, Minister for Correctional Services, Minister for Emergency Services, Minister for Road Safety).

The Council's 2021-22 annual report reflects on activities to fulfil its legislative functions during 2021-2022. These activities included:

- Reporting outcomes under South Australia's framework:
  - *How are they faring? South Australia's 2021 Report Card for children and young people* – the 2021 report card indicated that most young South Australians are faring well; however, national comparison indicates that, proportionally, more children and young people in South Australia live in the most disadvantaged socio-economic circumstances
  - *The hidden cost of young South Australians shaping up for an unhealthy future* - this policy brief highlighted the serious, long-term impacts of obesity and a lack of data for targeted, evidence-based interventions
- Reviewing South Australia's framework:
  - On 1 February 2022, launching the first review of the framework that was gazetted on 14 November 2019; the legislation requires review at least once in every three-year period
  - Commencing targeted consultation with key community stakeholders, especially Aboriginal people to inform the review
- Charter Ambassador Program launch:
  - Charter Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, hosted a reception at Government House on 10 May 2022 to launch the Charter Ambassador Program.

This annual report briefly reflects on the inspirational leadership of Dr Anne Glover AO, inaugural Presiding Member. Details are also provided of Council membership changes, operation, stakeholder communication and engagement, and other initiatives for the 2021-22 reporting period.

## Introduction

The Child Development Council (Council) is established in the [Children and Young People \(Oversight and Advocacy Bodies\) Act 2016](#) (Act) to:

- develop and maintain [South Australia's Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People](#) (framework) including a Charter for Children and Young People
- promote the implementation of the framework by State authorities<sup>4</sup>
- report to the Government of South Australia on how effective the framework is in improving the outcomes of children and young people (birth to 18 years).

Having a legislated framework reflects the South Australian Government's commitment to improving outcomes for children and young people in five dimensions: health, safety, wellbeing, education and citizenship.

Reporting the data under the framework informs a whole-of-government approach to funding, objectives and developing and implementing strategies, policies and services.

## South Australia's children and young people at a glance

In 2021, South Australia had 372,300 children and young people under 18 years<sup>5</sup>, including 18,200 Aboriginal children and young people<sup>6</sup>, as depicted in Table 1.

**Table 1 Number of children and young people estimated to be living in South Australia.**

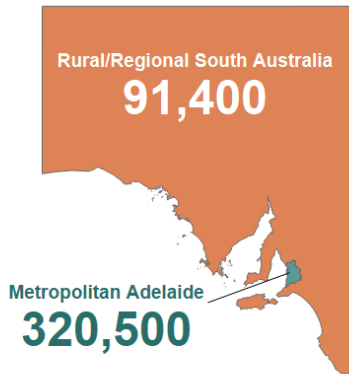
Age Range	Total	Proportion
Birth to 17 years (<18 years)	372,300	100%
Birth-5 years (inc)	118,400	31.8%
6-11 years (inc)	128,200	34.4%
12-17 years (inc)	125,700	33.8%

<sup>4</sup> State authorities are defined in the Act to include statutory officials, public sector agencies, the South Australia Police, local government ie, councils, incorporated or unincorporated bodies established for a public purpose by/under an Act (other than incorporated companies, associations, cooperatives, societies or other voluntary organisations) and established or subject to control or direction by the Government a Minister of the Crown or a local council (whether or not established under an Act) and any other person or body declared by the regulations to be a State authority.

<sup>5</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3101.0 National, state and territory population, June 2021.

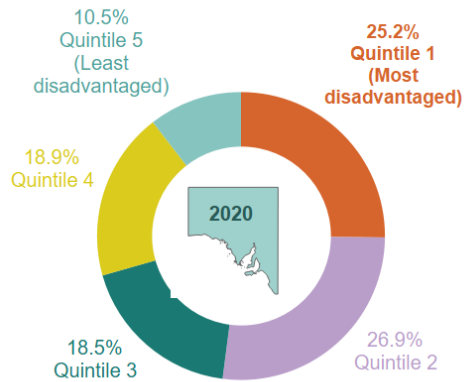
<sup>6</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3238.0 Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006 to 2031.

All children and young people



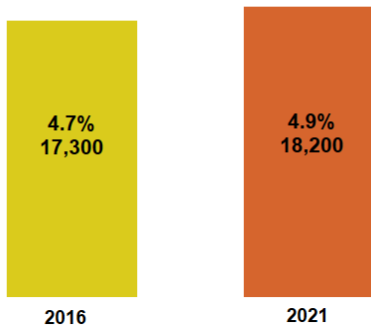
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3235.0 Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia, June 2020  
Age: Children and young people birth to 19 years (under 20 years).

Socioeconomic (IRSD)



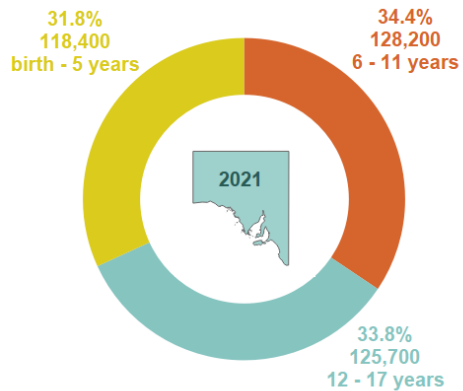
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3235.0 Regional Population by Age and Sex, Australia, June 2020 and Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 2033.0.55.001 Census of Population and Housing: Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), Australia, 2016  
Age: Children and young people birth to 19 years (under 20 years).  
Note: IRSD cuts are based on ranking within Australia.

Aboriginal children and young people



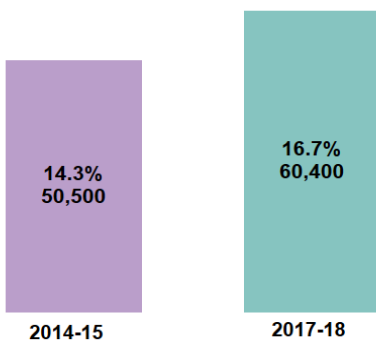
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3238.0 Estimates and Projections, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, 2006 to 2031  
Age: Children and young people birth to 17 years (under 18 years).

Age group



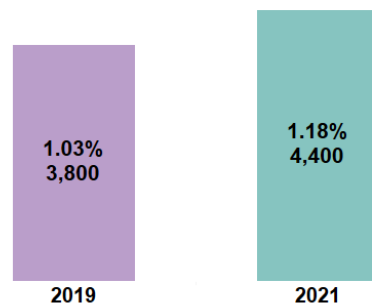
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 3101.0 National, state and territory population, June 2021  
Age: Children and young people birth to 17 years (under 18 years).

Disability



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, cat no. 4364.0.55.001 National Health Survey, 2014-15, 2017-18 - South Australia  
Age: Children and young people birth to 17 years (under 18 years).

In out-of-home care



Source: AIHW Child Protection Collections 2018-19 and 2020-2021  
Age: Children and young people birth to 17 years (under 18 years).



## South Australia's 2021 Report Card

[How are they faring? South Australia's 2021 Report Card for children and young people](#) ('SA's 2021 Report Card' or 'report card') was published on 23 December 2021. This second report card of population-level outcomes under the framework's five dimensions of health, safety, wellbeing, education and citizenship showed that, overall, children and young people under 18 years continue to fare well; however, while *most* young South Australians appear to be thriving, too many continue to face substantial challenges.

Some of the issues of concern highlighted by SA's 2021 Report Card included:

- the second highest rate of all states and territories for children and young people **in** out-of-home care **at** 30 June 2020
- the second highest rate of all states and territories for Aboriginal children and young people **entering** out-of-home care **during** 2019-2020
- the rates of Aboriginal Year 5 students meeting the national minimum standards in literacy and numeracy were much lower than the national rates in 2019<sup>7</sup>
- proportionally more children and young people lived in the most disadvantaged socio-economic circumstances in 2020, when compared to the national rate.

Data are fundamental for a common basis across government for creating strategies, setting objectives and for developing and implementing policies.

**Addressing data gaps and data quality** was identified as *the* key priority for 2022.

SA's 2021 Report Card urged State authorities and data custodians to carefully consider and address data gaps, data lags and data quality to improve reporting of outcomes for children and young people.

[Outcomes at a glance](#), an A3 visual summary placemat of SA's 2021 Report Card was published in an accessible format in early 2022.

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<sup>7</sup> A decision was made by the relevant Minister to cancel NAPLAN in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## Policy brief #2: The hidden cost of young South Australians shaping up for an unhealthy future

This second policy brief published on 20 October 2021 highlighted that South Australia does not have an adequate monitoring mechanism to track the prevalence and incidence of overweight and obesity from early childhood and provide the data needed to develop appropriately targeted evidence-based programs.

South Australia's overweight and obesity prevalence rates for children and young people (2-17 years) are estimated from Australia's triennial National Health Survey conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Because these data are not captured annually, a significant measurement gap exists.

Wellbeing SA conducts a state-wide population health survey that monitors the nutrition and activity patterns of children and young people through a telephone survey. Whilst these data are useful for tracking broad population trends, they are insufficient to accurately measure any regional/group patterns of growth/weight in children and young people. These data are also inadequate to evaluate the impact of specific prevention or intervention strategies. Regular, objectively measured growth and eating patterns of children and young people are needed.

Altering a life-long trajectory of weight related health problems for individuals and a cost burden for the state requires robust data to build prevention and intervention strategies. Better outcomes are achieved when prevention occurs early in life. It is also more cost-effective. It is crucial to:

- collect improved data using random samples and objective physical measurements to inform evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies
- tailor data collection to provide longitudinal insights for the same group of children and young people from birth to adulthood, rather than unrelated snapshots of data taken periodically in childhood and again in adolescence.

## Framework review and targeted community consultation

On 1 February 2022, the Council launched the open consultation for the inaugural review of the framework. Mr Phillip Allen, Council member, Chair of the Council's Aboriginal Reference Group, artist and musician, generously created and donated original artwork for the bespoke consultation materials which included an animated video, an online survey, a hard copy feedback form and a postcard. The Council acknowledges Mr Allen's contribution.

The Council had submitted a business case to facilitate targeted consultation with key community stakeholders, especially Aboriginal people on 9 November 2021. Six months later, on 5 April 2022, the Council signed a Memorandum of Administrative Arrangement with the Department for Education for a Community Consultation Policy Officer. Ms Juliana Chambers commenced in this position on 21 April 2022.

Open consultation for the review closed on 30 June 2022 with 33 online surveys completed and 12 submissions received. The targeted community consultation until 31 August 2022 will include two youth consultations, one in Whyalla at Plaza Youth on 21 July and one in metropolitan Adelaide. Other targeted consultation will include:

- Port Lincoln Community stakeholders – 19 July
- Port Augusta stakeholder consultation – 22 July and 3-4 August
- Women's and Children's Health Network – 26 July
- Adelaide Community Stakeholder consultation – 27 July
- Commissioner for Aboriginal Engagement – 28 July
- Regional Anangu Services Aboriginal Corporation, Community Programs Team – 1 August
- Yalata – 9-11 August
- Mt Gambier – 15-17 August
- Alice Springs (NPY/APY organisations) – 22-24 August
- Point Pearce and Berri – day trips before 31 August.

## Charter Ambassador Program

Charter Patron, Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia, hosted a reception at Government House on 10 May 2022 to formally launch the Charter Ambassador Program (CAP).

The CAP aims to 'give life' to the [Charter for Children and Young People](#) (Charter) which consists of 20 conditions that all children and young people in South Australia can, and should, have for a good life now and opportunities in the future.

The CAP is open to all children and young people of school age in South Australia; communication with Charter Ambassadors at schools is through Charter Facilitators (ie, teachers or wellbeing coordinators).

Through the CAP, the Charter Ambassadors are developing a better understanding of personal agency and the role children and young people can play in shaping the future. The CAP aims to grow a sense of connectedness with community and peers.

Workshops and forums during the year aim to equip the Charter Ambassadors to share information about the Charter eg at school and in the community.

Three inspirational South Australians have accepted invitations to be CAP Sponsors; Mr Bruce Djite (Chief Executive Officer, Committee for Adelaide and Deputy Chair, West Beach Trust), Ms Felicity Graham (author of *Not Held Down* and an advocate through her company Fostering Change Australia) and Mr Matt Cowdrey OAM MP, Shadow Treasurer of South Australia.

Preparations are underway for a CAP event at Parliament House on 16 August 2022 with the Hon Blair Boyer MP, Minister for Education, Training and Skills (Minister) and two other elected members of Parliament. The Minister will lead a question-and-answer session with CAP Ambassadors regarding topics such as decision making and change, citizenship and influence, and leadership and advocacy.

## Submissions, advocacy, and advice

### South Australia's Road Safety Strategy to 2031

On 31 August 2021, the Council noted and endorsed, in principle, the 10-year targets to 2031 of at least 50% reduction in lives lost and a 30% reduction in serious injuries (per capita).

The Council endorsed the short submission prepared by the Child Death and Serious Injury Review Committee (CDSIRC) on behalf of the oversight and advocacy bodies. The Council submitted additional observations for consideration that included:

- 39 children and young people (birth to 12 years) died in South Australia as a result of a motor vehicle accident (MVA) in a 15-year period since 2005:
  - 24 of these deaths were associated with use of inappropriate restraints
  - nine deaths were of children or young people who had not been restrained at all
  - some of these deaths could have been prevented by the use of appropriate restraints.

### National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Early Childhood Strategy

On 31 August 2021, the Council recognised and acknowledged the considerable effort invested in producing the draft strategy and supported the strategy.

### National Obesity Strategy

The Council made a short submission as part of the consultation for the National Obesity Strategy on 26 October 2021 and asked for policy brief: *The hidden cost of young South Australians shaping up for an unhealthy future* to be taken into consideration.

### **Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Amendment Bill 2020**

At the invitation of the Hon John Gardner MP, Minister for Education, the Council made a submission to the Minister regarding the (then) Member for Reynell's proposed amendments to this amendment bill at the beginning of the reporting period.

This bill to establish the Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in the *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Act 2016*, was subsequently passed by Parliament and assented to by Her Excellency the Governor on 30 September 2021.

### **Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Variation Regulations**

The Governor of South Australia assented to the Children and Young People (*Oversight and Advocacy Bodies*) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Amendment Bill on 12 October 2021.

On 26 October 2021, by invitation, the Council reviewed and commented on the *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Variation Regulations 2021* (Variation Regulations). The Council indicated there were no particular concerns regarding the Variation Regulations.

## Collaboration

### Oversight and advocacy bodies

In 2019-20, the Council initiated collaborative discussions to consider how the oversight and advocacy bodies can better support each other's work and maximise collective impact for children and young people in South Australia.

The Council has continued to facilitate connection of this group that comprises the Commissioner for Children and Young People (CCYP), Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People (CACYP), Guardian for Children and Young People (GCYP), CDSIRC and the Council.

In 2021, these five oversight and advocacy bodies met on 26 July and 9 November. In 2022, they met on 15 March 2022 and will meet again on 19 July 2022.

### Healthy Development Adelaide

On 11 May 2022, the Healthy Development Adelaide (HDA) forum: *Supporting SA's children to thrive in their early years* featured the following presenters:

- Dr Yasmin Harman-Smith, Deputy Director, Child Health, Development and Education (inclusive of the Fraser Mustard Centre), Telethon Kids Institute - The 2021 Australian Early Development Census results for South Australia
- Jackie Bray, Head of the Office for the Early Years, Department for Education - Taking a strategic level response to the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) trend results for South Australian to lift outcomes for children
- Dr Anne Glover AO, Chair, South Australian Child Development Council, Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, UniSA Education Futures, University of South Australia - How are they faring?
- Professor Barbara Spears, Adjunct Professor of Education and Social Development, Education Futures, University of South Australia, Member South Australian Child Development Council - The hidden cost of young South

Australians shaping up for an unhealthy future - Child Development Council Policy Brief #2.

The presentations by Dr Glover and Professor Spears also highlighted the consequences of making decisions in the context of data gaps and data lags.

The Council thanked HDA for including information regarding the open consultation for the framework review in the HDA newsletter in early June 2022.

### **Youth Affairs Council of South Australia (YACSA)**

The Council partnered with YACSA in June 2022 for two forums to consult young people in connection with the framework review.

## **Promoting implementation of the framework**

### **State authorities including state and local government**

Following joint Council/Department for Education (Department) presentations to the Local Government Community Managers Network, on 10 August 2021, Council and department staff met with the Southern and Hills group of councils.

- Presenters for the Department included: Ms Nadia Carruozzo who presented the Early Learning Strategy, Ms Myléne Warman who presented the latest AEDC results and Ms Anna Lewkowicz who presented the Wellbeing and Engagement Collection findings
- For the Council, Ms Magdalena Madden presented regarding the framework and how to apply the framework.

On 14 December 2021, Dr Glover and Mr Jaeschke met with Mr Clinton Jury, newly appointed Chief Executive Officer of the Local Government Association (LGA) and Mayor Angela Evans, LGA President. This was the first high-level meeting of the Council and the LGA to raise awareness at leadership level of the statutory duty of local government to have regard to and seek to give effect to the framework.



Following the March 2022 South Australian Election, in April 2022, the Council wrote to all new and ongoing state government department chief executives, Mr Jury and Mayor Evans of the LGA, TAFE SA and the Education Standards Board (ESB) with copies of SA's 2021 Report Card. These individual letters highlighted the key priority for individual and collective action by all State authorities in 2022: *Addressing data gaps and data quality*.

In May 2022, the Council provided copies of SA's 2021 Report Card to the Ministers for Education, Child Protection, and Health and Wellbeing and to the CCYP, CACYP and GCYP. As required by the legislation, these individual letters advised of the open consultation until 30 June 2022 for the inaugural review of the framework and invited submissions from these Ministers' departments.

Also in May 2022, the Council again wrote to state government department chief executives, Mr Clinton Jury and Mayor Angela Evans of the LGA, TAFE SA and the ESB advising of the open consultation until 30 June 2022 for the inaugural review of the framework and inviting feedback to inform the review.

### **Parliamentary committees**

Mr Graham Jaeschke, Deputy Presiding Member:

- wrote to Parliament's Poverty in South Australia Select Committee in July 2021 regarding the framework
- presented the framework to Parliament Social Development Committee on 6 September 2021.

### **Non-government**

- Dr Anne Glover AO met Ms Kate Ellis of Raising Literacy Australia regarding the Early Years (0-3) Taskforce on 3 November 2021
- Mr Graham Jaeschke is a member of the 0-3 Taskforce in his fulltime role as the General Manager SA and NT of The Smith Family; however, as the Council's Acting Presiding Member from 17 May 2022, Mr Jaeschke promotes the use of the framework by the 0-3 Taskforce.

## Stakeholder services

- Data dashboards
  - two existing dashboards, [Engagement in education and the workforce](#) and [Babies are born healthy](#), were updated with new data in February 2022
- CYP stat of the week (a qualitative statement based on the latest available data)
  - published weekly on the Council's website and Facebook page
- Quote of the week (a statement by, or regarding, children and young people)
  - published weekly on the Council's Facebook page.

## Communications policy and operational guidelines

A communications policy and operational guidelines developed under the guidance of the Engagement Reference Group was approved by the Council on 5 July 2022 to guide communication and engagement regarding the framework including the Charter.

## Council leadership and membership changes

### Leadership

Dr Anne Glover AO was the Council's inaugural Presiding Member for more than four years from 15 February 2018 to 16 May 2022. During these years, the Council's achievements included:

- the development and gazettal of SA's first framework including the Charter
- publication of two reports of population-level outcomes for children and young people in South Australia
- beneficial relationships with the Minister for Education, Social Affairs Cabinet Committee, state and local government, the CCYP, CACYP, GCYP and CDSIRC
- the development of the CAP with the patronage of Her Excellency the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia.

Mr Graham Jaeschke, Acting Presiding Member since 16 May 2022, was first appointed as a Council member in 2019. On 15 February 2020, Mr Jaeschke was appointed as the Deputy Presiding Member. Mr Jaeschke was the Acting Presiding Member for four months in 2021.

### Membership changes

Membership changes during 2021-22 included:

- Ms Ann-Marie Hayes resigned on 1 December 2021
- Following a call for expressions of interest, the Minister reappointed eight members and appointed two new members on 11 February 2022
- Ms Vivienne St John Robb's term concluded on 14 February 2022 after her significant contribution as an inaugural Council member since February 2018
- Dr Anne Glover AO, Presiding Member, was on approved leave of absence from May to August 2021. Dr Glover was reappointed on 11 February 2022 and resigned on 16 May 2022 for personal reasons
- Following the passage of the *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) (Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People) Bill 2021*, Ms April Lawrie, as CACYP, became an ex officio member in December 2021.

The names of all Council members during the 2021-22 reporting period, and their terms, are shown in the table below.

**Table 2 Council membership in 2021-22**

<b><i>Voting members</i></b>	<b><i>Term</i></b>
Dr Anne GLOVER AO Presiding Member	11 February 2022 to 16 May 2022
Mr Graham JAESCHKE Deputy Presiding Member (Acting Presiding Member from 16 May 2022)	18 July 2021 to 17 July 2023
Mr Phillip ALLEN	11 February 2022 to 10 February 2024
Professor Sally BRINKMAN	“
Dr Yvonne CLARK	“
Mr Richard COATES	“
Mr Paul DI IULIO	“
Professor Barbara SPEARS	“
Ms Patricia WALTON	“
Ms Joanne WICKES	“
Dr Neil WIGG PSM	“
Ms Kelly RYAN	21 July 2020 to 20 July 2022
Ms Vivienne St John ROBB	15 February 2020 to 14 February 2022
Ms Ann-Marie HAYES	17 March 2020 to 14 February 2022
<b><i>Non-voting members</i></b>	<b><i>Term</i></b>
Ms Helen CONNOLLY	15 February 2018 to TBA*
Ms April LAWRIE	4 December 2021 to TBA*

*\* Pursuant to Part 6, Division 1, s 52 of the Act, the CCYP and the CAYP (or persons authorised in writing by the Commissioners) may attend and take part in meetings and have access to meeting papers.*

## Operations

### Meetings

Nine formal meetings were held in 2021-22 on 6 July, 3 August, 7 September, 5 October, 2 November, 7 December, 1 March, 5 April and 3 May. The meeting in April 2022 included a strategy and business continuity discussion for 2022-23.

The table below shows the meeting dates and attendance during the reporting period.

**Table 3 Council meetings and attendance in 2021-22**

Name	2021						2022				TOTAL
	6/7	3/8	7/9	5/10	2/11	7/12	1/3	5/4	3/5	7/6	
Phillip ALLEN	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A	C	7
Sally BRINKMAN	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	8
Yvonne CLARK	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	A	C	6
Richard COATES							✓	✓	✓	C	3
Paul DI IULIO							A	✓	✓	C	2
Anne GLOVER	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		7
Ann-Marie HAYES	A	A	A	A	A						0
Graham JAESCHKE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	9
Kelly RYAN	A	A	✓	A	A	A	A	✓	A	C	2
Barbara SPEARS	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	8
Vivienne ST JOHN ROBB	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					6
Patricia WALTON	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	C	6
Joanne WICKES	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	8
Neil WIGG	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	C	9
Helen CONNOLLY	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	C	8
April LAWRIE						✓	✓	✓	✓	C	4
<b>TOTAL attendances</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>93</b>

✓ = Attended

A = Apologies

C = Cancelled

## Council sub-committees

The Council has four formal sub-committees established under the provisions of the legislation with a membership consisting primarily of Council members. These sub-committees, known as the Aboriginal Reference Group, Charter Reference Group, Data Reference Group and Engagement Reference Group, report to the Council and their operation is supported by the Council secretariat.

The Aboriginal Reference Group is chaired by Mr Phillip (Phil) Allen and the membership includes A/Prof Yvonne Clark and Ms April Lawrie. This group:

- led the development of an animated video for the framework review. The video was developed to both raise awareness of the framework and to invite feedback from community stakeholders, especially Aboriginal people and organisations
- met six times on 12 August, 13 September, 22 October and 19 November 2021 and on 14 April and 26 May 2022.

The Charter Reference Group is chaired by Professor Barbara Spears and the membership includes Ms Tricia Walton and Ms Joanne Wickes. This group:

- guided the development of the CAP including the CAP Launch at Government House on 10 May 2022 and led preparations for an event at Parliament House on 16 August
- met six on 20 July, 6 September and 28 September 2021 and on 12 April, 3 May and 10 June 2022.

The Data Reference Group is chaired by Professor Sally Brinkman and the membership includes Dr Neil Wigg PSM and Mr Richard Coates. This group:

- led the development of a second policy brief and engaged with Wellbeing SA to better understand initiatives to address childhood obesity; recommended additional classifications for reporting data in SA's 2021 Report Card namely, 'watching brief' and 'unable to determine' and led the development of a third policy brief regarding data gaps
- met nine times on 8 July, 11 August and 15 September 2021 and 1 February, 4 March, 14 April, 11 May and 9 June 2022.

The Engagement Reference Group is chaired by Mr Graham Jaeschke and the membership includes Mr Paul Di Iulio. This group:

- has guided communication with State authorities and engagement by State authorities with the framework and parliamentary committees; and led the testing of a guidance document *Applying South Australia's Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People* to assist State authorities to embed the framework
- met four times on 22 July and 16 November 2021 and on 13 April and 2 June 2022.

## Finance

The Council is funded by the South Australian Government and is reported as an administered item in the Department's 2021-22 financial statements. The Council's financial reports are also consolidated into, and audited through, the Department.

Council members receive a modest sitting fee of \$206 for attending a meeting of two to four hours' duration. This fee includes reading time and members do not receive reimbursement of parking or a mileage allocation. Council members do not receive a fee or any reimbursement for attending sub-committee meetings of the Council.

The Council's budget for the 2021-22 financial year was \$392 000 and the table below shows the final operating results for the Council in 2021-22.

**Table 3 Financial summary of expenditure for 2021-22 preliminary**

Financial summary of expenditure from 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022			
Item	Actual	Budget	Variation
Salaries and wages	\$369,076	\$399,000	\$29,924
Goods and services	\$61,673	\$60,000	\$-1,673
<b>Total Operating Result</b>	<b>\$430,749</b>	<b>\$459,000</b>	<b>\$28,251</b>

## **Secretariat**

The Council is funded for a small secretariat of only 2.8 FTE which constrains the Council's ability to fulfil its statutory functions in connection with the whole-of-state, whole-of-government legislated framework. In 2021-22, the Council's staffing constraints were compounded by staff turnover and prolonged absences.

In 2021-22, the Council obtained approval to convert goods and services funding to recruit a short-term, part-time (ASO5, 0.5 FTE) Engagement and Communications Officer to connect with local government staff and with children and young people. The position was vacant from 22 July 2021. Ms Lucy Russell Byrne held this position for six months from 2 November 2021 to May 2022 and led the work of establishing the Charter Ambassador Program.

Mr Adrian Ong, Senior Statistician, commenced in the secretariat on 8 June 2021, and the Council has benefited significantly from his expertise and proactive innovation during the reporting period. Following a review of data processing workflows, Mr Ong implemented a new procedure which uses programmable data scripts to automate workflow so that data extraction and transformation processes can be easily replicated and repeated for each reporting cycle.

Since the inaugural framework was gazetted and took effect in November 2019, the Council has published two report cards that show how children and young people under 18 years are faring in terms of their health, safety, wellbeing, education and preparedness for adulthood at a population-level.

Having also evaluated the data processes for the Council's reporting, Mr Ong developed an approach where data can be extracted, cleansed and transformed more accurately and efficiently before being fed into Council publications.

This new data design ensures that historical data remains appropriately referenced and archived, and future data can be collated in a more timely and accurate fashion.



The key streamlining steps undertaken include:

- Serialising and cataloguing the framework measures. Each measure now has its own dedicated space to store the original datasets (historical and most recent) as well as a definition
- Data scripts to automate data extraction and preparation processes including for the process of extracting web-based data tables
- Organising cleansed and transformed data through data scripts before piping the data into publications such as the report card under the framework and a newly developed data reporting tool.

These automated data workflows reduce errors associated with manual data entry and is efficient and cost effective. Using programmable data scripts means data extraction and transformation processes can be repeated and replicated with ease.

## Annex 1 Glossary

Act	<i>Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Act 2016</i>
AEDC	Australian Early Development Census
CACYP	Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People
CAP	Charter Ambassador Program
CCYP	Commissioner for Children and Young People
CDSIRC	Child Death and Serious Injury Review Committee
Charter	Charter for Children and Young People
Council	Child Development Council
Department	Department for Education
Framework	Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People
FTE	Full-time equivalent
GCYP	Guardian for Children and Young People
LGA	Local Government Association
Minister	Minister for Education (July 2021 to March 2022) Minister for Education, Training and Skills (from March 2022)
SA	South Australia
SA's 2021 Report Card (or report card)	<i>How are they faring? South Australia's 2021 Report Card for children and young people</i>
TAFE SA	Technical and Further Education South Australia
UniSA	University of South Australia
WEC	Wellbeing and Engagement Collection
YACSA	Youth Affairs Council of South Australia

## Annex 2 Legislation

### *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Act 2016*

#### **Part 6, Division 1 – Child Development Council**

##### **55 – Functions and powers of Council**

- (1) The primary function of the Council is to prepare and maintain the *Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People*.
- (2) The Council has the following additional functions:
  - (a) to advise and report to the Government on the effectiveness of the Outcomes Framework in –
    - (i) keeping children and young people safe from harm; and
    - (ii) ensuring that children and young people are cared for in a way that allows them to realise their potential; and
    - (iii) improving the physical and mental health, and the emotional wellbeing, of children and young people; and
    - (iv) improving the participation of children and young people in educational and vocational training; and
    - (v) improving the participation of children and young people in sporting, creative, cultural and other recreational activities; and
    - (vi) ensuring that children and young people are properly prepared for taking their position in society as responsible citizens; and
    - (vii) maintaining the cultural identity of children and young people;
  - (b) to promote the implementation of the Outcomes Framework in respect of matters affecting children and young people under the laws of the State;
  - (c) such other functions as may be assigned to the Council under this or any other Act or by the Minister.
- (3) In performing the functions under this section, the Council should, as far as is reasonably practicable, seek to work collaboratively with –
  - (a) State authorities and Commonwealth agencies that have functions that are relevant to those of the Council; and
  - (b) relevant industry, professional and community groups and organisations.
- (4) Subject to this Act, the Council has such powers as may be necessary or expedient for the performance of the Council's functions.

#### **Part 6, Division 2 – Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People**

##### **57 – Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People**

- (1) There is to be an *Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People*.
- (2) Without limiting any other matter that may be included in the Outcomes Framework, the Outcomes Framework must include a Charter for Children and Young People.
- (3) The Outcomes Framework is to be prepared by the Child Development Council.
- (4) The Council must, in preparing the Outcomes Framework –

- (a) act in accordance with any instructions of the Minister; and
  - (b) consult with –
    - (i) the CCYP and the CACYP; and
    - (ii) any other person or body prescribed by the regulations, and may consult with any other person or body that the Council thinks appropriate; and
  - (c) engage children and young people, and their parents, carers and families; and
  - (d) ensure an appropriate focus on the needs of priority population groups; and
  - (e) develop performance indicators against which progress in relation to the development and wellbeing of children and young people in the State can be tracked over time.
- (5) The regulations may make further provisions with regard to the Outcomes Framework including, without limiting the generality of this subsection, provisions relating to –
- (a) how the Outcomes Framework is to be prepared; and
  - (b) the form of the Outcomes Framework and any variation of the Outcomes Framework; and
  - (c) the kinds of information to be included in the Outcomes Framework; and
  - (d) consultation requirements relating to the Outcomes Framework; and
  - (e) consideration and approval of the Outcomes Framework by the Minister; and
  - (f) requirements as to the ongoing review of the Outcomes Framework; and
  - (g) variation or substitution of the Outcomes Framework, including provisions limiting a matter referred to in a preceding paragraph.
- (6) The Outcomes Framework, and any variation or substitution of the Outcomes Framework, has effect from the time it is approved by the Minister.
- (7) The Council must, on the Outcomes Framework or a variation of the Outcomes Framework being approved by the Minister –
- (a) cause the Outcomes Framework or variation to be published in the Gazette; and
  - (b) cause the Outcomes Framework to be published on a website determined by the Minister.

### *Children and Young People (Oversight and Advocacy Bodies) Regulations 2017*

#### **12—Outcomes Framework for Children and Young People**

- (1) For the purposes of section 57(4)(b)(ii) of the Act, the following persons and bodies are prescribed:
- (a) the Minister to whom the administration of the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017 is committed;
  - (b) the Department (within the meaning of the Children and Young People (Safety) Act 2017);
  - (c) the Minister to whom the administration of the Education Act 1972 is committed;
  - (d) the administrative unit of the Public Service assisting a Minister with the administration of the Education Act 1972;
  - (e) the Minister to whom the administration of the Health Care Act 2008 is committed;
  - (f) the administrative unit of the Public Service assisting a Minister with the administration of the Health Care Act 2008;
  - (g) the Guardian for Children and Young People.

- (2) Pursuant to section 57(5) of the Act, the Outcomes Framework must contain provisions of the following kinds:
  - (a) provisions designed to provide a common basis across the whole of government for creating strategies, setting objectives or developing or implementing policies related to or affecting children and young people;
  - (b) provisions addressing the needs of children and young people in each of the following areas:
    - (i) health;
    - (ii) safety;
    - (iii) wellbeing;
    - (iv) education;
    - (v) preparedness for adulthood;
  - (c) provisions requiring cooperation and, where appropriate, collaboration between State authorities and other persons or bodies performing functions and duties that relate to or affect children and young people;
  - (d) provisions designed to improve outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people in each of the areas referred to in paragraph (b), as well as any other areas particularly affecting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and young people;
  - (e) provisions designed to enable outcomes for children and young people in the State to be measured and reported on (including provisions requiring the collection of specified data relating to performance indicators referred to in section 57(4)(e) of the Act), and may contain such other provisions as the Council or Minister thinks fit.
- (3) Pursuant to section 57(5) of the Act, the Council must (in addition to the consultation required under section 57(4)(b) of the Act) undertake additional consultation in respect of the preparation of the Outcomes Framework as follows:
  - (a) consultation with such persons or bodies as may be specified by the Minister;
  - (b) such other consultation (including, without limiting the generality of this paragraph, community consultation) as may be required by the Minister.
- (4) Pursuant to section 57(5) of the Act, the Child Development Council may, with the approval of the Minister, vary or substitute the Outcomes Framework.
- (5) Subject to this regulation, in preparing a variation or substitution of the Outcomes Framework, the Council must undertake the following consultation:
  - (a) in the case of a variation determined by the Minister to be a minor variation—
    - (i) consultation with the Commissioner; and
    - (ii) such other consultation as may be required by the Minister;
  - (b) in any other case—the consultation required by section 57(4)(b) of the Act and subregulation (3) in the preparation of the Outcomes Framework.
- (6) Pursuant to section 57(5) of the Act, the Child Development Council must review the Outcomes Framework at least once in each 3 year period.

## Annex 3 Council member biographies

### Presiding Member and Deputy Presiding Member

#### ***Dr Anne Glover AO (Presiding Member)***

For the past twenty years, Anne has worked in the Asia Pacific region, designing, implementing and evaluating international development programs. Her work has focused on supporting partner countries to progress their development goals and reform agendas, while also providing policy and technical advice in early childhood and primary education, community and stakeholder engagement, and system performance monitoring. Anne's professional interest is early childhood, and she has a long involvement in the early childhood care and education sector, as a practitioner, academic and researcher.

#### ***Mr Graham Jaeschke (Deputy Presiding Member)***

Graham joined The Smith Family as General Manager of South Australia in June 2008 after working in State and Federal politics for 15 years. In November 2011, he was also appointed as the General Manager for Northern Territory. Graham's work involves helping those affected by disadvantage to get the most out of their education, assisting them to create better futures for themselves. The Smith Family supports students in over 80 partner schools and provides program support to over 16,000 disadvantaged students in South Australia and the Northern Territory. Graham also manages the Indigenous Youth Leadership Program for the organisation. He was previously Co-Chair of Anti Poverty Week in South Australia and a former member of both the Australian Early Development Index Coordinating Committee and the Children's Week Committee. Graham has a BA (Hons) in politics and geography from Flinders University.

### Council members (in alphabetical order by last name)

#### ***Mr Phillip Allen***

Phil is a Palawa man, of clan group Pore dareme and his country is Lutrawita. In 1991, he moved from Tasmania with his family to take up employment at the University of Adelaide. He has largely been involved in working with Aboriginal families and in particular, the young people in those families. Phil has for many years, across a range of positions, endeavoured to re-introduce 'culture' back into young people's lives; history has depleted that knowledge, and in recent years he has brought to the 21st century the ancient ideas of 'sitting and doing your learning' through the use of all the arts. This method of learning is ancient, did work and does work. For Phil it is a natural fit as he is a semi-professional musician and artist and so combining his knowledge in these areas adding to his cultural knowledge, has resulted in outstanding outcomes.

**Professor Sally Brinkman**

Sally is a paediatric epidemiologist with the majority of her research focusing on societies' impact on child development. Sally is the Head of Child Health, Development and Education at the Telethon Kids Institute and Director of the Fraser Mustard Centre, an innovative initiative of the Telethon Kids Institute in partnership with the Department for Education in South Australia, to enhance research translation into policy and practice. Sally is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Adelaide. Sally has over 200 publications covering topics such as child development, early education, child physical activity and nutrition, poverty, inequality, and teenage pregnancy prevention. Internationally, Sally consults to various Governments and has active research projects in Lower and Middle Income Countries (including Laos, Tonga, Tuvalu, Samoa, Indonesia, Kiribati and Peru) working with donor organisations (World Bank, UNESCO and UNICEF) to monitor and evaluate policy and programs to enhance child health and development. She has a commitment to practical, pragmatic and translatable research.

**Associate Professor Yvonne Clark**

Yvonne is a Kokatha/Wirangu woman from South Australia and a clinically endorsed psychologist with her PhD. Yvonne has extensive experience as a psychologist, academic and researcher within government, private, community controlled, university and institutional sectors. As a clinician she has worked mainly with children, adolescents and their families in various contexts. Yvonne is currently Associate Research Professor, University of South Australia (UniSA). This is a joint appointment between the South Australian Health and Medical Research Institute (SAHMRI) and UniSA within the discipline of Psychology. Yvonne commenced in this 80% research-focused role in late March 2022. Her previous role of Senior Research Fellow with SAHMRI was as chief investigator on a research project to explore and promote healing and recovery among Aboriginal children, young people and parents who have experienced intergenerational trauma and lateral violence.

**Mr Richard Coates**

Richard was admitted to legal practice in 1998 and has worked at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Spencer Gulf Community Legal Service, Legal Services Commission and Aboriginal Legal Rights Movement prior to going to the Bar in 2008. He practices mainly in criminal and administrative law and has a wealth of experience representing Aboriginal, refugee, and socially disadvantaged people. He was counsel in the first ever Supreme Court Aboriginal Sentencing conference and continues a keen interest in advocating issues relating to Aboriginal people within the criminal justice system in particular.

***Ms Helen Connolly***

Helen became South Australia's inaugural Commissioner for Children and Young People in April 2017. Helen has extensive experience in executive leadership roles in a range of not-for-profit organisations. Prior to taking the role as Commissioner, Helen was the Executive Director of Australian Red Cross in South Australia and Chair of the South Australian Council of Social Service Inc (SACOSS). Helen is a long-time advocate for building respectful partnerships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, communities and organisations and has established networks and relationships through her position as a Co-Chair of Reconciliation SA. Throughout her career, Helen has taken an active advocacy role on the main policy issues that impact on the wellbeing of Australian families and children, with a strong focus on early intervention and prevention strategies.

***Mr Paul Di Iulio***

Paul has been employed by the Campbelltown City Council for over 31 years initially starting as Assistant Engineer in 1991, working his way through the ranks to the position of General Manager, Infrastructure Services and then in 2007 being appointed to the position of Chief Executive Officer. His career is evidence of his ambition to make a professional contribution to the community which has been a significant part of his life. Paul is a qualified Civil Engineer, and holds post graduate qualifications including Graduate Diploma, Municipal Engineering, Diploma of Management and is a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. The extensive skills and experience he has gained through working in Local Government has enabled him to actively participate in a number of external Board positions. He is currently a Director, Swan Gourmet Catering; President, Norwood Football Club; Deputy Chair, East Waste; Board member, Service to Youth Council; and Board Member, Adelaide Cemeteries Authority. He formally held roles as Australasian President, Institute of Public Works Engineering; National Chair, Foundation of the Advancement of Municipal Engineers; Director, Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government; Board member, Rostrevor College and Board member, Australia Day Council (SA). Paul is married with 3 children, all attending University. In his spare time he enjoys watching all sports, especially football and cricket.

***Ms April Lawrie***

April was appointed as South Australia's inaugural Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People in October 2018. April is a proud Aboriginal woman who heralds from the Mirning and Kokatha peoples from the Far West Coast of South Australia. April holds a social work degree which led to an early career in front line child protection work and Aboriginal foster care services. April moved into management roles of Aboriginal social welfare policy and programs and later took on a range of executive leadership roles in South Australian Government agencies including Aboriginal Justice Director in the Attorney General's Department, SA Health Aboriginal Health Branch Director and Director of Aboriginal Education. Over the last 30 years, April has contributed to the formation of policy at the State and National level, and excellence in service innovation and community development with regard to Aboriginal health, education, child and family services, foster care services, justice services, across the metropolitan and regional areas, including rural/remote. April



strongly believes that we need to bring the voices of Aboriginal children and young people and their communities into how we are designing and delivering health, education, justice and child protection systems and services so that Aboriginal children and young people can flourish with their right to family and culture upheld. She believes that to improve services and outcomes, we need to recognise the solutions coming from our Aboriginal communities and families and act upon them in a meaningful way.

***Ms Kelly Ryan***

Kelly is presently a member of the South Australian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal. Kelly is also undertaking a PhD in human rights and child protection law under an Australian Postgraduate Award at the University of South Australia. Prior to her appointment to the South Australian Civil and Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Kelly sat on a number of boards in the child protection and welfare sector, including the South Australian Council for the Care of Children. Kelly has many years' experience in commercial and civil litigation, and public health law. She has worked at some of the Nation's leading law firms, and prior to her admission she was associate to the then honourable Justice Bruce Lander. Kelly was a registered nurse before completing her law degree at Flinders University, working principally in emergency medicine, including paediatric emergency.

***Professor Barbara Spears***

Barbara is Adjunct Professor of Education and Social Development at the University of South Australia: Education Futures. She is recognised nationally and internationally for work on youth voice, cyber/bullying, sexting, mental health, wellbeing, and the role of technology in young people's social relationships. With a particular interest in pre-service teacher education and the translation of research to policy and practice, Barbara has led the following major projects: review of the National Safe Schools Framework (the overarching wellbeing policy framework for all Australian schools); A Public Health Approach to Sexting; Youth Exposure to and Management of Cyber-Bullying Incidents in Australia; and the Safe and Well Online Study: Young and Well Co-operative Research Centre, a collaboration between end-users and industry partners. She is a member of the Centre for Research in Educational and Social Inclusion.

***Ms Vivienne St John Robb***

Vivienne has over 34 years' experience related to the care and education of young children and managing a number of long day care services in Victoria and South Australia as well as part of the co-ordination team of a Family Day Care Scheme, TAFE lecturer and as a private consultant. Vivienne has a particular interest in positive psychology, increasing personal resilience and wellbeing and the role of positive interventions in the early years to support relationship based care in building strong attachments, resilience and healthy brain development for infants and toddlers in out of home care.

***Ms Patricia Walton***

Tricia was appointed Chief Executive of Carclew in 2008, and oversees a state-wide multi-arts program for children, young people and early career artists. Tricia has a background of 30 years in community arts and cultural development, regional arts, youth arts, adult education and small publishing ventures. She is experienced in strategic leadership, not-for-profit governance, organisational change and policy development. Past roles include director of the regional arts program at Country Arts SA and manager of Kurruru Aboriginal Youth Performing Arts. Tricia chairs A>R>T, a group of artists and educators supporting arts rich learning. She is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and the South Australian Governor's Leadership Foundation and has recently stepped down as a non-executive director of the Australian Dance Theatre.

***Ms Joanne Wickes***

Jo joined the National Disability Insurance Agency in January 2015 and is currently in the role of Branch Manager, Compensation Recoveries. Over the past three years she has been active in the development and implementation of the NDIS in positions of National Relationship Manager - SA, NT, WA and Queensland, Branch Manager Communications, Regional Manager SA and far west NSW, and Director Engagement and Funding. Prior to this Jo worked for The Body Shop, personal care retailers in Australia and the UK and then took on the role of Manager with The Big Issue street paper, establishing it in South Australia and across other Australian states. Jo has also been involved in the community sector in senior positions with Anglicare SA, Oxfam Australia Trading and Time for Kids and in voluntary roles with Homelessness SA and Housing Legal Clinic; developing programs and services relating to homelessness, family crisis support, emergency relief, social justice, social enterprise, project start-up and alternative care plus media, marketing and communications.

***Dr Neil Wigg PSM***

Neil is a Paediatrician with clinical specialisation in developmental disability. He has held Executive Management positions in community child health services in South Australia (1983-98) and Queensland (1998-2013). Neil has retired from clinical practice and has served as a member of the Advisory Council of the Women's and Children's Health Network in SA. Neil has a Master of Policy and Administration and has held academic appointments at Universities in Adelaide and Brisbane. In his involvement with the Royal Australasian College of Physicians he contributed professional leadership and education at State, national and international levels. Neil's major research contribution was in the Port Pirie Lead Cohort Study, examining the impact of environmental lead exposure on children's health and development. His key professional interests include child health, population health, child development, and service and policy evaluation.