

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Working with Children Checks (2015)	1	State and territory governments should:	1.a	within 12 months of the publication of this report, amend their WWCC laws to implement the standards identified in ths report.	Accept In Principle
			1.b	once the standards are implemented, obtain agreement from the Council of Australian Governments (COAG), or a relevant ministerial council, before deviating from or alerting the standards in this report, adopting changes across all jurisdictions.	
			1.c	within 18 months from the publication of this report, amend their WWCC laws to enable clearances from other jurisdictions to be recognised and accepted.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	2	The South Australian Government should, within 12 months of the publication of this report, replace its criminal history assessments with a WWCC scheme that incorporates the standards set out in this report.			Noted
Working with Children Checks (2015)	3	The Commonwealth Government should, within 12 months of the publication of this report:	3a(i)	facilitate a national model for WWCCs by establishing a centralised database, operated by CrimTrac, that is readily accessible to all jurisdictions to record WWCC decisions;	Accept In Principle
			3a(ii)	facilitate a national model for WWCCs by together with state and territory governments, identifying consistent terminology to capture key WWCC decisions (for example, refusal, cancellation, suspension and grant) for recording into the centralised database;	
			3a(iii)	facilitate a national model for WWCCs by enhancing CrimTrac's capacity to continuously monitor WWCC cardholders' national criminal history records.	
			3b	explore avenues to make international records more accessible for the purposes of WWCCs.	
			3c	identify and require all Commonwealth Government personnel, including contractors, undertaking child-related work, as defined by the child-related work standards set out in this report, to obtain WWCCs.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	4	The Commonwealth, state and territory governments should, within 12 months of the publication of this report:	4a	agree on a set of standards or guidelines to enhance the accurate and timely recording of information by State and territory police into CrimTrac's system,	Accept In Principle
			4b	review information they have agreed to exchange under the National Exchange of Criminal History Information for People Working with Children (ECHIPWC), and establish a set of definitions for the key terms used to describe the different types of criminal history records so they are consistent across the jurisdictions (these key terms include pending charges, non-conviction charges and information about the circumstances of an offence),	
			4c	take immediate action to record into CrimTrac's system historical criminal records that are in paper form or on microfilm and which are not currently identified by CrimTrac's initial database search.	
			4d	once these historical criminal history records are entered into CrimTrac's system by all jurisdictions, check all WWCC cardholders against them through the expanded continuous monitoring process.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	5	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to incorporate a consistent and simplified definition of child-related work, in line with the definition below.			Accept In Principle
Working with Children Checks (2015)	6	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to provide that work must involve contact between an adult and one or more children to qualify as child-related work.			Accept
Working with Children Checks (2015)	7	State and territory governments should:	7a	amend their WWCC laws to provide that the phrase 'contact with children' refers to physical contact, face-to-face contact, oral communication, written communication or electronic communication.	Accept In Principle
			7b	through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, agree on standard definitions for each kind of contact and amend their WWCC laws to incorporate those definitions.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	8	State and territory governments should:	8a	amend their WWCC laws to provide that contact with children must be a usual part of, and more than incidental to, the child-related work.	Accept In Principle
			8b	through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, agree on standard definitions for the phrases 'usual part of work' and 'more than incidental to the work', and amend their WWCC laws to incorporate those definitions.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	9	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to specify that it is irrelevant whether the contact with children is supervised or unsupervised.			Accept In Principle
Working with Children Checks (2015)	10	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to provide that a person is engaged in child-related work if they are engaged in the work in any capacity and whether or not for reward.			Accept
Working with Children Checks (2015)	11	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to provide that work that is undertaken under an arrangement for a personal or domestic purpose is not child-related, even if it would otherwise be so considered.			Accept
Working with Children Checks (2015)	12	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to:	12ai	define the following as child-related work: accommodation and residential services for children, including overnight excursions or stays;	Accept In Principle
			12aii	define the following as child-related work: activities or services provided by religious leaders, officers or personnel of religious organisations;	
			12aiii	define the following as child-related work: childcare or minding service;	
			12aiv	define the following as child-related work: child protection services, including out of home care (OOHC);	
			12av	define the following as child-related work: clubs and associations with a significant membership of, or involvement by, children;	
			12avi	define the following as child-related work: coaching or tuition services for children;	

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			12avii	define the following as child-related work: commercial services for children, including entertainment or party services, gym or play facilities, photography services, and talent or beauty competitions;	
			12aviii	define the following as child-related work: disability services for children;	
			12aix	define the following as child-related work: education services for children;	
			12ax	define the following as child-related work: health services for children;	
			12axi	define the following as child-related work: justice and detention services for children, including immigration detention facilities where children are regularly detained;	
			12axii	define the following as child-related work: transport services for children, including school crossing services;	
			12axiii	define the following as child-related work: Other work or roles that involve contact with children that is a usual part of, and more than incidental to, the work or roles.	
			12b	Require WWCCs for adults residing in the homes of authorised carers of children.	
			12c	Remove all other remaining categories of work or roles.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	13	State and territory governments, through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, should agree on standard definitions for each category of child-related work and amend their WWCC laws to incorporate those definitions.			Accept In Principle
Working with Children Checks (2015)	14	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to:	14ai	exempt: children under 18 years of age, regardless of their employment status;	Accept In Principle
			14aii	exempt: employers and supervisors of children in a workplace, unless the work is child-related;	
			14aiii	exempt: people who engage in child-related work for seven days or fewer in a calendar year, except in respect of overnight excursions or stays;	
			14aiv	exempt: people who engage in child-related work in the same capacity as the child;	
			14av	exempt: police officers, including members of the Australian Federal Police;	
			14avi	exempt: parents or guardians who volunteer for services or activities that are usually provided to their children, in respect of that activity, except in respect of: - overnight excursions or stays; and - providing services to children with disabilities, where the services involve close, personal contact with those children	
			14b	remove all other exemptions and exclusions.	
			14c	prohibit people who have been denied a WWCC, and subsequently not granted one, from relying on any exemption.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	15	State and territory governments, through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, should agree on standard definitions for each exemption category and amend their WWCC laws to incorporate those definitions.			Accept In Principle
Working with Children Checks (2015)	16	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to incorporate a consistent and simplified list of offences, including:	16a	engaging in child-related work without holding, or having applied for, a WWCC;	Accept In Principle
			16b	engaging a person in child-related work without them holding, or having applied for, a WWCC;	
			16c	providing false or misleading information in connection with a WWCC application;	
			16d	applicants and/or WWCC cardholders failing to notify screening agencies of relevant changes in circumstances;	
			16e	unauthorised disclosure of information gathered during the course of a WWCC.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	17	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to include a standard definition of criminal history, for WWCC purposes, for all offences, irrespective of whether or not they concern the person's history as an adult or a child and/or relate to offences outside Australia, comprised of:	17a	Convictions, whether or not spent.	Accept
			17b	Findings of guilt that did not result in a conviction being recorded.	
			17ci	Charges, regardless of status or outcome, including: pending charges – that is, charges laid but not finalised;	
			17cii	Charges, regardless of status or outcome, including: charges disposed of by a court, or otherwise, other than by way of conviction (for example, withdrawn, set aside or dismissed);	
			17ciii	Charges, regardless of status or outcome, including: charges that led to acquittals or convictions that were quashed or otherwise over-turned on appeal.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	18	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to require police services to provide screening agencies with records that meet the definition of criminal history records for WWCC purposes and any other available information relating to the circumstances of such offences.			Accept
Working with Children Checks (2015)	19	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to:	19a	require that relevant disciplinary and/or misconduct information is checked for all WWCC applicants.	Accept In Principle

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			19b	include a standard definition of disciplinary and/or misconduct information that encompasses disciplinary action and/or findings of misconduct where the conduct was against, or involved, a child, irrespective of whether this information arises from reportable conduct schemes or other systems or bodies responsible for disciplinary or misconduct proceedings.	
			19c	require the bodies responsible for the relevant disciplinary and/or misconduct information to notify their respective screening agencies of relevant disciplinary and/or misconduct information that meets the definition.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	20	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to respond to records in the same way, specifically that:	20a	the absence of any relevant criminal history, disciplinary or misconduct information in an applicant's history leads to an automatic grant of a WWCC.	Accept In Principle
			20bi	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: murder of a child;	
			20bii	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: manslaughter of a child;	
			20biii	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: indecent assault of a child;	
			20biv	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: child pornography-related offences;	
			20bv	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: incest where the victim was a child;	
			20bvi	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: abduction or kidnapping of a child;	
			20bvii	any conviction and/or pending charge in an applicant's criminal history for the following categories of offence leads to an automatic WWCC refusal, provided the applicant was at least 18 years old at the time of the offence: animal-related sexual offences;	
			20c	all other relevant criminal, disciplinary or misconduct information should trigger an assessment of the person's suitability for a WWCC (consistent with the risk assessment factors set out below).	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	21	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to specify that relevant criminal records for the purposes of recommendation 20(c) include but are not limited to the following:	21a	juvenile records and/or non-conviction charges for the offence categories specified in recommendation 20(b).	Accept In Principle
			21b	sexual offences, regardless of whether the victim was a child and including offences not already covered in recommendation 20(b).	
			21c	violent offences, including assaults, arson and other fire-related offences, regardless of whether the victim was a child and including offences not already covered in recommendation 20(b).	
			21d	child welfare offences.	
			21e	offences involving cruelty to animals.	
			21f	drug offences.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	22	The Commonwealth Government, through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, should take a lead role in identifying the specific criminal offences that fall within the categories specified in recommendations 20(b) and 21.			Further Consideration
Working with Children Checks (2015)	23	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to specify that the criteria for assessing risks to children include:	23a	the nature, gravity and circumstances of the offence and/or misconduct, and how this is relevant to children or child-related work.	Accept In Principle
			23b	the length of time that has passed since the offence and/or misconduct occurred.	
			23c	the age of the child.	
			23d	the age difference between the person and the child.	
			23e	the person's criminal and/or disciplinary history, including whether there is a pattern of concerning conduct.	
			23f	all other relevant circumstances in respect of their history and the impact on their suitability to be engaged in child-related work.	
Working with Children Checks (2015)	24	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to expressly provide that, in weighing up the risk assessment criteria, the paramount consideration must always be the best interests of children, having regard to their safety and protection.			Accept

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SIX-MONTH RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

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<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	25	State and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to permit WWCC applicants to begin child-related work before the outcome of their application is determined, provided the safeguards listed below are introduced.	25a	applicants must submit a WWCC application to the appropriate screening agency before beginning child-related work and not withdraw the application while engaging in child-related work.	Accept In Principle
			25b	applicants must provide a WWCC application receipt to their employers before beginning child-related work.	
			25c	employers must cite application receipts, record application numbers and verify applications with the relevant screening agency.	
			25d	there must be capacity to impose interim bars on applicants where records are identified that may indicate a risk and require further assessment.	
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	26	State and territory governments that do not have an online WWCC processing system should establish one.			Accept
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	27	State and territory governments should process WWCC applications within five working days, and no longer than 21 working days for more complex cases.			Further Consideration
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	28	All state and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to specify that:	28a	WWCC decisions are based on the circumstances of the individual and are detached from the employer the person is seeking to work for, or the role or organisation the person is seeking to work in.	Accept
			28b	the outcome of a WWCC is either that a clearance is issued or it is not; there should be no conditional or different types of clearances.	
			28c	volunteers and employees are issued with the same type of clearance.	
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	29	Notwithstanding the following, any person may bring an appeal in which they allege that offences have been mistakenly recorded as applying to that person: All state and territory governments should ensure that any person the subject of an adverse WWCC decision can appeal to a body independent of the WWCC screening agency, but within the same jurisdiction, for a review of the decision, except persons who have been convicted of one of the following categories of offences: murder of a child; indecent or sexual assault of a child; child pornography-related offences; and incest where the victim was a child; and:	29a	received a sentence of full time custody for the conviction, such persons being permanently excluded from an appeal; or	Further Consideration
			29b	by virtue of that conviction, the person is subject to an order that imposes any control on the person's conduct or movement, or excludes the person from working with children, such persons being excluded from an appeal for the duration of that order.	
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	30	Subject to the implementation of the standards set out in this report, all state and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to enable WWCCs from other jurisdictions to be recognised and accepted.			Further Consideration
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	31	Subject to the commencement of continuous monitoring of national criminal history records, state and territory governments should amend their WWCC laws to specify that:	31a	WWCCs are valid for five years.	Accept In Principle
			31b	employers and WWCC cardholders engaged in child-related work must inform the screening agency when a person commences or ceases being engaged in specific child-related work.	
			31c	screening agencies are required to notify a person's employer of any change in the person's WWCC status.	
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	32	All state and territory governments should grant screening agencies, or another suitable regulatory body, the statutory power to monitor compliance with WWCC laws.			Accept
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	33	All state and territory governments should ensure their WWCC laws include powers to compel the production of relevant information for the purposes of compliance monitoring.			Accept
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	34	The Commonwealth, state and territory governments should:	34a	through COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, adopt the standards and set a timeframe within which all jurisdictions must report back to COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, on implementation.	Accept In Principle
			34b	establish a process whereby changes to the standards or to state and territory schemes need to be agreed to by COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, and must be adopted across all jurisdictions.	
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	35	The Commonwealth, state and territory governments should provide an annual report to COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, for three years following the publication of this report, to be tabled in the parliaments of all nine jurisdictions, detailing their progress in implementing the recommendations in this report and achieving a nationally consistent approach to WWCCs.			Accept In Principle
<i>Working with Children Checks</i> (2015)	36	COAG, or a relevant ministerial council, should ensure a review is made after three years of the publication of this report, of the state and territory governments' progress in achieving consistency across the WWCC schemes, with a view to assessing whether they have implemented the Royal Commission's recommendations.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	1	A process for redress must provide equal access and equal treatment for survivors – regardless of the location, operator, type, continued existence or assets of the institution in which they were abused – if it is to be regarded by survivors as being capable of delivering justice.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	2	Appropriate redress for survivors should include the elements of: direct personal response; counselling and psychological care; and monetary payments.			Accept

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	3	Funders or providers of existing support services should maintain their current resourcing for existing support services, without reducing or diverting resources in response to the recommendations on redress and civil litigation.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	4	Any institution or redress scheme that offers or provides any element of redress should do so in accordance with the following principles:	4a	Redress should be survivor focused.	Accept
			4b	There should be a ‘no wrong door’ approach for survivors in gaining access to redress.	
			4c	All redress should be offered, assessed and provided with appropriate regard to what is known about the nature and impact of child sexual abuse – and institutional child sexual abuse in particular – and to the cultural needs of survivors.	
			4d	All redress should be offered, assessed and provided with appropriate regard to the needs of particularly vulnerable survivors.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	5	Institutions should offer and provide a direct personal response to survivors in accordance with the following principles:	5a	Re-engagement between a survivor and an institution should only occur if, and to the extent that, a survivor desires it.	Accept In Principle
			5b	Institutions should make clear what they are willing to offer and provide by way of direct personal response to survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. Institutions should ensure that they are able to provide the direct personal response they offer to survivors.	
			5ci	At a minimum, all institutions should offer and provide on request by a survivor: an apology from the institution;	
			5cii	At a minimum, all institutions should offer and provide on request by a survivor: the opportunity to meet with a senior institutional representative and receive an acknowledgement of the abuse and its impact on them;	
			5ciii	At a minimum, all institutions should offer and provide on request by a survivor: an assurance or undertaking from the institution that it has taken, or will take, steps to protect against further abuse of children in that institution.	
			5d	In offering direct personal responses, institutions should try to be responsive to survivors’ needs.	
			5e	Institutions that already offer a broader range of direct personal responses to survivors and others should consider continuing to offer those forms of direct personal response.	
			5f	Direct personal responses should be delivered by people who have received some training about the nature and impact of child sexual abuse and the needs of survivors, including cultural awareness and sensitivity training where relevant.	
			5g	Institutions should welcome feedback from survivors about the direct personal response they offer and provide.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	6	Those who operate a redress scheme should offer to facilitate the provision of a written apology, a written acknowledgement and/or a written assurance of steps taken to protect against further abuse for survivors who seek these forms of direct personal response but who do not wish to have any further contact with the institution.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	7	Those who operate a redress scheme should facilitate the provision of these forms of direct personal response by conveying survivors’ requests for these forms of direct personal response to the relevant institution.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	8	Institutions should accept a survivor’s choice of intermediary or representative to engage with the institution on behalf of the survivor, or with the survivor as a support person, in seeking or obtaining a direct personal response.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	9	Counselling and psychological care should be supported through redress in accordance with the following principles:	9a	Counselling and psychological care should be available throughout a survivor’s life.	Accept In Principle
			9b	Counselling and psychological care should be available on an episodic basis.	
			9c	Survivors should be allowed flexibility and choice in relation to counselling and psychological care.	
			9d	There should be no fixed limits on the counselling and psychological care provided to a survivor.	
			9e	Without limiting survivor choice, counselling and psychological care should be provided by practitioners with appropriate capabilities to work with clients with complex trauma.	
			9f	Treating practitioners should be required to conduct ongoing assessment and review to ensure treatment is necessary and effective. If those who fund counselling and psychological care through redress have concerns about services provided by a particular practitioner, they should negotiate a process of external review with that practitioner and the survivor. Any process of assessment and review should be designed to ensure it causes no harm to the survivor.	
			9g	Counselling and psychological care should be provided to a survivor’s family members if necessary for the survivor’s treatment.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	10	To facilitate the provision of counselling and psychological care by practitioners with appropriate capabilities to work with clients with complex trauma:	10a	the Australian Psychological Society should lead work to design and implement a public register to enable identification of practitioners with appropriate capabilities to work with clients with complex trauma.	Noted
			10b	the public register and the process to identify practitioners with appropriate capabilities to work with clients with complex trauma should be designed and implemented by a group that includes representatives of the Australian Psychological Society, the Australian Association of Social Workers, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists, Adults Surviving Child Abuse, a specialist sexual assault service, and a non-government organisation with a suitable understanding of the counselling and psychological care needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors.	

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			10c	the funding for counselling and psychological care under redress should be used to provide financial support for the public register if required.	
			10d	those who operate a redress scheme should ensure that information about the public register is made available to survivors who seek counselling and psychological care through the redress scheme.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	11	Those who administer support for counselling and psychological care through redress should ensure that counselling and psychological care are supported through redress in accordance with the following principles:	11a	Counselling and psychological care provided through redress should supplement, and not compete with, existing services.	Accept In Principle
			11b	Redress should provide funding for counselling and psychological care services and should not itself provide counselling and psychological care services.	
			11c	Redress should fund counselling and psychological care as needed by survivors rather than providing a lump sum payment to survivors for their future counselling and psychological care needs.* * The State Government acknowledges that a number of Commonwealth Redress Scheme elements, as designed by the Commonwealth, differ from the recommendations made by the Royal Commission; in particular, recommendations about the delivery of counselling and psychological care under the scheme.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	12	The Australian Government should remove any restrictions on the number of sessions of counselling and psychological care, whether in a particular period of time or generally, for which Medicare funding is available for survivors who are assessed as eligible for redress under a redress scheme.			Noted
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	13	The Australian Government should expand the range of counselling and psychological care services for which Medicare funding is available for survivors who are assessed as eligible for redress under a redress scheme to include longer-term interventions that are suitable for treating complex trauma, including through non-cognitive approaches.			Noted
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	14	The funding obtained through redress to ensure that survivors' needs for counselling and psychological care are met should be used to fund measures that help to meet those needs, including:	14ai	measures to improve survivors' access to Medicare by: funding case management style support to help survivors to understand what is available through the Better Access initiative and Access to Allied Psychological Services and why a GP diagnosis and referral is needed;	Accept In Principle
			14aaii	measures to improve survivors' access to Medicare by: maintaining a list of GPs who have mental health training, are familiar with the existence of the redress scheme and are willing to be recommended to survivors as providers of GP services, including referrals, in relation to counselling and psychological care; and	
			14aiiii	measures to improve survivors' access to Medicare by: supporting the establishment and use of the public register that provides details of practitioners who have been identified as having appropriate capabilities to treat survivors and who are registered practitioners for Medicare purposes.	
			14b	providing funding to supplement existing services provided by state-funded specialist services to increase the availability of services and reduce waiting times for survivors.	
			14ci	measures to address gaps in expertise and geographical and cultural gaps by: supporting the establishment and promotion of the public register that provides details of practitioners who have been identified as having appropriate capabilities to treat survivors;	
			14cii	measures to address gaps in expertise and geographical and cultural gaps by: funding training in cultural awareness for practitioners who have the capabilities to work with survivors but have not had the necessary training or experience in working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors;	
			14ciiii	measures to address gaps in expertise and geographical and cultural gaps by: funding rural and remote practitioners, or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander practitioners, to obtain appropriate capabilities to work with survivors; and	
			14civ	measures to address gaps in expertise and geographical and cultural gaps by: providing funding to facilitate regional and remote visits to assist in establishing therapeutic relationships; these could then be maintained largely by online or telephone counselling. There could be the potential to fund additional visits if required from time to time.	
			14d	providing funding for counselling and psychological care for survivors whose needs for counselling and psychological care cannot otherwise be met, including by paying reasonable gap fees charged by practitioners if survivors are unable to afford these fees.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	15	The purpose of a monetary payment under redress should be to provide a tangible recognition of the seriousness of the hurt and injury suffered by a survivor.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	16	Monetary payments should be assessed and determined by using the following matrix: Factor Value Severity of abuse 1–40 Impact of abuse 1–40 Additional elements 1–20.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	17	The 'Additional elements' factor should recognise the following elements:	17a	whether the applicant was in state care at the time of the abuse – that is, as a ward of the state or under the guardianship of the relevant Minister or government agency.	Accept In Principle
			17b	whether the applicant experienced other forms of abuse in conjunction with the sexual abuse – including physical, emotional or cultural abuse or neglect.	
			17c	whether the applicant was in a 'closed' institution or without the support of family or friends at the time of the abuse.	
			17d	whether the applicant was particularly vulnerable to abuse because of his or her disability.	

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Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	18	Those establishing a redress scheme should commission further work to develop this matrix and the detailed assessment procedures and guidelines required to implement it:	18a	in accordance with our discussion of the factors	Accept
			18b	taking into account expert advice in relation to institutional child sexual abuse, including child development, medical, psychological, social and legal perspectives	
			18c	with the benefit of actuarial advice in relation to the actuarial modelling on which the level and spread of monetary payments and funding expectations are based.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	19	The appropriate level of monetary payments under redress should be:	19a	a minimum payment of \$10,000.	Accept In Principle
			19b	a maximum payment of \$200,000 for the most severe case.* * The State Government acknowledges that a number of Commonwealth Redress Scheme elements, as designed by the Commonwealth, differ from the recommendations made by the Royal Commission; in particular, recommendations about the maximum payment under the scheme.	
			19c	an average payment of \$65,000.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	20	Monetary payments should be assessed and paid without any reduction to repay past Medicare expenses, which are to be repaid (if required) as part of the administration costs of a redress scheme.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	21	Consistent with our view that monetary payments under redress are not income for the purposes of social security, veterans' pensions or any other Commonwealth payments, those who operate a redress scheme should seek a ruling to this effect to provide certainty for survivors.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	22	Those who operate a redress scheme should give consideration to offering monetary payments by instalments at the option of eligible survivors, taking into account the likely demand for this option from survivors and the cost to the scheme of providing it.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	23	Survivors who have received monetary payments in the past – whether under other redress schemes, statutory victims of crime schemes, through civil litigation or otherwise – should be eligible to be assessed for a monetary payment under redress.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	24	The amount of the monetary payments that a survivor has already received for institutional child sexual abuse should be determined as follows:	24a	monetary payments already received should be counted on a gross basis, including any amount the survivor paid to reimburse Medicare or in legal fees.	Accept
			24b	no account should be taken of the cost of providing any services to the survivor, such as counselling services.	
			24c	any uncertainty as to whether a payment already received related to the same abuse for which the survivor seeks a monetary payment through redress should be resolved in the survivor's favour.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	25	The monetary payments that a survivor has already received for institutional child sexual abuse should be taken into account in determining any monetary payment under redress by adjusting the amount of the monetary payments already received for inflation and then deducting that amount from the amount of the monetary payment assessed under redress.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	26	In order to provide redress under the most effective structure for ensuring justice for survivors, the Australian Government should establish a single national redress scheme.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	27	If the Australian Government does not establish a single national redress scheme, as the next best option for ensuring justice for survivors, each state and territory government should establish a redress scheme covering government and non-government institutions in the relevant state or territory.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	28	The Australian Government should determine and announce by the end of 2015 that it is willing to establish a single national redress scheme.			Noted
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	29	If the Australian Government announces that it is willing to establish a single national redress scheme, the Australian Government should commence national negotiations with state and territory governments and all parties to the negotiations should seek to ensure that the negotiations proceed as quickly as possible to agree the necessary arrangements for a single national redress scheme.			Accept
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	30	If the Australian Government does not announce that it is willing to establish a single national redress scheme, each state and territory government should establish a redress scheme for the relevant state or territory that covers government and non-government institutions. State and territory governments should undertake national negotiations as quickly as possible to agree the necessary matters of detail to provide the maximum possible consistency for survivors between the different state and territory schemes.			Accept In Principle

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	31	Whether there is a single national redress scheme or separate state and territory redress schemes, the scheme or schemes should be established and ready to begin inviting and accepting applications from survivors by no later than 1 July 2017.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	32	The Australian Government (if it announces that it is willing to establish a single national redress scheme) or state and territory governments should establish a national redress advisory council to advise all participating governments on the establishment and operation of the redress scheme or schemes.			Noted
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	33	The national redress advisory council should include representatives:	33a	of survivor advocacy and support groups	Noted
			33b	of non-government institutions, particularly those that are expected to be required to respond to a significant number of claims for redress	
			33c	with expertise in issues affecting survivors with disabilities	
			33d	with expertise in issues of particular importance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors	
			33e	with expertise in psychological and legal issues relevant to survivors	
			33f	with any other expertise that may assist in advising on the establishment and operation of the redress scheme or schemes.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	34	For any application for redress made to a redress scheme, the cost of redress in respect of the application should be:	34a	a proportionate share of the cost of administration of the scheme.	Accept
			34b	if the applicant is determined to be eligible, the cost of any contribution for counselling and psychological care in respect of the applicant.	
			34c	if the applicant is determined to be eligible, the cost of any monetary payment to be made to the applicant.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	35	The redress scheme or schemes should be funded as much as possible in accordance with the following principles:	35a	The institution in which the abuse is alleged or accepted to have occurred should fund the cost of redress.	Accept
			35b	Where an applicant alleges or is accepted to have experienced abuse in more than one institution, the redress scheme or schemes should apportion the cost of funding redress between the relevant institutions, taking account of the relative severity of the abuse in each institution and any other features relevant to calculating a monetary payment.	
			35c	Where the institution in which the abuse is alleged or accepted to have occurred no longer exists but the institution was part of a larger group of institutions or where there is a successor to the institution, the group of institutions or the successor institution should fund the cost of redress.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	36	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should provide 'funder of last resort' funding for the redress scheme or schemes so that the governments will meet any shortfall in funding for the scheme or schemes.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	37	Regardless of whether there is a single national redress scheme or separate state and territory redress schemes, the Australian Government and each state or territory government should negotiate and agree their respective shares of or contributions to 'funder of last resort' funding in respect of applications alleging abuse in the relevant state or territory.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	38	The Australian Government (if it announces that it is willing to establish a single national redress scheme) or state and territory governments should determine how best to raise the required funding for the redress scheme or schemes, including government funding and funding from non-government institutions.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	39	The Australian Government or state and territory governments should determine whether or not to require particular non-government institutions or particular types of non-government institutions to contribute funding for redress.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	40	The redress scheme, or each redress scheme, should establish a trust fund to receive the funding for counselling and psychological care paid under redress and to manage and apply that funding to meet the needs for counselling and psychological care of those eligible for redress under the relevant redress scheme.			Accept In Principle
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	41	The trust fund, or each trust fund, should be governed by a corporate trustee with a board of directors appointed by the government that establishes the relevant redress scheme. The board or each board should include:	41a	an independent Chair.	Accept In Principle
			41b	a representative of: government; non-government institutions; survivor advocacy and support groups; and the redress scheme .	
			41c	those with any other expertise that is desired at board level to direct the trust.	
Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)	42	The trustee, or each trustee, should engage actuaries to conduct regular actuarial assessments to determine a 'per head' estimate of future counselling and psychological care costs to be met through redress. The trustee, or each trustee, should determine the amount from time to time that those who fund redress, including as the funder of last resort, must pay per eligible applicant to fund the counselling and psychological care element of redress.			Accept In Principle

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	43	A person should be eligible to apply to a redress scheme for redress if he or she was sexually abused as a child in an institutional context and the sexual abuse occurred, or the first incidence of the sexual abuse occurred, before the cut-off date.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	44	'Institution' should have the same meaning as in the Royal Commission's terms of reference.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	45	Child sexual abuse should be taken to have occurred in an institutional context in the following circumstances:	45ai	it happens: on premises of an institution in circumstances where the institution is, or should be treated as being, responsible for the contact between the abuser and the applicant that resulted in the abuse being committed;	Accept
			45aii	it happens: where activities of an institution take place in circumstances where the institution is, or should be treated as being, responsible for the contact between the abuser and the applicant that resulted in the abuse being committed; or	
			45aiii	it happens: in connection with the activities of an institution in circumstances where the institution is, or should be treated as being, responsible for the contact between the abuser and the applicant that resulted in the abuse being committed	
			45b	it is engaged in by an official of an institution in circumstances (including circumstances that involve settings not directly controlled by the institution) where the institution has, or its activities have, created, facilitated, increased, or in any way contributed to (whether by act or omission) the risk of abuse or the circumstances or conditions giving rise to that risk.	
			45c	it happens in any other circumstances where the institution is, or should be treated as being, responsible for the adult abuser having contact with the applicant.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	46	Those who operate the redress scheme should specify the cut-off date as being the date on which the Royal Commission's recommended reforms to civil litigation in relation to limitation periods and the duty of institutions commence.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	47	An offer of redress should only be made if the applicant is alive at the time the offer is made.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	48	A redress scheme should have no fixed closing date. But, when applications to the scheme reduce to a level where it would be reasonable to consider closing the scheme, those who operate the redress scheme should consider specifying a closing date for the scheme. The closing date should be at least 12 months into the future. Those who operate the redress scheme should ensure that the closing date is given widespread publicity until the scheme closes.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	49	Those who operate a redress scheme should ensure the availability of the scheme is widely publicised and promoted.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	50	The redress scheme should consider adopting particular communication strategies for people who might be more difficult to reach, including:	50a	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.	Accept
			50b	people with disability.	
			50c	culturally and linguistically diverse communities.	
			50d	regional and remote communities.	
			50e	people with mental health difficulties.	
			50f	people who are experiencing homelessness.	
			50g	people in correctional or detention centres.	
			50h	children and young people.	
			50i	people with low levels of literacy.	
			50j	survivors now living overseas.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	51	A redress scheme should rely primarily on completion of a written application form.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	52	A redress scheme should fund support services and community legal centres to assist applicants to apply for redress.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	53	A redress scheme should select support services and community legal centres to cover a broad range of likely applicants, taking into account the need to cover regional and remote areas and the particular needs of different groups of survivors, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander survivors.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	54	Those who operate a redress scheme should determine whether the scheme will require additional material or evidence and additional procedures to determine the validity of applications. Any additional requirements should be clearly set out in scheme material that is made available to applicants, support services and others who may support or advise applicants in relation to the scheme.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	55	A redress scheme may require applicants for redress to verify their accounts of abuse by statutory declaration.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	56	A redress scheme should inform any institution named in an application for redress of the application and the allegations made in it and request the institution to provide any relevant information, documents or comments.			Accept

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	57	'Reasonable likelihood' should be the standard of proof for determining applications for redress.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	58	A redress scheme should adopt administrative decision-making processes appropriate to a large-scale redress scheme. It should make decisions based on the application of the detailed assessment procedures and guidelines for implementing the matrix for monetary payments.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	59	An offer of redress should remain open for acceptance for a period of one year.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	60	A period of three months should be allowed for an applicant to seek a review of an offer of redress after the offer is made.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	61	A redress scheme should offer an internal review process.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	62	A redress scheme established on an administrative basis should be made subject to oversight by the relevant ombudsman through the ombudsman's complaints mechanism.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	63	As a condition of making a monetary payment, a redress scheme should require an applicant to release the scheme (including the contributing government or governments) and the institution from any further liability for institutional child sexual abuse by executing a deed of release.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	64	A redress scheme should fund, at a fixed price, a legal consultation for an applicant before the applicant decides whether or not to accept the offer of redress and grant the required releases.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	65	No confidentiality obligations should be imposed on applicants for redress.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	66	A redress scheme should offer and fund counselling during the period from assisting applicants with the application, through the period when the application is being considered, to the making of the offer and the applicant's consideration of whether or not to accept the offer. This should include a session of financial counselling if the applicant is offered a monetary payment.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	67	A redress scheme should fund counselling provided by a therapist of the applicant's choice if it is specifically requested by the applicant and in circumstances where the applicant has an established relationship with the therapist and the cost is reasonably comparable to the cost the redress scheme is paying for these services generally.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	68	A redress scheme should offer and fund a limited number of counselling sessions for family members of survivors if reasonably required.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	69	A redress scheme should take the following steps to improve transparency and accountability:	69a	In addition to publicising and promoting the availability of the scheme, the scheme's processes and time frames should be as transparent as possible. The scheme should provide up-to-date information on its website and through any funded counselling and support services and community legal centres, other relevant support services and relevant institutions.	Accept In Principle
			69b	If possible, the scheme should ensure that each applicant is allocated to a particular contact officer who they can speak to if they have any queries about the status of their application or the timing of its determination and so on.	
			69c	The scheme should operate a complaints mechanism and should welcome any complaints or feedback from applicants and others involved in the scheme (for example, support services and community legal centres).	
			69d	The scheme should provide any feedback it receives about common problems that have been experienced with applications or institutions' responses to funded counselling and support services and community legal centres, other relevant support services and relevant institutions. It should include any suggestions on how to improve applications or responses or ensure more timely determinations.	
			69ei	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the number of applications received.	
			69eii	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the institutions to which the applications relate.	
			69eiii	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the periods of alleged abuse.	
			69eiv	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the number of applications determined.	
			69ev	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the outcome of applications.	
			69evi	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the mean, median and spread of payments offered.	
			69evii	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the mean, median and spread of time taken to determine the application.	
			69eviii	The scheme should publish data, at least annually, about: the number and outcome of applications for review.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation (2015)</i>	70	A redress scheme should not make any 'findings' that any alleged abuser was involved in any abuse.			Accept

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	71	A redress scheme may defer determining an application for redress if the institution advises that it is undertaking internal disciplinary processes in respect of the abuse the subject of the application. A scheme may have the discretion to consider the outcome of the disciplinary process, it if is provided by the institution, in determining the application.			Accept In Principle
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	72	A redress scheme should comply with any legal requirements, and make use of any permissions, to report or disclose abuse, including to oversight agencies.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	73	A redress scheme should report any allegations to the police if it has reason to believe that there may be a current risk to children. If the relevant applicant does not consent to the allegations being reported to the police, the scheme should report the allegations to the police without disclosing the applicant's identity. Note: The issue of reporting to police, including blind reporting, will be considered further in our work in relation to criminal justice issues.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	74	A redress scheme should seek to cooperate with any reasonable requirements of the police in terms of information sharing, subject to satisfying any privacy and consent requirements with applicants.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	75	A redress scheme should encourage any applicants who seek advice from it about reporting to police to discuss their options directly with the police.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	76	Institutions should seek to achieve independence in institutional redress processes by taking the following steps:	76a	Institutions should provide information on the application process, including online, so that survivors do not need to approach the institution if there is an independent person with whom they can make their claim.	Noted
			76b	If feasible, the process of receiving and determining claims should be administered independently of the institution to minimise the risk of any appearance that the institution can influence the process or decisions.	
			76c	Institutions should ensure that anyone they engage to handle or determine redress claims is appropriately trained in understanding child sexual abuse and its impacts and in any relevant cultural awareness issues.	
			76d	Institutions should ensure that any processes or interactions with survivors are respectful and empathetic, including by taking into account the factors discussed in Chapter 5 concerning meetings and meeting environments.	
			76e	Processes and interactions should not be legalistic. Any legal, medical and other relevant input should be obtained for the purposes of decision making.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	77	Institutions should ensure that the required independence is set out clearly in writing between the institution and any person or body the institution engages as part of its redress process.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	78	If a survivor alleges abuse in more than one institution, the institution to which the survivor applies for redress should adopt the following process:	78a	With the survivor's consent, the institution's redress process should approach the other named institutions to seek cooperation on the claim.	Noted
			78b	If the survivor consents and the relevant institutions agree, one institutional process should assess the survivor's claim in accordance with the recommended redress elements and processes (with any necessary modifications because of the absence of a government-run scheme) and allocate contributions between the institutions.	
			78c	If any institution no longer exists and has no successor, its share should be met by the other institution or institutions.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	79	Institutions should adopt the elements of redress and the general principles for providing redress recommended in Chapter 4.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	80	Institutions should undertake, through their redress processes, to meet survivors' needs for counselling and psychological care. A survivor's need for counselling and psychological care should be assessed independently of the institution.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	81	Institutions should adopt the purpose of monetary payments recommended in Chapter 7 and be guided by the recommended matrix for assessing monetary payments.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	82	In implementing any interim arrangements for institutions to offer and provide redress, institutions should take account of our discussion of the applicability of the redress scheme processes recommended in Chapter 11.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	83	Institutions should ensure no deeds of release are required under interim arrangements for institutions to offer and provide redress.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	84	If the Australian Government or state and territory governments accept our recommendations and announce that they are working to establish a single national redress scheme or separate state and territory redress schemes, institutions may wish to offer smaller interim or emergency payments as an alternative to offering institutional redress processes as interim arrangements.			Noted
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	85	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to remove any limitation period that applies to a claim for damages brought by a person where that claim is founded on the personal injury of the person resulting from sexual abuse of the person in an institutional context when the person is or was a child.			Accept

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	86	State and territory governments should ensure that the limitation period is removed with retrospective effect and regardless of whether or not a claim was subject to a limitation period in the past.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	87	State and territory governments should expressly preserve the relevant courts' existing jurisdictions and powers so that any jurisdiction or power to stay proceedings is not affected by the removal of the limitation period.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	88	State and territory governments should implement these recommendations to remove limitation periods as soon as possible, even if that requires that they be implemented before our recommendations in relation to the duty of institutions and identifying a proper defendant are implemented.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	89	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to impose a non-delegable duty on certain institutions for institutional child sexual abuse despite it being the deliberate criminal act of a person associated with the institution.			Further Consideration
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	90	The non-delegable duty should apply to institutions that operate the following facilities or provide the following services and be owed to children who are in the care, supervision or control of the institution in relation to the relevant facility or service:	90a	residential facilities for children, including residential out-of-home care facilities and juvenile detention centres but not including foster care or kinship care	Further Consideration
			90b	day and boarding schools and early childhood education and care services, including long day care, family day care, outside school hours services and preschool programs	
			90c	disability services for children.	
			90d	health services for children.	
			90e	any other facility operated for profit which provides services for children that involve the facility having the care, supervision or control of children for a period of time but not including foster care or kinship care.	
			90f	any facilities or services operated or provided by religious organisations, including activities or services provided by religious leaders, officers or personnel of religious organisations but not including foster care or kinship care.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	91	Irrespective of whether state and territory parliaments legislate to impose a non-delegable duty upon institutions, state and territory governments should introduce legislation to make institutions liable for institutional child sexual abuse by persons associated with the institution unless the institution proves it took reasonable steps to prevent the abuse. The 'reverse onus' should be imposed on all institutions, including those institutions in respect of which we do not recommend a non-delegable duty be imposed.			Further Consideration
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	92	For the purposes of both the non-delegable duty and the imposition of liability with a reverse onus of proof, the persons associated with the institution should include the institution's officers, office holders, employees, agents, volunteers and contractors. For religious organisations, persons associated with the institution also include religious leaders, officers and personnel of the religious organisation.			Further Consideration
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	93	State and territory governments should ensure that the non-delegable duty and the imposition of liability with a reverse onus of proof apply prospectively and not retrospectively.			Further Consideration
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	94	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to provide that, where a survivor wishes to commence proceedings for damages in respect of institutional child sexual abuse where the institution is alleged to be an institution with which a property trust is associated, then unless the institution nominates a proper defendant to sue that has sufficient assets to meet any liability arising from the proceedings:	94a	the property trust is a proper defendant to the litigation.	Accept In Principle
			94b	any liability of the institution with which the property trust is associated that arises from the proceedings can be met from the assets of the trust.	
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	95	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should consider whether there are any unincorporated bodies that they fund directly or indirectly to provide children's services. If there are, they should consider requiring them to maintain insurance that covers their liability in respect of institutional child sexual abuse claims.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	96	Government and non-government institutions that receive, or expect to receive, civil claims for institutional child sexual abuse should adopt guidelines for responding to claims for compensation concerning allegations of child sexual abuse.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	97	The guidelines should be designed to minimise potential re-traumatisation of claimants and to avoid unnecessarily adversarial responses to claims.			Accept
<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	98	The guidelines should include an obligation on the institution to provide assistance to claimants and their legal representatives in identifying the proper defendant to a claim if the proper defendant is not identified or is incorrectly identified.			Accept

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<i>Redress and Civil Litigation</i> (2015)	99	Government and non-government institutions should publish the guidelines they adopt or otherwise make them available to claimants and their legal representatives.			Accept
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	1	In relation to child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, the criminal justice system should be reformed to ensure that the following objectives are met:	1a	the criminal justice system operates in the interests of seeking justice for society, including the complainant and the accused	Accept In Principle
			1b	criminal justice responses are available for victims and survivors	
			1c	victims and survivors are supported in seeking criminal justice responses.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	2	Australian governments should refer to the Steering Committee for the Report on Government Services for review the issues of:	2a	how the reporting framework for police services in the Report on Government Services could be extended to include reporting on child sexual abuse offences.	Accept In Principle
			2b	whether any outcome measures that would be appropriate for police investigations of child sexual abuse offences could be developed and reported on.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	3	Each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency:	3a	recognises that a victim or survivor's initial contact with police will be important in determining their satisfaction with the entire criminal justice response and in influencing their willingness to proceed with a report and to participate in a prosecution.	Accept In Principle
			3bi	ensures that all police who may come into contact with victims or survivors of institutional child sexual abuse are trained to: have a basic understanding of complex trauma and how it can affect people who report to police, including those who may have difficulties dealing with institutions or persons in positions of authority (such as the police).	
			3bii	ensures that all police who may come into contact with victims or survivors of institutional child sexual abuse are trained to: treat anyone who approaches the police to report child sexual abuse with consideration and respect, taking account of any relevant cultural safety issues.	
			3c	establishes arrangements to ensure that, on initial contact from a victim or survivor, police refer victims and survivors to appropriate support services.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	4	To encourage reporting of allegations of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency:	4a	takes steps to communicate to victims (and their families or support people where the victims are children or are particularly vulnerable) that their decision whether to participate in a police investigation will be respected – that is, victims retain the right to withdraw at any stage in the process and to decline to proceed further with police and/or any prosecution.	Accept In Principle
			4b	provides information on the different ways in which victims and survivors can report to police or seek advice from police on their options for reporting or not reporting abuse – this should be in a format that allows institutions and survivor advocacy and support groups and support services to provide it to victims and survivors.	
			4c	makes available a range of channels to encourage reporting, including specialist telephone numbers and online reporting forms, and provides information about what to expect from each channel of reporting.	
			4d	works with survivor advocacy and support groups and support services, including those working with people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and people with disability, to facilitate reporting by victims and survivors.	
			4e	allows victims and survivors to benefit from the presence of a support person of their choice if they so wish throughout their dealings with police, provided that this will not interfere with the police investigation or risk contaminating evidence.	
			4f	is willing to take statements from victims and survivors in circumstances where the alleged perpetrator is dead or is otherwise unlikely to be able to be tried.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	5	To encourage reporting of allegations of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims and survivors, each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency:	5a	takes the lead in developing good relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.	Accept In Principle
			5b	provides channels for reporting outside of the community (such as telephone numbers and online reporting forms).	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	6	To encourage prisoners and former prisoners to report allegations of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency:	6a	provides channels for reporting that can be used from prison and that allow reports to be made confidentially	Accept In Principle
			6b	does not require former prisoners to report at a police station.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	7	Each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency conducts investigations of reports of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, in accordance with the following principles:	7a	While recognising the complexity of police rosters, staffing and transfers, police should recognise the benefit to victims and their families and survivors of continuity in police staffing and should take steps to facilitate, to the extent possible, continuity in police staffing on an investigation of a complaint.	Accept
			7b	Police should recognise the importance to victims and their families and survivors of police maintaining regular communication with them to keep them informed of the status of their report and any investigation unless they have asked not to be kept informed.	
			7ci	Particularly in relation to historical allegations of institutional child sexual abuse, police who assess or provide an investigative response to allegations should be trained to: be non-judgmental and recognise that many victims of child sexual abuse will go on to develop substance abuse and mental health problems, and some may have a criminal record.	
			7cii	Particularly in relation to historical allegations of institutional child sexual abuse, police who assess or provide an investigative response to allegations should be trained to: focus on the credibility of the complaint or allegation rather than focusing only on the credibility of the complainant.	

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<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	8	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to implement Recommendation 20-1 of the report of the Australian Law Reform Commission and the New South Wales Law Reform Commission Family Violence: A national legal response in relation to disclosing or revealing the identity of a mandatory reporter to a law enforcement agency.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	9	Each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency conducts investigative interviewing in relation to reports of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, in accordance with the following principles:	9a	All police who provide an investigative response (whether specialist or generalist) to child sexual abuse should receive at least basic training in understanding sexual offending, including the nature of child sexual abuse and institutional child sexual abuse offending.	Accept In Principle
			9b	All police who provide an investigative response (whether specialist or generalist) to child sexual abuse should be trained to interview the complainant in accordance with current research and learning about how memory works in order to obtain the complainant's memory of the events.	
			9c	The importance of video recorded interviews for children and other vulnerable witnesses should be recognised, as these interviews usually form all, or most, of the complainant's and other relevant witnesses' evidence in chief in any prosecution.	
			9di	Investigative interviewing of children and other vulnerable witnesses should be undertaken by police with specialist training. The specialist training should focus on: a specialist understanding of child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, and the developmental and communication needs of children and other vulnerable witnesses.	
			9dii	Investigative interviewing of children and other vulnerable witnesses should be undertaken by police with specialist training. The specialist training should focus on: skill development in planning and conducting interviews, including use of appropriate questioning techniques.	
			9e	Specialist police should undergo refresher training on a periodical basis to ensure that their specialist understanding and skills remain up to date and accord with current research.	
			9f	From time to time, experts should review a sample of video recorded interviews with children and other vulnerable witnesses conducted by specialist police for quality assurance and training purposes and to reinforce best-practice interviewing techniques.	
			9g	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to remove any impediments, including in relation to privacy concerns, to the use of video recorded interviews so that the relevant police officer, his or her supervisor and any persons engaged by police in quality assurance and training can review video recorded interviews for quality assurance and training purposes. This should not authorise the use of video recorded interviews for general training in a manner that would raise privacy concerns.	
			9h	Police should continue to work towards improving the technical quality of video recorded interviews so that they are technically as effective as possible in presenting the complainant's and other witnesses' evidence in chief.	
			9i	Police should recognise the importance of interpreters, including for some Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims, survivors and other witnesses.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	10	Each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency makes decisions in relation to whether to lay charges for child sexual abuse offences in accordance with the following principles:	10a	Recognising that it is important to complainants that the correct charges be laid as early as possible so that charges are not significantly downgraded at or close to trial, police should ensure that care is taken, and that early prosecution advice is sought, where appropriate, in laying charges.	Accept
			10bi	In making decisions about whether to charge, police should not: expect or require corroboration where the victim or survivor's account does not suggest that there should be any corroboration available; and	
			10bii	In making decisions about whether to charge, police should not: rely on the absence of corroboration as a determinative factor in deciding not to charge, where the victim or survivor's account does not suggest that there should be any corroboration available, unless the prosecution service advises otherwise.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	11	The Victorian Government should review the operation of section 401 of the Criminal Procedure Act 2009 (VIC) and consider amending the provision to restrict the awarding of costs against police if it appears that the risk of costs awards might be affecting police decisions to prosecute. The government of any other state or territory that has similar provisions should conduct a similar review and should consider similar amendments.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	12	Each Australian government should ensure that, if its policing agency does not provide a specialist response to victims and survivors reporting historical child sexual abuse, its policing agency develops and implements a document in the nature of a 'guarantee of service' which sets out for the benefit of victims and survivors – and as a reminder to the police involved – what victims and survivors are entitled to expect in the police response to their report of child sexual abuse. The document should include information to the effect that victims and survivors are entitled to:	12a	be treated by police with consideration and respect, taking account of any relevant cultural safety issues.	Accept In Principle
			12b	have their views about whether they wish to participate in the police investigation respected.	
			12c	be referred to appropriate support services.	
			12d	contact police through a support person or organisation rather than contacting police directly if they prefer.	
			12e	have the assistance of a support person of their choice throughout their dealings with police unless this will interfere with the police investigation or risk contaminating evidence.	

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SIX-MONTH RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
			12f	have their statement taken by police even if the alleged perpetrator is dead.	
			12g	be provided with the details of a nominated person within the police service for them to contact.	
			12h	be kept informed of the status of their report and any investigation unless they do not wish to be kept informed.	
			12i	have the police focus on the credibility of the complaint or allegations rather than focusing only on the credibility of the complainant, recognising that many victims of child sexual abuse will go on to develop substance abuse and mental health problems, and some may have a criminal record.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	13	Each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency responds to victims and survivors with disability, or their representatives, who report or seek to report child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse, to police in accordance with the following principles:	13a	Police who have initial contact with the victim or survivor should be non-judgmental and should not make any adverse assessment of the victim or survivor's credibility, reliability or ability to make a report or participate in a police investigation or prosecution because of their disability.	Accept In Principle
			13b	Police who assess or provide an investigative response to allegations made by victims and survivors with disability should focus on the credibility of the complaint or allegation rather than focusing only on the credibility of the complainant, and they should not make any adverse assessment of the victim or survivor's credibility or reliability because of their disability.	
			13c	Police who conduct investigative interviewing should make all appropriate use of any available intermediary scheme, and communication supports, to ensure that the victim or survivor is able to give their best evidence in the investigative interview.	
			13d	Decisions in relation to whether to lay charges for child sexual abuse offences should take full account of the ability of any available intermediary scheme, and communication supports, to assist the victim or survivor to give their best evidence when required in the prosecution process.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	14	In order to assist in the investigation of current allegations of institutional child sexual abuse, each Australian government should ensure that its policing agency:	14a	develops and keeps under review procedures and protocols to guide police and institutions about the information and assistance police can provide to institutions where a current allegation of institutional child sexual abuse is made	Accept
			14b	develops and keeps under review procedures and protocols to guide the police, other agencies, institutions and the broader community on the information and assistance police can provide to children and parents and the broader community where a current allegation of institutional child sexual abuse is made.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	15	The New South Wales Standard Operating Procedures for Employment Related Child Abuse Allegations and the Joint Investigation Response Team Local Contact Point Protocol should serve as useful precedents for other Australian governments to consider.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	16	In relation to blind reporting, institutions and survivor advocacy and support groups should:	16a	be clear that, where the law requires reporting to police, child protection or another agency, the institution or group or its relevant staff member or official will report as required.	Accept In Principle
			16b	develop and adopt clear guidelines to inform staff and volunteers, victims and their families and survivors, and police, child protection and other agencies as to the approach the institution or group will take in relation to allegations, reports or disclosures it receives that it is not required by law to report to police, child protection or another agency.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	17	If a relevant institution or survivor advocacy and support group adopts a policy of reporting survivors' details to police without survivors' consent – that is, if it will not make blind reports – it should seek to provide information about alternative avenues for a survivor to seek support if this aspect of the institution or group's guidelines is not acceptable to the survivor.			Further Consideration
Criminal Justice (2017)	18	Institutions and survivor advocacy and support groups that adopt a policy that they will not report the survivor's details without the survivor's consent should make a blind report to police in preference to making no report at all.			Further Consideration
Criminal Justice (2017)	19	Regardless of an institution or survivor advocacy and support group's policy in relation to blind reporting, the institution or group should provide survivors with:	19a	a. information to inform them about options for reporting to police	Accept In Principle
			19b	support to report to police if the survivor is willing to do so.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	20	Police should ensure that they review any blind reports they receive and that they are available as intelligence in relation to any current or subsequent police investigations. If it appears that talking to the survivor might assist with a police investigation, police should contact the relevant institution or survivor advocacy and support group, and police and the institution or group should cooperate to try to find a way in which the survivor will be sufficiently supported so that they are willing to speak to police.			Accept
Criminal Justice (2017)	21	Each state and territory government should introduce legislation to amend its persistent child sexual abuse offence so that:	21a	the actus reus is the maintaining of an unlawful sexual relationship.	Accept In Principle
			21b	an unlawful sexual relationship is established by more than one unlawful sexual act.	
			21c	the trier of fact must be satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the unlawful sexual relationship existed but, where the trier of fact is a jury, jurors need not be satisfied of the same unlawful sexual acts.	
			21d	the offence applies retrospectively but only to sexual acts that were unlawful at the time they were committed.	
			21e	on sentencing, regard is to be had to relevant lower statutory maximum penalties if the offence is charged with retrospective application.	

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	22	The draft provision in Appendix H provides for the recommended reform. Legislation to the effect of the draft provision should be introduced.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	23	State and territory governments (other than Victoria) should consider introducing legislation to establish legislative authority for course of conduct charges in relation to child sexual abuse offences if legislative authority may assist in using course of conduct charges.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	24	State and territory governments should consider providing for any of the two or more unlawful sexual acts that are particularised for the maintaining an unlawful sexual relationship offence to be particularised as courses of conduct.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	25	To the extent they do not already have a broad grooming offence, each state and territory government should introduce legislation to amend its criminal legislation to adopt a broad grooming offence that captures any communication or conduct with a child undertaken with the intention of grooming the child to be involved in a sexual offence.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	26	Each state and territory government (other than Victoria) should introduce legislation to extend its broad grooming offence to the grooming of persons other than the child.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	27	State and territory governments should review any position of authority offences applying in circumstances where the victim is 16 or 17 years of age and the offender is in a position of authority (however described) in relation to the victim. If the offences require more than the existence of the relationship of authority (for example, that it be 'abused' or 'exercised'), states and territories should introduce legislation to amend the offences so that the existence of the relationship is sufficient.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	28	State and territory governments should review any provisions allowing consent to be negated in the event of sexual contact between a victim of 16 or 17 years of age and an offender who is in a position of authority (however described) in relation to the victim. If the provisions require more than the existence of the relationship of authority (for example, that it be 'abused' or 'exercised'), state and territory governments should introduce legislation to amend the provisions so that the existence of the relationship is sufficient.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	29	If there is a concern that one or more categories of persons in a position of authority (however described) may be too broad and may catch sexual contact which should not be criminalised when it is engaged in by such persons with children above the age of consent, state and territory governments could consider introducing legislation to establish defences such as a similar-age consent defence.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	30	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to remove any remaining limitation periods, or any remaining immunities, that apply to child sexual abuse offences, including historical child sexual abuse offences, in a manner that does not revive any sexual offences that are no longer in keeping with community standards.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	31	Without limiting recommendation 30, the New South Wales Government should introduce legislation to give the repeal of the limitation period in section 78 of the Crimes Act 1900 (NSW) retrospective effect.			Noted
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	32	Any person associated with an institution who knows or suspects that a child is being or has been sexually abused in an institutional context should report the abuse to police (and, if relevant, in accordance with any guidelines the institution adopts in relation to blind reporting under recommendation 16).			Further Consideration
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	33	Each state and territory government should introduce legislation to create a criminal offence of failure to report targeted at child sexual abuse in an institutional context as follows:	33ai	The failure to report offence should apply to any adult person who: is an owner, manager, staff member or volunteer of a relevant institution – this includes persons in religious ministry and other officers or personnel of religious institutions	Further Consideration
			33aai	The failure to report offence should apply to any adult person who: otherwise requires a Working with Children Check clearance for the purposes of their role in the institution but it should not apply to individual foster carers or kinship carers.	
			33b	The failure to report offence should apply if the person fails to report to police in circumstances where they know, suspect, or should have suspected (on the basis that a reasonable person in their circumstances would have suspected and it was criminally negligent for the person not to suspect), that an adult associated with the institution was sexually abusing or had sexually abused a child.	
			33c	Relevant institutions should be defined to include institutions that operate facilities or provide services to children in circumstances where the children are in the care, supervision or control of the institution. Foster and kinship care services should be included (but not individual foster carers or kinship carers). Facilities and services provided by religious institutions, and any services or functions performed by persons in religious ministry, should be included.	

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			33di	If the knowledge is gained or the suspicion is or should have been formed after the failure to report offence commences, the failure to report offence should apply if any of the following circumstances apply: A child to whom the knowledge relates or in relation to whom the suspicion is or should have been formed is still a child (that is, under the age of 18 years).	
			33dii	If the knowledge is gained or the suspicion is or should have been formed after the failure to report offence commences, the failure to report offence should apply if any of the following circumstances apply: The person who is known to have abused a child or is or should have been suspected of abusing a child is either: still associated with the institution; or known or believed to be associated with another relevant institution.	
			33diii	If the knowledge is gained or the suspicion is or should have been formed after the failure to report offence commences, the failure to report offence should apply if any of the following circumstances apply: The knowledge gained or the suspicion that is or should have been formed relates to abuse that may have occurred within the previous 10 years.	
			33ei	If the knowledge is gained or the suspicion is or should have been formed before the failure to report offence commences, the failure to report offence should apply if any of the following circumstances apply: A child to whom the knowledge relates or in relation to whom the suspicion is or should have been formed is still a child (that is, under the age of 18 years) and is still associated with the institution (that is, they are still in the care, supervision or control of the institution).	
			33eii	If the knowledge is gained or the suspicion is or should have been formed before the failure to report offence commences, the failure to report offence should apply if any of the following circumstances apply: The person who is known to have abused a child or is or should have been suspected of abusing a child is either: still associated with the institution; or known or believed to be associated with another relevant institution.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	34	State and territory governments should:	34a	ensure that they have systems in place in relation to their mandatory reporting scheme and any reportable conduct scheme to ensure that any reports made under those schemes that may involve child sexual abuse offences are brought to the attention of police.	Further Consideration
			34b	include appropriate defences in the failure to report offence to avoid duplication of reporting under mandatory reporting and any reportable conduct schemes.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	35	Each state and territory government should ensure that the legislation it introduces to create the criminal offence of failure to report recommended in recommendation 33 addresses religious confessions as follows:	35a	The criminal offence of failure to report should apply in relation to knowledge gained or suspicions that are or should have been formed, in whole or in part, on the basis of information disclosed in or in connection with a religious confession.	Further Consideration
			35b	The legislation should exclude any existing excuse, protection or privilege in relation to religious confessions to the extent necessary to achieve this objective.	
			35c	Religious confession should be defined to include a confession about the conduct of a person associated with the institution made by a person to a second person who is in religious ministry in that second person's professional capacity according to the ritual of the church or religious denomination concerned.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	36	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to create a criminal offence of failure to protect a child within a relevant institution from a substantial risk of sexual abuse by an adult associated with the institution as follows:	36ai	The offence should apply where: an adult person knows that there is a substantial risk that another adult person associated with the institution will commit a sexual offence against: a child under 16; or a child of 16 or 17 years of age if the person associated with the institution is in a position of authority in relation to the child.	Further Consideration
			36aii	The offence should apply where: the person has the power or responsibility to reduce or remove the risk.	
			36aiii	The offence should apply where: the person negligently fails to reduce or remove the risk.	
			36b	The offence should not be able to be committed by individual foster carers or kinship carers.	
			36c	Relevant institutions should be defined to include institutions that operate facilities or provide services to children in circumstances where the children are in the care, supervision or control of the institution. Foster care and kinship care services should be included, but individual foster carers and kinship carers should not be included. Facilities and services provided by religious institutions, and any service or functions performed by persons in religious ministry, should be included.	
			36d	State and territory governments should consider the Victorian offence in section 49C of the Crimes Act 1958 (Vic) as a useful precedent, with an extension to include children of 16 or 17 years of age if the person associated with the institution is in a position of authority in relation to the child.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	37	All Australian Directors of Public Prosecutions, with assistance from the relevant government in relation to funding, should ensure that prosecution responses to child sexual abuse are guided by the following principles:	37a	All prosecution staff who may have professional contact with victims of institutional child sexual abuse should be trained to have a basic understanding of the nature and impact of child sexual abuse – and institutional child sexual abuse in particular – and how it can affect people who are involved in a prosecution process, including those who may have difficulties dealing with institutions or person in positions of authority.	Accept In Principle
			37b	While recognising the complexity of prosecution staffing and court timetables, prosecution agencies should recognise the benefit to victims and their families and survivors of continuity in prosecution team staffing and should take steps to facilitate, to the extent possible, continuity in staffing of the prosecution team involved in a prosecution.	
			37c	Prosecution agencies should continue to recognise the importance to victims and their families and survivors of the prosecution agency maintaining regular communication with them to keep them informed of the status of the prosecution unless they have asked not to be kept informed.	

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			37d	Witness Assistance Services should be funded and staffed to ensure that they can perform their task of keeping victims and their families and survivors informed and ensuring that they are put in contact with relevant support services, including staff trained to provide a culturally appropriate service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander victims and survivors. Specialist services for children should also be considered.	
			37ei	Particularly in relation to historical allegations of institutional child sexual abuse, prosecution staff who are involved in giving early charge advice or in prosecuting child sexual abuse matters should be trained to: be non-judgmental and recognise that many victims of child sexual abuse will go on to develop substance abuse and mental health problems, and some may have a criminal record.	
			37eii	Particularly in relation to historical allegations of institutional child sexual abuse, prosecution staff who are involved in giving early charge advice or in prosecuting child sexual abuse matters should be trained to: focus on the credibility of the complaint or allegation rather than focusing only on the credibility of the complainant.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	38	Each state and territory government should facilitate the development of standard material to provide to complainants or other witnesses in child sexual abuse trials to better inform them about giving evidence. The development of the standard material should be led by Directors of Public Prosecutions in consultation with Witness Assistance Services, public defenders (where available), legal aid services and representatives of the courts to ensure that it:	38a	is likely to be of adequate assistance for complainants who are not familiar with criminal trials and giving evidence.	Accept In Principle
			38b	is fair to the accused as well as to the prosecution.	
			38c	does not risk rehearsing or coaching the witness.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	39	All Australian Directors of Public Prosecutions should ensure that prosecution charging and plea decisions in prosecutions for child sexual abuse offences are guided by the following principles:	39a	Prosecutors should recognise the importance to complainants of the correct charges being laid as early as possible so that charges are not significantly downgraded or withdrawn at or close to trial. Prosecutors should provide early advice to police on appropriate charges to lay when such advice is sought.	Accept In Principle
			39b	Regardless of whether such advice has been sought, prosecutors should confirm the appropriateness of the charges as early as possible once they are allocated the prosecution to ensure that the correct charges have been laid and to minimise the risk that charges will have to be downgraded or withdrawn closer to the trial date.	
			39c	While recognising the benefit of securing guilty pleas, prosecution agencies should also recognise that it is important to complainants – and to the criminal justice system – that the charges for which a guilty plea is accepted reasonably reflect the true criminality of the abuse they suffered.	
			39d	Prosecutors must endeavour to ensure that they allow adequate time to consult the complainant and the police in relation to any proposal to downgrade or withdraw charges or to accept a negotiated plea and that the complainant is given the opportunity to obtain assistance from relevant witness assistance officers or other advocacy and support services before they give their opinion on the proposal. If the complainant is a child, prosecutors must endeavour to ensure that they give the child the opportunity to consult their carer or parents unless the child does not wish to do so.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	40	Each Australian Director of Public Prosecutions should:	40a	have comprehensive written policies for decision-making and consultation with victims and police	Accept In Principle
			40b	publish all policies online and ensure that they are publicly available	
			40c	provide a right for complainants to seek written reasons for key decisions, without detracting from an opportunity to discuss reasons in person before written reasons are provided.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	41	Each Australian Director of Public Prosecutions should establish a robust and effective formalised complaints mechanism to allow victims to seek internal merits review of key decisions.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	42	Each Australian Director of Public Prosecutions should establish robust and effective internal audit processes to audit their compliance with policies for decision-making and consultation with victims and police.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	43	Each Australian Director of Public Prosecutions should publish the existence of their complaints mechanism and internal audit processes and data on their use and outcomes online and in their annual reports.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	44	In order to ensure justice for complainants and the community, the laws governing the admissibility of tendency and coincidence evidence in prosecutions for child sexual abuse offences should be reformed to facilitate greater admissibility and cross-admissibility of tendency and coincidence evidence and joint trials.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	45	Tendency or coincidence evidence about the defendant in a child sexual offence prosecution should be admissible:	45ai	if the court thinks that the evidence will, either by itself or having regard to the other evidence, be 'relevant to an important evidentiary issue' in the proceeding, with each of the following kinds of evidence defined to be 'relevant to an important evidentiary issue' in a child sexual offence proceeding: evidence that shows a propensity of the defendant to commit particular kinds of offences if the commission of an offence of the same or a similar kind is in issue in the proceeding	Accept In Principle

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			45a	if the court thinks that the evidence will, either by itself or having regard to the other evidence, be 'relevant to an important evidentiary issue' in the proceeding, with each of the following kinds of evidence defined to be 'relevant to an important evidentiary issue' in a child sexual offence proceeding: evidence that is relevant to any matter in issue in the proceeding if the matter concerns an act or state of mind of the defendant and is important in the context of the proceeding as a whole.	
			45bi	unless, on the application of the defendant, the court thinks, having regard to the particular circumstances of the proceeding, that both: admission of the evidence is more likely than not to result in the proceeding being unfair to the defendant ; and	
			45bii	unless, on the application of the defendant, the court thinks, having regard to the particular circumstances of the proceeding, that both: if there is a jury, the giving of appropriate directions to the jury about the relevance and use of the evidence will not remove the risk.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	46	Common law principles or rules that restrict the admission of propensity or similar fact evidence should be explicitly abolished or excluded in relation to the admissibility of tendency or coincidence evidence about the defendant in a child sexual offence prosecution.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	47	Issues of concoction, collusion or contamination should not affect the admissibility of tendency or coincidence evidence about the defendant in a child sexual offence prosecution. The court should determine admissibility on the assumption that the evidence will be accepted as credible and reliable, and the impact of any evidence of concoction, collusion or contamination should be left to the jury or other fact-finder.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	48	Tendency or coincidence evidence about a defendant in a child sexual offence prosecution should not be required to be proved beyond reasonable doubt.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	49	Evidence of - the defendant's prior convictions; or acts for which the defendant has been charged but not convicted (other than acts for which the defendant has been acquitted) should be admissible as tendency or coincidence evidence if it otherwise satisfies the test for admissibility of tendency or coincidence evidence about a defendant in a child sexual offence prosecution.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	50	Australian governments should introduce legislation to make the reforms we recommend to the rules governing the admissibility of tendency and coincidence evidence.			Further Consideration
Criminal Justice (2017)	51	The draft provisions in Appendix N provide for the recommended reforms for Uniform Evidence Act jurisdictions. Legislation to the effect of the draft provisions should be introduced for Uniform Evidence Act jurisdictions and non-Uniform Evidence Act jurisdictions.			Further Consideration
Criminal Justice (2017)	52	State and territory governments should ensure that the necessary legislative provisions and physical resources are in place to allow for the prerecording of the entirety of a witness's evidence in child sexual abuse prosecutions. This should include both:	52a	in summary and indictable matters, the use of a prerecorded investigative interview as some or all of the witness's evidence in chief	Accept In Principle
			52b	in matters tried on indictment, the availability of pre-trial hearings to record all of a witness's evidence, including cross-examination and re-examination, so that the evidence is taken in the absence of the jury and the witness need not participate in the trial itself.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	53	Full prerecording should be made available for:	53a	all complainants in child sexual abuse prosecutions	Accept In Principle
			53b	any other witnesses who are children or vulnerable adults	
			53c	any other prosecution witness that the prosecution considers necessary.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	54	Where the prerecording of cross-examination is used, it should be accompanied by ground rules hearings to maximise the benefits of such a procedure.			Accept
Criminal Justice (2017)	55	State and territory governments should work with courts to improve the technical quality of closed circuit television and audiovisual links and the equipment used and staff training in taking and replaying prerecorded and remote evidence.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	56	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to require the audiovisual recording of evidence given by complainants and other witnesses that the prosecution considers necessary in child sexual abuse prosecutions, whether tried on indictment or summarily, and to allow these recordings to be tendered and relied on as the relevant witness's evidence in any subsequent trial or retrial. The legislation should apply regardless of whether the relevant witness gives evidence live in court, via closed circuit television or in a prerecorded hearing.			Accept
Criminal Justice (2017)	57	State and territory governments should ensure that the courts are adequately resourced to provide this facility, in terms of both the initial recording and its use in any subsequent trial or retrial.			Accept

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<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	58	If it is not practical to record evidence given live in court in a way that is suitable for use in any subsequent trial or retrial, prosecution guidelines should require that the fact that a witness may be required to give evidence again in the event of a retrial be discussed with witnesses when they make any choice as to whether to give evidence via prerecording, closed circuit television or in person.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	59	State and territory governments should establish intermediary schemes similar to the Registered Intermediary Scheme in England and Wales which are available to any prosecution witness with a communication difficulty in a child sexual abuse prosecution. Governments should ensure that the scheme:	59a	requires intermediaries to have relevant professional qualifications to assist in communicating with vulnerable witnesses	Accept In Principle
			59b	provides intermediaries with training on their role and in understanding that their duty is to assist the court to communicate with the witness and to be impartial	
			59c	makes intermediaries available at both the police interview stage and trial stage	
			59d	enables intermediaries to provide recommendations to police and the court on how best to communicate with the witness and to intervene in an interview or examination where they observe a communication breakdown.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	60	State and territory governments should work with their courts administration to ensure that ground rules hearings are able to be held – and are in fact held – in child sexual abuse prosecutions to discuss the questioning of prosecution witnesses with specific communication needs, whether the questioning is to take place via a prerecorded hearing or during the trial. This should be essential where a witness intermediary scheme is in place and should allow, at a minimum, a report from an intermediary to be considered.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	61	The following special measures should be available in child sexual abuse prosecutions for complainants, vulnerable witnesses and other prosecution witnesses where the prosecution considers it necessary:	61a	giving evidence via closed circuit television or audiovisual link so that the witness is able to give evidence from a room away from the courtroom.	Accept In Principle
			61b	allowing the witness to be supported when giving evidence, whether in the courtroom or remotely, including, for example, through the presence of a support person or a support animal or by otherwise creating a more child-friendly environment.	
			61c	if the witness is giving evidence in court, using screens, partitions or one-way glass so that the witness cannot see the accused while giving evidence.	
			61d	clearing the public gallery of a courtroom during the witness's evidence.	
			61e	the judge and counsel removing their wigs and gowns.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	62	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to allow a child's competency to give evidence in child sexual abuse prosecutions to be tested as follows:	62a	Where there is any doubt about a child's competence to give evidence, a judge should establish the child's ability to understand basic questions asked of them by asking simple, non-theoretical questions – for example, about their age, school, family etc.	Accept
			62b	Where it does not appear that the child can give sworn evidence, the judge should simply ask the witness for a promise to tell the truth and allow the examination of the witness to proceed.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	63	State and territory governments should provide adequate interpreting services such that any witness in a child sexual abuse prosecution who needs an interpreter is entitled to an interpreter who has sufficient expertise in their primary language, including sign language, to provide an accurate and impartial translation.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	64	State and territory governments should consider or reconsider the desirability of partial codification of judicial directions now that Victoria has established a precedent from which other jurisdictions could develop their own reforms.			Further Consideration
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	65	Each state and territory government should review its legislation and introduce any amending legislation necessary to ensure that it has the following provisions in relation to judicial directions and warnings:	65ai	Delay and credibility: Legislation should provide that: there is no requirement for a direction or warning that delay affects the complainant's credibility;	Accept In Principle
			65aaii	Delay and credibility: Legislation should provide that: the judge must not direct, warn or suggest to the jury that delay affects the complainant's credibility unless the direction, warning or suggestion is requested by the accused and is warranted on the evidence in the particular circumstances of the trial; and	
			65aiii	Delay and credibility: Legislation should provide that: in giving any direction, warning or comment, the judge must not use expressions such as 'dangerous or unsafe to convict' or 'scrutinise with great care'.	
			65bi	Delay and forensic disadvantage: Legislation should provide that: there is no requirement for a direction or warning as to forensic disadvantage to the accused;	
			65bii	Delay and forensic disadvantage: Legislation should provide that: the judge must not direct, warn or suggest to the jury that delay has caused forensic disadvantage to the accused unless the direction, warning or suggestion is requested by the accused and there is evidence that the accused has suffered significant forensic disadvantage;	
			65biii	Delay and forensic disadvantage: Legislation should provide that: the mere fact of delay is not sufficient to establish forensic disadvantage;	
			65biv	Delay and forensic disadvantage: Legislation should provide that: in giving any direction, warning or comment, the judge should inform the jury of the nature of the forensic disadvantage suffered by the accused; and	

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			65bv	Delay and forensic disadvantage: Legislation should provide that: in giving any direction, warning or comment, the judge must not use expressions such as 'dangerous or unsafe to convict' or 'scrutinise with great care'.	
			65c	Uncorroborated evidence: Legislation should provide that the judge must not direct, warn or suggest to the jury that it is 'dangerous or unsafe to convict' on the uncorroborated evidence of the complainant or that the uncorroborated evidence of the complainant should be 'scrutinised with great care'.	
			65di	Children's evidence: Legislation should provide that: the judge must not direct, warn or suggest to the jury that children as a class are unreliable witnesses;	
			65dii	Children's evidence: Legislation should provide that: the judge must not direct, warn or suggest to the jury that it would be 'dangerous or unsafe to convict' on the uncorroborated evidence of a child or that the uncorroborated evidence of a child should be 'scrutinised with great care'; and	
			65diii	Children's evidence: Legislation should provide that: the judge must not give a direction or warning about, or comment on, the reliability of a child's evidence solely on account of the age of the child.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	66	The New South Wales Government, the Queensland Government and the government of any other state or territory in which Markuleski directions are required should consider introducing legislation to abolish any requirement for such directions.			Noted
Criminal Justice (2017)	67	State and territory governments should support and encourage the judiciary, public prosecutors, public defenders, legal aid and the private Bar to implement regular training and education programs for the judiciary and legal profession in relation to understanding child sexual abuse and current social science research in relation to child sexual abuse.			Accept
Criminal Justice (2017)	68	Relevant Australian governments should ensure that bodies such as the following are adequately funded to provide leadership in making relevant information and training available in the most effective forms to the judiciary and, where relevant, the broader legal profession so that they understand and keep up to date with current social science research that is relevant to understanding child sexual abuse:	68a	State and territory governments should support and encourage the judiciary, public prosecutors, public defenders, legal aid and the private Bar to implement regular training and education programs for the judiciary and legal profession in relation to understanding child sexual abuse and current social science research in relation to child sexual abuse.	Accept In Principle
			68b	the Australasian Institute of Judicial Administration.	
			68c	the Judicial Commission of New South Wales.	
			68d	the Judicial College of Victoria.	
Criminal Justice (2017)	69	In any state or territory where provisions such as those in sections 79(2) and 108C of the Uniform Evidence Act or their equivalent are not available, the relevant government should introduce legislation to allow for expert evidence in relation to the development and behaviour of children generally and the development and behaviour of children who have been victims of child sexual abuse offences.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	70	Each state and territory government should lead a process to consult the prosecution, defence, judiciary and academics with relevant expertise in relation to judicial directions containing educative information about children and the impact of child sexual abuse, with a view to settling standard directions and introducing legislation as soon as possible to authorise and require the directions to be given. The National Child Sexual Assault Reform Committee's recommended mandatory judicial directions and the Victorian Government's proposed directions on inconsistencies in the complainant's account should be the starting point for the consultation process, subject to the removal of the limitation in the third direction recommended by the National Child Sexual Assault Reform Committee in relation to children's responses to sexual abuse so that it can apply regardless of the complainant's age at trial.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	71	In advance of any more general codification of judicial directions, each state and territory government should work with the judiciary to identify whether any legislation is required to permit trial judges to assist juries by giving relevant directions earlier in the trial or to otherwise assist juries by providing them with more information about the issues in the trial. If legislation is required, state and territory governments should introduce the necessary legislation.			Accept In Principle
Criminal Justice (2017)	72	Each state and territory government should work with its courts, prosecution, legal aid and policing agencies to ensure that delays are reduced and kept to a minimum in prosecutions for child sexual abuse offences, including through measures to encourage:	72a	the early allocation of prosecutors and defence counsel.	Accept In Principle
			72b	the Crown – including subsequently allocated Crown prosecutors – to be bound by early prosecution decisions.	
			72c	appropriate early guilty pleas.	
			72d	case management and the determination of preliminary issues before trial.	

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SIX-MONTH RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	73	In those states and territories that have a qualified privilege in relation to sexual assault communications, the relevant state or territory government should work with its courts, prosecution and legal aid agencies to implement any necessary procedural or case management reforms to ensure that complainants are effectively able to claim the privilege without risking delaying the trial.			Further Consideration
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	74	All state and territory governments (other than New South Wales and South Australia) should introduce legislation to provide that good character be excluded as a mitigating factor in sentencing for child sexual abuse offences where that good character facilitated the offending, similar to that applying in New South Wales and South Australia.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	75	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to require sentencing courts, when setting a sentence in relation to child sexual abuse offences involving multiple discrete episodes of offending and/or where there are multiple victims, to indicate the sentence that would have been imposed for each offence had separate sentences been imposed.			Accept
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	76	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to provide that sentences for child sexual abuse offences should be set in accordance with the sentencing standards at the time of sentencing instead of at the time of the offending, but the sentence must be limited to the maximum sentence available for the offence at the date when the offence was committed.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	77	State and territory governments, in consultation with their respective Directors of Public Prosecutions, should improve the information provided to victims and survivors of child sexual abuse offences to:	77a	give them a better understanding of the role of the victim impact statement in the sentencing process	Accept
			77b	better prepare them for making a victim impact statement, including in relation to understanding the sort of content that may result in objection being taken to the statement or parts of it.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	78	State and territory governments should ensure that, as far as reasonably practicable, special measures to assist victims of child sexual abuse offences to give evidence in prosecutions are available for victims when they give a victim impact statement, if they wish to use them.			Accept
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	79	State and territory governments should introduce legislation, where necessary, to expand the Director of Public Prosecution's right to bring an interlocutory appeal in prosecutions involving child sexual abuse offences so that the appeal right:	79a	applies to pre-trial judgments or orders and decisions or rulings on the admissibility of evidence, but only if the decision or ruling eliminates or substantially weakens the prosecution's case.	Accept In Principle
			79b	is not subject to a requirement for leave.	
			79c	extends to 'no case' rulings at trial.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	80	State and territory governments should work with their appellate court and the Director of Public Prosecutions to ensure that the court is sufficiently well resourced to hear and determine interlocutory appeals in prosecutions involving child sexual abuse offences in a timely manner.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	81	Directors of Public Prosecutions should amend their prosecution guidelines, where necessary, in relation to the decision as to whether there should be a retrial following a successful conviction appeal in child sexual abuse prosecutions. The guidelines should require that the prosecution consult the complainant and relevant police officer before the Director of Public Prosecutions decides whether to retry a matter.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	82	State and territory governments should ensure that a relevant government agency, such as the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, is monitoring the number, type and success rate of appeals in child sexual abuse prosecutions and the issues raised to:	82a	identify areas of the law in need of reform.	Accept In Principle
			82b	ensure any reforms – including reforms arising from the Royal Commission's recommendations in relation to criminal justice, if implemented – are working as intended.	
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	83	tate and territory governments (other than the Northern Territory) should give further consideration to whether the abolition of the presumption that a male under the age of 14 years is incapable of having sexual intercourse should be given retrospective effect and whether any immunity which has arisen as a result of the operation of the presumption should be abolished. State and territory governments (other than the Northern Territory) should introduce any legislation they consider necessary as a result of this consideration.			Accept In Principle
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	84	State and territory governments should review their legislation – and if necessary introduce amending legislation – to ensure that complainants in child sexual abuse prosecutions do not have to give evidence on any additional occasion in circumstances where the accused, or one of two or more co-accused, is a juvenile at the time of prosecution or was a juvenile at the time of the offence.			Accept In Principle

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
<i>Criminal Justice</i> (2017)	85	State and territory governments should keep the interaction of:	85a	their legislation relevant to regulatory responses to institutional child sexual abuse.	Accept In Principle
			85b	their crimes legislation and the crimes legislation of all other Australian jurisdictions, particularly in relation to child sexual abuse offences and sex offender registration under regular review to ensure that their regulatory responses work together effectively with their relevant crimes legislation and the relevant crimes legislation of all other Australian jurisdictions in the interests of responding effectively to institutional child sexual abuse.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	2.1	The Australian Government should conduct and publish a nationally representative prevalence study on a regular basis to establish the extent of child maltreatment in institutional and non-institutional contexts in Australia.			Noted
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	6.1	The Australian Government should establish a mechanism to oversee the development and implementation of a national strategy to prevent child sexual abuse. This work should be undertaken by the proposed National Office for Child Safety (see Recommendations 6.16 and 6.17) and be included in the National Framework for Child Safety (see Recommendation 6.15).			Noted
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	6.2	The national strategy to prevent child sexual abuse should encompass the following complementary initiatives:	6.2a	social marketing campaigns to raise general community awareness and increase knowledge of child sexual abuse, to change problematic attitudes and behaviour relating to such abuse, and to promote and direct people to related prevention initiatives, information and help-seeking services	Accept In Principle
			6.2b	prevention education delivered through preschool, school and other community institutional settings that aims to increase children's knowledge of child sexual abuse and build practical skills to assist in strengthening self-protective skills and strategies. The education should be integrated into existing school curricula and link with related areas such as respectful relationships education and sexuality education. It should be mandatory for all preschools and schools	
			6.2c	prevention education for parents delivered through day care, preschool, school, sport and recreational settings, and other institutional and community settings. The education should aim to increase knowledge of child sexual abuse and its impacts, and build skills to help reduce the risks of child sexual abuse	
			6.2d	online safety education for children, delivered via schools. Ministers for education, through the Council of Australian Governments, should establish a nationally consistent curriculum for online safety education in schools. The Office of the eSafety Commissioner should be consulted on the design of the curriculum and contribute to the development of course content and approaches to delivery (see Recommendation 6.19)	
			6.2e	online safety education for parents and other community members to better support children's safety online. Building on their current work, the Office of the eSafety Commissioner should oversee the delivery of this education nationally (see Recommendation 6.20)	
			6.2f	prevention education for tertiary students studying university, technical and further education, and vocational education and training courses before entering childrelated occupations. This should aim to increase awareness and understanding of the prevention of child sexual abuse and potentially harmful sexual behaviours in children	
			6.2g	information and help-seeking services to support people who are concerned they may be at risk of sexually abusing children. The design of these services should be informed by the Stop It Now! model implemented in Ireland and the United Kingdom	
			6.2hi	information and help seeking services for parents and other members of the community concerned that: an adult they know may be at risk of perpetrating child sexual abuse	
			6.2hii	information and help seeking services for parents and other members of the community concerned that: a child or young person they know may be at risk of sexual abuse or harm	
			6.2hiii	information and help seeking services for parents and other members of the community concerned that: a child they know may be displaying harmful sexual behaviours.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	6.3	The design and implementation of these initiatives should consider:	6.3a	aligning with and linking to national strategies for preventing violence against adults and children, and strategies for addressing other forms of child maltreatment	Accept In Principle
			6.3b	tailoring and targeting initiatives to reach, engage and provide access to all communities, including children, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, people with disability, and regional and remote communities	
			6.3c	involving children and young people in the strategic development, design, implementation and evaluation of initiatives	
			6.3di	using research and evaluation to: build the evidence base for using best practices to prevent child sexual abuse and harmful sexual behaviours in children	
			6.3dii	using research and evaluation to: guide the development and refinement of interventions, including the piloting and testing of initiatives before they are implemented.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	6.4	All institutions should uphold the rights of the child. Consistent with Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, all institutions should act with the best interests of the child as a primary consideration. In order to achieve this, institutions should implement the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission.			Accept In Principle

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Final Report (2017)	6.5	The Child Safe Standards are: 1. Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture 2. Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously 3. Families and communities are informed and involved 4. Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account 5. People working with children are suitable and supported 6. Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focused 7. Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training 8. Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur 9. Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved 10. Policies and procedures document how the institution is child safe.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	6.6	Institutions should be guided by the following core components when implementing the Child Safe Standards:	6.6.1	Standard 1: Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture a. The institution publicly commits to child safety and leaders champion a child safe culture. b. Child safety is a shared responsibility at all levels of the institution. c. Risk management strategies focus on preventing, identifying and mitigating risks to children. d. Staff and volunteers comply with a code of conduct that sets clear behavioural standards towards children. e. Staff and volunteers understand their obligations on information sharing and recordkeeping.	Accept In Principle
			6.6.2	Standard 2: Children participate in decisions affecting them and are taken seriously a. Children are able to express their views and are provided opportunities to participate in decisions that affect their lives. b. The importance of friendships is recognised and support from peers is encouraged, helping children feel safe and be less isolated. c. Children can access sexual abuse prevention programs and information. d. Staff and volunteers are attuned to signs of harm and facilitate child-friendly ways for children to communicate and raise their concerns.	
			6.6.3	Standard 3: Families and communities are informed and involved a. Families have the primary responsibility for the upbringing and development of their child and participate in decisions affecting their child. b. The institution engages in open, two-way communication with families and communities about its child safety approach and relevant information is accessible. c. Families and communities have a say in the institution's policies and practices. d. Families and communities are informed about the institution's operations and governance.	
			6.6.4	Standard 4: Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account a. The institution actively anticipates children's diverse circumstances and responds effectively to those with additional vulnerabilities. b. All children have access to information, support and complaints processes. c. The institution pays particular attention to the needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, children with disability, and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.	
			6.6.5	Standard 5: People working with children are suitable and supported a. Recruitment, including advertising and screening, emphasises child safety. b. Relevant staff and volunteers have Working With Children Checks. c. All staff and volunteers receive an appropriate induction and are aware of their child safety responsibilities, including reporting obligations. d. Supervision and people management have a child safety focus.	
			6.6.6	Standard 6: Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focused a. The institution has a child-focused complaint handling system that is understood by children, staff, volunteers and families. b. The institution has an effective complaint handling policy and procedure which clearly outline roles and responsibilities, approaches to dealing with different types of complaints and obligations to act and report. c. Complaints are taken seriously, responded to promptly and thoroughly, and reporting, privacy and employment law obligations are met.	
			6.6.7	Standard 7: Staff are equipped with the knowledge, skills and awareness to keep children safe through continual education and training a. Relevant staff and volunteers receive training on the nature and indicators of child maltreatment, particularly institutional child sexual abuse. b. Staff and volunteers receive training on the institution's child safe practices and child protection. c. Relevant staff and volunteers are supported to develop practical skills in protecting children and responding to disclosures.	
			6.6.8	Standard 8: Physical and online environments minimise the opportunity for abuse to occur a. Risks in the online and physical environments are identified and mitigated without compromising a child's right to privacy and healthy development. b. The online environment is used in accordance with the institution's code of conduct and relevant policies.	

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			6.6.9	Standard 9: Implementation of the Child Safe Standards is continuously reviewed and improved a. The institution regularly reviews and improves child safe practices. b. The institution analyses complaints to identify causes and systemic failures to inform continuous improvement.	
			6.6.10	Standard 10: Policies and procedures document how the institution is child safe a. Policies and procedures address all Child Safe Standards. b. Policies and procedures are accessible and easy to understand. c. Best practice models and stakeholder consultation inform the development of policies and procedures. d. Leaders champion and model compliance with policies and procedures. e. Staff understand and implement the policies and procedures.	
Final Report (2017)	6.7	The national Child Safe Standards developed by the Royal Commission and listed at Recommendation 6.5 should be adopted as part of the new National Statement of Principles for Child Safe Organisations described by the Community Services Ministers' Meeting in November 2016. The National Statement of Principles for Child Safe Organisations should be endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	6.8	State and territory governments should require all institutions in their jurisdictions that engage in child-related work to meet the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission at Recommendation 6.5.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	6.9	Legislative requirements to comply with the Child Safe Standards should cover institutions that provide:	6.9a	accommodation and residential services for children, including overnight excursions or stays	Accept In Principle
			6.9b	activities or services of any kind, under the auspices of a particular religious denomination or faith, through which adults have contact with children	
			6.9c	childcare or childminding services	
			6.9d	child protection services, including out-of-home care	
			6.9e	activities or services where clubs and associations have a significant membership of, or involvement by, children	
			6.9f	coaching or tuition services for children	
			6.9g	commercial services for children, including entertainment or party services, gym or play facilities, photography services, and talent or beauty competitions	
			6.9h	services for children with disability	
			6.9i	education services for children	
			6.9j	health services for children	
			6.9k	justice and detention services for children, including immigration detention facilities	
			6.9l	transport services for children, including school crossing services.	
Final Report (2017)	6.10	State and territory governments should ensure that:	6.10a	an independent oversight body in each state and territory is responsible for monitoring and enforcing the Child Safe Standards. Where appropriate, this should be an existing body.	Accept In Principle
			6.10b	the independent oversight body is able to delegate responsibility for monitoring and enforcing the Child Safe Standards to another state or territory government body, such as a sector regulator.	
			6.10c	regulators take a responsive and risk-based approach when monitoring compliance with the Child Safe Standards and, where possible, utilise existing regulatory frameworks to monitor and enforce the Child Safe Standards.	
Final Report (2017)	6.11	Each independent state and territory oversight body should have the following additional functions:	6.11a	provide advice and information on the Child Safe Standards to institutions and the community	Accept In Principle
			6.11b	collect, analyse and publish data on the child safe approach in that jurisdiction;	
			6.11c	partner with peak bodies, professional standards bodies and/or sector leaders to work with institutions to enhance the safety of children;	
			6.11d	provide, promote or support education and training on the Child Safe Standards to build the capacity of institutions to be child safe; and	
			6.11e	coordinate ongoing information exchange between oversight bodies relating to institutions' compliance with the Child Safe Standards.	
Final Report (2017)	6.12	With support from governments at the national, state and territory levels, local governments should designate child safety officer positions from existing staff profiles to carry out the following functions:	6.12a	developing child safe messages in local government venues, grounds and facilities	Accept In Principle
			6.12b	assisting local institutions to access online child safe resources	
			6.12c	providing child safety information and support to local institutions on a needs basis	
			6.12d	supporting local institutions to work collaboratively with key services to ensure child safe approaches are culturally safe, disability aware and appropriate for children from diverse backgrounds.	
Final Report (2017)	6.13	The Australian Government should require all institutions that engage in child-related work for the Australian Government, including Commonwealth agencies, to meet the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission at Recommendation 6.5.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	6.14	The Australian Government should be responsible for the following functions:	6.14a	evaluate, publicly report on, and drive the continuous improvement of the implementation of the Child Safe Standards and their outcomes	Noted

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			6.14b	coordinate the direct input of children and young people into the evaluation and continuous improvement of the Child Safe Standards	
			6.14c	coordinate national capacity building and support initiatives and opportunities for collaboration between jurisdictions and institutions	
			6.14d	develop and promote national strategies to raise awareness and drive cultural change in institutions and the community to support child safety.	
Final Report (2017)	6.15	The Australian Government should develop a new National Framework for Child Safety in collaboration with state and territory governments. The Framework should:	6.15a	commit governments to improving the safety of all children by implementing longterm child safety initiatives, with appropriate resources, and holding them to account	Accept In Principle
			6.15b	be endorsed by the Council of Australian Governments and overseen by a joint ministerial body	
			6.15c	commence after the expiration of the current National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children, no later than 2020	
			6.15d	cover broader child safety issues, as well as specific initiatives to better prevent and respond to institutional child sexual abuse including initiatives recommended by the Royal Commission	
			6.15e	include links to other related policy frameworks.	
Final Report (2017)	6.16	The Australian Government should establish a National Office for Child Safety in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, to provide a response to the implementation of the Child Safe Standards nationally, and to develop and lead the proposed National Framework for Child Safety. The Australian Government should transition the National Office for Child Safety into an Australian Government statutory body within 18 months of this Royal Commission's Final Report being tabled in the Australian Parliament.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	6.17	The National Office for Child Safety should report to Parliament and have the following functions:	6.17a	develop and lead the coordination of the proposed National Framework for Child Safety, including national coordination of the Child Safe Standards	Noted
			6.17b	collaborate with state and territory governments to lead capacity building and continuous improvement of child safe initiatives through resource development, best practice material and evaluation	
			6.17c	promote the participation and empowerment of children and young people in the National Framework and child safe initiatives	
			6.17d	perform the Australian Government's Child Safe Standards functions as set out at Recommendation 6.15	
			6.17e	lead the community prevention initiatives as set out in Recommendation 6.2.	
Final Report (2017)	6.18	The Australian Government should create a ministerial portfolio with responsibility for children's policy issues, including the National Framework for Child Safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	6.19	Ministers for education, through the Council of Australian Governments, should establish a nationally consistent curriculum for online safety education in schools. The Office of the eSafety Commissioner should be consulted on the design of the curriculum and contribute to the development of course content and approaches to delivery. The curriculum should:	6.19a	be appropriately staged from Foundation year to Year 12 and be linked with related content areas to build behavioural skills as well as technical knowledge to support a positive and safe online culture	Accept In Principle
			6.19b	involve children and young people in the design, delivery and piloting of new online safety education, and update content annually to reflect evolving technologies, online behaviours and evidence of international best practice approaches	
			6.19c	be tailored and delivered in ways that allow all Australian children and young people to reach, access and engage with online safety education, including vulnerable groups that may not access or engage with the school system.	
Final Report (2017)	6.20	Building on its current work, the Office of the eSafety Commissioner should oversee the delivery of national online safety education aimed at parents and other community members to better support children's safety online. These communications should aim to:	6.20a	keep the community up to date on emerging risks and opportunities for safeguarding children online	Noted
			6.20b	build community understanding of responsibilities, legalities and the ethics of children's interactions online	
			6.20c	encourage proactive responses from the community to make it 'everybody's business' to intervene early, provide support or report issues when concerns for children's safety online are raised	
			6.20d	increase public awareness of how to access advice and support when online incidents occur.	
Final Report (2017)	6.21	Pre-service education and in-service staff training should be provided to support child-related institutions in creating safe online environments. The Office of the eSafety Commissioner should advise on and contribute to program design and content. These programs should be aimed at:	6.21a	tertiary students studying university, technical and further education, and vocational education and training courses, before entering child-related occupations; and could be provided as a component of a broader program of child sexual abuse prevention education (see Recommendation 6.2)	Accept In Principle
			6.21b	staff and volunteers in schools and other child-related organisations, and could build on the existing web-based learning programs of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.	
Final Report (2017)	6.22	In partnership with the proposed National Office of Child Safety (see Recommendations 6.16 and 6.17), the Office of the eSafety Commissioner should oversee the development of an online safety framework and resources to support all schools in creating child safe online environments. This work should build on existing school-based e-safety frameworks and guidelines, drawing on Australian and international models. The school-based online safety framework and resources should be designed to:	6.22a	a. support schools in developing, implementing and reviewing their online codes of conduct, policies and procedures to help create an online culture that is safe for children	Noted

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			6.22b	guide schools in their response to specific online incidents, in coordination with other agencies. This should include guidance in complaint handling, understanding reporting requirements, supporting victims to minimise further harm, and preserving digital evidence to support criminal justice processes.	
Final Report (2017)	6.23	State and territory education departments should consider introducing centralised mechanisms to support government and non-government schools when online incidents occur. This should result in appropriate levels of escalation and effective engagement with all relevant entities, such as the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, technical service providers and law enforcement. Consideration should be given to:	6.23a	adopting the promising model of the Queensland Department of Education and Training's Cyber Safety and Reputation Management Unit, which provides advice and a centralised coordination function for schools, working in partnership with relevant entities to remove offensive online content and address other issues	Accept In Principle
			6.23b	strengthening or re-establishing multi-stakeholder forums and case-management for effective joint responses involving all relevant agencies, such as police, education, health and child protection.	
Final Report (2017)	6.24	In consultation with the eSafety Commissioner, police commissioners from states and territories and the Australian Federal Police should continue to ensure national capability for coordinated, best practice responses by law enforcement agencies to online child sexual abuse. This could include through:	6.24a	establishing regular meetings of the heads of cybersafety units in all Australian police departments to ensure a consistent capacity to respond to emerging incidents and share best practice approaches, tools and resources	Accept In Principle
			6.24b	convening regular forums and conferences to bring together law enforcement, government, the technology industry, the community sector and other relevant stakeholders to discuss emerging issues, set agendas and identify solutions to online child sexual abuse and exploitation	
			6.24ci	building capability across police departments, through in-service training for: frontline police officers to respond to public complaints relating to issues of online child sexual abuse or harmful sexual behaviours	
			6.24cii	building capability across police departments, through in-service training for: police officers who liaise with young people in school and community settings.	
Final Report (2017)	7.1	State and territory governments that do not have a mandatory reporter guide should introduce one and require its use by mandatory reporters.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	7.2	Institutions and state and territory governments should provide mandatory reporters with access to experts who can provide timely advice on child sexual abuse reporting obligations.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	7.3	State and territory governments should amend laws concerning mandatory reporting to child protection authorities to achieve national consistency in reporter groups. At a minimum, state and territory governments should also include the following groups of individuals as mandatory reporters in every jurisdiction:	7.3a	out-of-home care workers (excluding foster and kinship/relative carers)	Further Consideration
			7.3b	youth justice workers	
			7.3c	early childhood workers	
			7.3d	registered psychologists and school counsellors	
			7.3e	people in religious ministry.	
Final Report (2017)	7.4	Laws concerning mandatory reporting to child protection authorities should not exempt persons in religious ministry from being required to report knowledge or suspicions formed, in whole or in part, on the basis of information disclosed in or in connection with a religious confession.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	7.5	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should ensure that legislation provides comprehensive protection for individuals who make reports in good faith about child sexual abuse in institutional contexts. Such individuals should be protected from civil and criminal liability and from reprisals or other detrimental action as a result of making a complaint or report, including in relation to:	7.5a	mandatory and voluntary reports to child protection authorities under child protection legislation	Accept In Principle
			7.5b	notifications concerning child abuse under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law.	
Final Report (2017)	7.6	State and territory governments should amend child protection legislation to provide adequate protection for individuals who make complaints or reports in good faith to any institution engaging in child-related work about: (Such individuals should be protected from civil and criminal liability and from reprisals or other detrimental action as a result of making a complaint or report.)	7.6a	child sexual abuse within that institution or	Accept
			7.6b	the response of that institution to child sexual abuse.	
Final Report (2017)	7.7	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 6: Processes to respond to complaints of child sexual abuse are child focused, institutions should have a clear, accessible and child-focused complaint handling policy and procedure that sets out how the institution should respond to complaints of child sexual abuse. The complaint handling policy and procedure should cover:	7.7a	making a complaint	Accept In Principle
			7.7b	responding to a complaint	
			7.7c	investigating a complaint	
			7.7d	providing support and assistance	
			7.7e	achieving systemic improvements following a complaint.	
Final Report (2017)	7.8	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 1: Child safety is embedded in institutional leadership, governance and culture, institutions should have a clear code of conduct that:	7.8a	outlines behaviours towards children that the institution considers unacceptable, including concerning conduct, misconduct or criminal conduct	Accept In Principle

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			7.8b	includes a specific requirement to report any concerns, breaches or suspected breaches of the code to a person responsible for handling complaints in the institution or to an external authority when required by law and/or the institution's complaint handling policy	
			7.8c	outlines the protections available to individuals who make complaints or reports in good faith to any institution engaging in child-related work (see Recommendation 7.6 on reporter protections).	
Final Report (2017)	7.9	State and territory governments should establish nationally consistent legislative schemes (reportable conduct schemes), based on the approach adopted in New South Wales, which oblige heads of institutions to notify an oversight body of any reportable allegation, conduct or conviction involving any of the institution's employees.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	7.10	Reportable conduct schemes should provide for:	7.10a	an independent oversight body	Accept In Principle
			7.10b	obligatory reporting by heads of institutions	
			7.10c	a definition of reportable conduct that covers any sexual offence, or sexual misconduct, committed against, with, or in the presence of, a child	
			7.10d	a definition of reportable conduct that includes the historical conduct of a current employee	
			7.10e	a definition of employee that covers paid employees, volunteers and contractors	
			7.10f	protection for persons who make reports in good faith	
			7.10gi	oversight body powers and functions that include: scrutinising institutional systems for preventing reportable conduct and for handling and responding to reportable allegations, or reportable convictions	
			7.10gii	oversight body powers and functions that include: monitoring the progress of investigations and the handling of complaints by institutions	
			7.10giii	oversight body powers and functions that include: conducting, on its own motion, investigations concerning any reportable conduct of which it has been notified or otherwise becomes aware	
			7.10giv	oversight body powers and functions that include: power to exempt any class or kind of conduct from being reportable conduct	
			7.10gv	oversight body powers and functions that include: capacity building and practice development, through the provision of training, education and guidance to institutions	
			7.10gvi	oversight body powers and functions that include: public reporting, including annual reporting on the operation of the scheme and trends in reports and investigations, and the power to make special reports to parliaments.	
Final Report (2017)	7.11	State and territory governments should periodically review the operation of reportable conduct schemes, and in that review determine whether the schemes should cover additional institutions that exercise a high degree of responsibility for children and involve a heightened risk of child sexual abuse.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	7.12	Reportable conduct schemes should cover institutions that: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• exercise a high degree of responsibility for children• engage in activities that involve a heightened risk of child sexual abuse, due to institutional characteristics, the nature of the activities involving children, or the additional vulnerability of the children the institution engages with. At a minimum, these should include institutions that provide:	7.12ai	accommodation and residential services for children, including: housing or homelessness services that provide overnight beds for children and young people	Accept In Principle
			7.12aai	accommodation and residential services for children, including: providers of overnight camps	
			7.12b	activities or services of any kind, under the auspices of a particular religious denomination or faith, through which adults have contact with children	
			7.12ci	childcare services, including: approved education and care services under the Education and Care Services National Law	
			7.12cii	childcare services, including: approved occasional care services	
			7.12di	child protection services and out-of-home care, including: child protection authorities and agencies	
			7.12dii	child protection services and out-of-home care, including: providers of foster care, kinship or relative care	
			7.12diii	child protection services and out-of-home care, including: providers of family group homes	
			7.12div	child protection services and out-of-home care, including: providers of residential care	
			7.12ei	disability services and supports for children with disability, including: disability service providers under state and territory legislation	
			7.12eii	disability services and supports for children with disability, including: registered providers of supports under the National Disability Insurance Scheme	
			7.12fi	education services for children, including: government and non-government schools	
			7.12fii	education services for children, including: TAFEs and other institutions registered to provide senior secondary education or training, courses for overseas students or student exchange programs	
			7.12gi	health services for children, including: government health departments and agencies, and statutory corporations	
			7.12gii	health services for children, including: public and private hospitals	
			7.12giii	health services for children, including: providers of mental health and drug or alcohol treatment services that have inpatient beds for children and young people	
			7.12hi	justice and detention services for children, including: youth detention centres	
			7.12hii	justice and detention services for children, including: immigration detention facilities.	

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Final Report (2017)	8.1	To allow for delayed disclosure of abuse by victims and take account of limitation periods for civil actions for child sexual abuse, institutions that engage in child-related work should retain, for at least 45 years, records relating to child sexual abuse that has occurred or is alleged to have occurred.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.2	The National Archives of Australia and state and territory public records authorities should ensure that records disposal schedules require that records relating to child sexual abuse that has occurred or is alleged to have occurred be retained for at least 45 years.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	8.3	The National Archives of Australia and state and territory public records authorities should provide guidance to government and non-government institutions on identifying records which, it is reasonable to expect, may become relevant to an actual or alleged incident of child sexual abuse; and on the retention and disposal of such records.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.4	All institutions that engage in child-related work should implement the following principles for records and recordkeeping, to a level that responds to the risk of child sexual abuse occurring within the institution.	8.4.1	Principle 1: Creating and keeping full and accurate records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse, is in the best interests of children and should be an integral part of institutional leadership, governance and culture. Institutions that care for or provide services to children must keep the best interests of the child uppermost in all aspects of their conduct, including recordkeeping. It is in the best interest of children that institutions foster a culture in which the creation and management of accurate records are integral parts of the institution's operations and governance.	Accept In Principle
			8.4.2	Principle 2: Full and accurate records should be created about all incidents, responses and decisions affecting child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse. Institutions should ensure that records are created to document any identified incidents of grooming, inappropriate behaviour (including breaches of institutional codes of conduct) or child sexual abuse and all responses to such incidents. Records created by institutions should be clear, objective and thorough. They should be created at, or as close as possible to, the time the incidents occurred, and clearly show the author (whether individual or institutional) and the date created.	
			8.4.3	Principle 3: Records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse, should be maintained appropriately. Records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse, should be maintained in an indexed, logical and secure manner. Associated records should be collocated or cross-referenced to ensure that people using those records are aware of all relevant information.	
			8.4.4	Principle 4: Records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse, should only be disposed of in accordance with law or policy. Records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse, must only be destroyed in accordance with records disposal schedules or published institutional policies. Records relevant to child sexual abuse should be subject to minimum retention periods that allow for delayed disclosure of abuse by victims, and take account of limitation periods for civil actions for child sexual abuse.	
			8.4.5	Principle 5: Individuals' existing rights to access, amend or annotate records about themselves should be recognised to the fullest extent. Individuals whose childhoods are documented in institutional records should have a right to access records made about them. Full access should be given unless contrary to law. Specific, not generic, explanations should be provided in any case where a record, or part of a record, is withheld or redacted. Individuals should be made aware of, and assisted to assert, their existing rights to request that records containing their personal information be amended or annotated, and to seek review or appeal of decisions refusing access, amendment or annotation.	
Final Report (2017)	8.5	State and territory governments should ensure that non-government schools operating in the state or territory are required to comply, at a minimum, with standards applicable to government schools in relation to the creation, maintenance and disposal of records relevant to child safety and wellbeing, including child sexual abuse.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.6	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should make nationally consistent legislative and administrative arrangements, in each jurisdiction, for a specified range of bodies (prescribed bodies) to share information related to the safety and wellbeing of children, including information relevant to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts (relevant information). These arrangements should be made to establish an information exchange scheme to operate in and across Australian jurisdictions.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.7	In establishing the information exchange scheme, the Australian Government and state and territory governments should develop a minimum of nationally consistent provisions to:	8.7a	enable direct exchange of relevant information between a range of prescribed bodies, including service providers, government and non-government agencies, law enforcement agencies, and regulatory and oversight bodies, which have responsibilities related to children's safety and wellbeing	Accept In Principle
			8.7b	permit prescribed bodies to provide relevant information to other prescribed bodies without a request, for purposes related to preventing, identifying and responding to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts	

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			8.7c	require prescribed bodies to share relevant information on request from other prescribed bodies, for purposes related to preventing, identifying and responding to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts, subject to limited exceptions	
			8.7d	explicitly prioritise children's safety and wellbeing and override laws that might otherwise prohibit or restrict disclosure of information to prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts	
			8.7e	provide safeguards and other measures for oversight and accountability to prevent unauthorised sharing and improper use of information obtained under the information exchange scheme	
			8.7f	require prescribed bodies to provide adversely affected persons with an opportunity to respond to untested or unsubstantiated allegations, where such information is received under the information exchange scheme, prior to taking adverse action against such persons, except where to do so could place another person at risk of harm.	
Final Report (2017)	8.8	The Australian Government, state and territory governments and prescribed bodies should work together to ensure that the implementation of our recommended information exchange scheme is supported with education, training and guidelines. Education, training and guidelines should promote understanding of, and confidence in, appropriate information sharing to better prevent, identify and respond to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts, including by addressing:	8.8a	impediments to information sharing due to limited understanding of applicable laws	Accept In Principle
			8.8b	unauthorised sharing and improper use of information.	
Final Report (2017)	8.9	The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) Education Council should consider the need for nationally consistent state and territory legislative requirements about the types of information recorded on teacher registers. Types of information that the council should consider, with respect to a person's registration and employment as a teacher, include:	8.9a	the person's former names and aliases	Accept In Principle
			8.9b	the details of former and current employers	
			8.9ci	where relating to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse: current and past disciplinary actions, such as conditions on, suspension of, and cancellation of registration	
			8.9cii	where relating to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse: grounds for current and past disciplinary actions	
			8.9ciii	where relating to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse: pending investigations	
			8.9civ	where relating to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse: findings or outcomes of investigations where allegations have been substantiated	
			8.9cv	where relating to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse: resignation or dismissal from employment.	
Final Report (2017)	8.10	The COAG Education Council should consider the need for nationally consistent provisions in state and territory teacher registration laws providing that teacher registration authorities may, and/or must on request, make information on teacher registers available to:	8.10a	teacher registration authorities in other states and territories	Accept In Principle
			8.10b	teachers' employers.	
Final Report (2017)	8.11	The COAG Education Council should consider the need for nationally consistent provisions: in state and territory teacher registration laws; or in administrative arrangements, based on legislative authorisation for information sharing under our recommended information exchange scheme; providing that teacher registration authorities may or must notify teacher registration authorities in other states and territories and teachers' employers of information they hold or receive about the following matters where they relate to allegations or incidents of child sexual abuse:	8.11a	disciplinary actions, such as conditions or restrictions on, suspension of, and cancellation of registration, including with notification of grounds.	Accept In Principle
			8.11b	investigations into conduct, or into allegations or complaints.	
			8.11c	findings or outcomes of investigations.	
			8.11d	resignation or dismissal from employment.	
Final Report (2017)	8.12	In considering improvements to teacher registers and information sharing by registration authorities, the COAG Education Council should also consider what safeguards are necessary to protect teachers' personal information.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.13	State and territory governments should ensure that policies provide for the exchange of a student's information when they move to another school, where: State and territory governments should give consideration to basing these policies on our recommended information exchange scheme (Recommendations 8.6 to 8.8).	8.13a	the student may pose risks to other children due to their harmful sexual behaviours or may have educational or support needs due to their experiences of child sexual abuse and	Accept
			8.13b	the new school needs this information to address the safety and wellbeing of the student or of other students at the school.	
Final Report (2017)	8.14	State and territory governments should ensure that policies for the exchange of a student's information when they move to another school:	8.14a	provide that the principal (or other authorised information sharer) at the student's previous school is required to share information with the new school in the circumstances described in Recommendation 8.13 and	Accept
			8.14b	apply to schools in government and non-government systems.	

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Final Report (2017)	8.15	State and territory governments should ensure that policies about the exchange of a student's information (as in Recommendations 8.13 and 8.14) provide the following safeguards, in addition to any safeguards attached to our recommended information exchange scheme:	8.15a	information provided to the new school should be proportionate to its need for that information to assist it in meeting the student's safety and wellbeing needs, and those of other students at the school	Accept In Principle
			8.15b	information should be exchanged between principals, or other authorised information sharers, and disseminated to other staff members on a need-to-know basis.	
Final Report (2017)	8.16	The COAG Education Council should review the Interstate Student Data Transfer Note and Protocol in the context of the implementation of our recommended information exchange scheme (Recommendations 8.6 to 8.8).			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.17	State and territory governments should introduce legislation to establish carers registers in their respective jurisdictions, with national consistency in relation to:	8.17ai	the inclusion of the following carer types on the carers register: foster carers.	Accept In Principle
			8.17aia	the inclusion of the following carer types on the carers register: relative/kinship carers.	
			8.17aiaii	the inclusion of the following carer types on the carers register: residential care staff.	
			8.17b	the types of information which, at a minimum, should be recorded on the register; and	
			8.17c	the types of information which, at a minimum, must be made available to agencies or bodies with responsibility for assessing, authorising or supervising carers, or other responsibilities related to carer suitability and safety of children in out-of-home care.	
Final Report (2017)	8.18	Carers registers should be maintained by state and territory child protection agencies or bodies with regulatory or oversight responsibility for out-of-home care in that jurisdiction.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	8.19	State and territory governments should consider the need for carers registers to include, at a minimum, the following information (register information) about, or related to, applicant or authorised carers, and persons residing on the same property as applicant/authorised home-based carers (household members):	8.19a	lodgement or grant of applications for authorisation	Accept In Principle
			8.19b	status of the minimum checks set out in Recommendation 12.6 as requirements for authorisation, indicating their outcomes as either satisfactory or unsatisfactory	
			8.19c	withdrawal or refusal of applications for authorisation in circumstances of concern (including in relation to child sexual abuse)	
			8.19d	cancellation or surrender of authorisation in circumstances of concern (including in relation to child sexual abuse)	
			8.19e	previous or current association with an out-of-home care agency, whether by application for authorisation, assessment, grant of authorisation, or supervision	
			8.19f	the date of reportable conduct allegations, and their status as either current, finalised with ongoing risk-related concerns, and/or requiring contact with the reportable conduct oversight body.	
Final Report (2017)	8.20	State and territory governments should consider the need for legislative and administrative arrangements to require responsible agencies to:	8.20a	record register information in minimal detail	Accept In Principle
			8.20b	record register information as a mandatory part of carer authorisation	
			8.20c	update register information about authorised carers.	
Final Report (2017)	8.21	State and territory governments should consider the need for legislative and administrative arrangements to require responsible agencies: (State and territory governments should give consideration to enabling agencies to seek further information for these purposes under our recommended information exchange scheme (Recommendations 8.6 to 8.8).)	8.21ai	before they authorise or recommend authorisation of carers, to: undertake a check for relevant register information, and	Accept In Principle
			8.21aia	before they authorise or recommend authorisation of carers, to: seek further relevant information from another out-of-home care agency where register information indicates applicant carers, or their household members (in the case of prospective home-based carers) have a prior orcurrent association with that other agency	
			8.21bi	in the course of their assessment, authorisation, or supervision of carers, to: seek further relevant information from other agencies or bodies, where register information indicates they hold, or may hold, additional information relevant to carer suitability, including reportable conduct information.	
Final Report (2017)	8.22	State and territory governments should consider the need for effective mechanisms to enable agencies and bodies to obtain relevant information from registers in any state or territory holding such information. Consideration should be given to legislative and administrative arrangements, and digital platforms, which will enable the following to obtain relevant information from their own and other jurisdictions' registers for the purpose of exercising their responsibilities and functions:	8.22a	agencies responsible for assessing, authorising or supervising carers	Accept In Principle
			8.22b	other agencies, including jurisdictional child protection agencies and regulatory and oversight bodies, with responsibilities related to the suitability of persons to be carers and the safety of children in out-of-home care	

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Final Report (2017)	8.23	In considering the legislative and administrative arrangements required for carers registers in their jurisdiction, state and territory governments should consider the need for guidelines and training to promote the proper use of carers registers for the protection of children in out-of-home care. Consideration should also be given to the need for specific safeguards to prevent inappropriate use of register information.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	9.1	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should fund dedicated community support services for victims and survivors in each jurisdiction, to provide an integrated model of advocacy and support and counselling to children and adults who experienced childhood sexual abuse in institutional contexts. Funding and related agreements should require and enable these services to:	9.1a	be trauma-informed and have an understanding of institutional child sexual abuse	Accept In Principle
			9.1b	be collaborative, available, accessible, acceptable and high quality	
			9.1c	use case management and brokerage to coordinate and meet service needs	
			9.1d	support and supervise peer-led support models.	
Final Report (2017)	9.2	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should fund Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander healing approaches as an ongoing, integral part of advocacy and support and therapeutic treatment service system responses for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse. These approaches should be evaluated in accordance with culturally appropriate methodologies, to contribute to evidence of best practice.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	9.3	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should fund support services for people with disability who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood as an ongoing, integral part of advocacy and support and therapeutic treatment service system responses for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	9.4	The Australian Government should establish and fund a legal advice and referral service for victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. The service should provide advice about accessing, amending and annotating records from institutions, and options for initiating police, civil litigation or redress processes as required. Support should include advice, referrals to other legal services for representation and general assistance for people to navigate the legal service system. Funding and related agreements should require and enable these services to be:	9.4a	trauma-informed and have an understanding of institutional child sexual abuse	Noted
			9.4b	collaborative, available, accessible, acceptable and high quality.	
Final Report (2017)	9.5	The Australian Government should fund a national website and helpline as a gateway to accessible advice and information on childhood sexual abuse. This should provide information for victims and survivors, particularly victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, the general public and practitioners about supporting children and adults who have experienced sexual abuse in childhood and available services. The gateway may be operated by an existing service with appropriate experience and should:	9.5a	be trauma-informed and have an understanding of institutional child sexual abuse	Noted
			9.5b	be collaborative, available, accessible, acceptable and high quality	
			9.5c	provide telephone and online information and initial support for victims and survivors, including independent legal information and information about reporting to police	
			9.5d	provide assisted referrals to advocacy and support and therapeutic treatment services.	
Final Report (2017)	9.6	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should address existing specialist sexual assault service gaps by increasing funding for adult and child sexual assault services in each jurisdiction, to provide advocacy and support and specialist therapeutic treatment for victims and survivors, particularly victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse. Funding agreements should require and enable services to:	9.6a	be trauma-informed and have an understanding of institutional child sexual abuse	Accept In Principle
			9.6b	be collaborative, available, accessible, acceptable and high quality	
			9.6c	use collaborative community development approaches	
			9.6d	provide staff with supervision and professional development.	
Final Report (2017)	9.7	Primary Health Networks, within their role to commission joined up local primary care services, should support sexual assault services to work collaboratively with key services such as disability-specific services, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander services, culturally and linguistically diverse services, youth justice, aged care and child and youth services to better meet the needs of victims and survivors.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	9.8	The Australian Government and state and territory government agencies responsible for the delivery of human services should ensure relevant policy frameworks and strategies recognise the needs of victims and survivors and the benefits of implementing trauma informed approaches.			Accept In Principle

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Final Report (2017)	9.9	The Australian Government, in conjunction with state and territory governments, should establish and fund a national centre to raise awareness and understanding of the impacts of child sexual abuse, support help-seeking and guide best practice advocacy and support and therapeutic treatment. The national centre's functions should be to: (The national centre should partner with survivors in all its work, valuing their knowledge and experience.)	9.9a	raise community awareness and promote destigmatising messages about the impacts of child sexual abuse	Accept In Principle
			9.9bi	increase practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult victims and survivors by translating knowledge about the impacts of child sexual abuse and the evidence on effective responses into practice and policy. This should include activities to: identify, translate and promote research in easily available and accessible formats for advocacy and support and therapeutic treatment practitioners	
			9.9bii	increase practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult victims and survivors by translating knowledge about the impacts of child sexual abuse and the evidence on effective responses into practice and policy. This should include activities to: produce national training materials and best practice clinical resources	
			9.9biii	increase practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult victims and survivors by translating knowledge about the impacts of child sexual abuse and the evidence on effective responses into practice and policy. This should include activities to: partner with training organisations to conduct training and workforce development programs	
			9.9biv	increase practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult victims and survivors by translating knowledge about the impacts of child sexual abuse and the evidence on effective responses into practice and policy. This should include activities to: influence national tertiary curricula to incorporate child sexual abuse and trauma-informed care	
			9.9bv	increase practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult victims and survivors by translating knowledge about the impacts of child sexual abuse and the evidence on effective responses into practice and policy. This should include activities to: inform government policy making	
			9.9c	lead the development of better service models and interventions through coordinating a national research agenda and conducting high-quality program evaluation.	
Final Report (2017)	10.1	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should ensure the issue of children's harmful sexual behaviours is included in the national strategy to prevent child sexual abuse that we have recommended (see Recommendations 6.1 to 6.3). Harmful sexual behaviours by children should be addressed through each of the following:	10.1a	primary prevention strategies to educate family, community members, carers and professionals (including mandatory reporters) about preventing harmful sexual behaviours	Accept In Principle
			10.1b	secondary prevention strategies to ensure early intervention when harmful sexual behaviours are developing	
			10.1c	tertiary intervention strategies to address harmful sexual behaviours.	
Final Report (2017)	10.2	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should ensure timely expert assessment is available for individual children with problematic and harmful sexual behaviours, so they receive appropriate responses, including therapeutic interventions, which match their particular circumstances.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	10.3	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should adequately fund therapeutic interventions to meet the needs of all children with harmful sexual behaviours. These should be delivered through a network of specialist and generalist therapeutic services. Specialist services should also be adequately resourced to provide expert support to generalist services.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	10.4	State and territory governments should ensure that there are clear referral pathways for children with harmful sexual behaviours to access expert assessment and therapeutic intervention, regardless of whether the child is engaging voluntarily, on the advice of an institution or through their involvement with the child protection or criminal justice systems.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	10.5	Therapeutic intervention for children with harmful sexual behaviours should be based on the following principles:	10.5a	a contextual and systemic approach should be used	Accept In Principle
			10.5b	family and carers should be involved	
			10.5c	safety should be established	
			10.5d	there should be accountability and responsibility for the harmful sexual behaviours	
			10.5e	there should be a focus on behaviour change	
			10.5f	developmentally and cognitively appropriate interventions should be used	
			10.5g	the care provided should be trauma-informed	
			10.5h	therapeutic services and interventions should be culturally safe	
Final Report (2017)	10.6	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should ensure that all services funded to provide therapeutic intervention for children with harmful sexual behaviours provide professional training and clinical supervision for their staff.	10.5i	therapeutic interventions should be accessible to all children with harmful sexual behaviours.	Accept In Principle

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Final Report (2017)	10.7	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should fund and support evaluation of services providing therapeutic interventions for problematic and harmful sexual behaviours by children.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	12.1	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should develop nationally agreed key terms and definitions in relation to child sexual abuse for the purpose of data collection and reporting by the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) and the Productivity Commission.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	12.2	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should prioritise enhancements to the Child Protection National Minimum Data Set to include:	12.2a	data identifying children with disability, children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children	Accept In Principle
			12.2b	the number of children who were the subject of a substantiated report of sexual abuse while in out-of-home care	
			12.2c	the demographics of those children	
			12.2d	the type of out-of-home care placement in which the abuse occurred	
			12.2e	information about when the abuse occurred	
			12.2f	information about who perpetrated the abuse, including their age and their relationship to the victim, if known.	
Final Report (2017)	12.3	State and territory governments should agree on reporting definitions and data requirements to enable reporting in the Report on government services on outcome indicators for 'improved health and wellbeing of the child', 'safe return home' and 'permanent care'.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	12.4	Each state and territory government should revise existing mandatory accreditation schemes to:	12.4a	incorporate compliance with the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission	Accept In Principle
			12.4b	extend accreditation requirements to both government and non-government out-of-home care service providers.	
Final Report (2017)	12.5	In each state and territory, an existing statutory body or office that is independent of the relevant child protection agency and out-of-home care service providers, for example a children's guardian, should have responsibility for:	12.5a	receiving, assessing and processing applications for accreditation of out-of-home care service providers	Accept In Principle
			12.5b	conducting audits of accredited out-of-home care service providers to ensure ongoing compliance with accreditation standards and conditions.	
Final Report (2017)	12.6	In addition to a National Police Check, Working With Children Check and referee checks, authorisation of all foster and kinship/relative carers and all residential care staff should include:	12.6a	community services checks of the prospective carer and any adult household members of home-based carers	Accept
			12.6b	documented risk management plans to address any risks identified through community services checks	
			12.6c	at least annual review of risk management plans as part of carer reviews and more frequently as required.	
Final Report (2017)	12.7	All out-of-home care service providers should conduct annual reviews of authorised carers that include interviews with all children in the placement with the carer under review, in the absence of the carer.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	12.8	Each state and territory government should adopt a model of assessment appropriately tailored for kinship/relative care. This type of assessment should be designed to:	12.8a	better identify the strengths as well as the support and training needs of kinship/relative carers	Accept
			12.8b	ensure holistic approaches to supporting placements that are culturally safe	
			12.8c	include appropriately resourced support plans.	
Final Report (2017)	12.9	All state and territory governments should collaborate in the development of a sexual abuse prevention education strategy, including online safety, for children in out-of-home care that includes:	12.9a	input from children in out-of-home care and care-leavers	Accept In Principle
			12.9b	comprehensive, age-appropriate and culture-appropriate education about sexuality and healthy relationships that is tailored to the needs of children in out-of-home care	
			12.9c	resources tailored for children in care, for foster and kinship/relative carers, for residential care staff and for caseworkers	
			12.9d	resources that can be adapted to the individual needs of children with disability and their carers.	
Final Report (2017)	12.10	State and territory governments, in collaboration with out-of-home care service providers and peak bodies, should develop resources to assist service providers to:	12.10a	provide appropriate support and mechanisms for children in out-of-home care to communicate, either verbally or through behaviour, their views, concerns and complaints	Accept
			12.10b	provide appropriate training and support to carers and caseworkers to ensure they hear and respond to children in out-of-home care, including ensuring children are involved in decisions about their lives	
			12.10c	regularly consult with the children in their care as part of continuous improvement processes.	
Final Report (2017)	12.11	State and territory governments and out-of-home care service providers should ensure that training for foster and relative/kinship carers, residential care staff and child protection workers includes an understanding of trauma and abuse, the impact on children and the principles of trauma-informed care to assist them to meet the needs of children in out-of-home care, including children with harmful sexual behaviours.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	12.12	When placing a child in out-of-home care, state and territory governments and out-of-home care service providers should take the following measures to support children with harmful sexual behaviours:	12.12a	undertake professional assessments of the child with harmful sexual behaviours, including identifying their needs and appropriate supports and interventions to ensure their safety.	Accept

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SIX-MONTH RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

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			12.12b	establish case management and a package of support services.	
			12.12ci	undertake careful placement matching that includes: providing sufficient relevant information to the potential carer/s and residential care staff to ensure they are equipped to support the child, and additional training as necessary.	
			12.12cii	undertake careful placement matching that includes: rigorously assessing potential threats to the safety of other children, including the child's siblings, in the placement.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.13	State and territory governments and out-of-home care service providers should provide advice, guidelines and ongoing professional development for all foster and kinship/relative carers and residential care staff about preventing and responding to the harmful sexual behaviours of some children in out-of-home care.			Accept
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.14	All state and territory governments should develop and implement coordinated and multi-disciplinary strategies to protect children in residential care by:	12.14a	identifying and disrupting activities that indicate risk of sexual exploitation	Accept In Principle
			12.14b	supporting agencies to engage with children in ways that encourage them to assist in the investigation and prosecution of sexual exploitation offences.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.15	Child protection departments in all states and territories should adopt a nationally consistent definition for child sexual exploitation to enable the collection and reporting of data on sexual exploitation of children in out-of-home care as a form of child sexual abuse.			Accept
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.16	All institutions that provide out-of-home care should develop strategies that increase the likelihood of safe and stable placements for children in care. Such strategies should include:	12.16a	improved processes for 'matching' children with carers and other children in a placement, including in residential care	Accept
			12.16b	the provision of necessary information to carers about a child, prior to and during their placement, to enable carers to properly support the child	
			12.16c	support and training for carers to deal with the different developmental needs of children as well as managing difficult situations and challenging behaviour.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.17	Each state and territory government should ensure that:	12.17a	the financial support and training provided to kinship/relative carers is equivalent to that provided to foster carers to that provided to foster carers	Accept
			12.17b	the need for any additional supports are identified during kinship/relative carer assessments and are funded	
			12.17c	additional casework support is provided to maintain birth family relationships.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.18	The key focus of residential care for children should be based on an intensive therapeutic model of care framework designed to meet the complex needs of children with histories of abuse and trauma.			Accept
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.19	All residential care staff should be provided with regular training and professional supervision by appropriately qualified clinicians.			Accept
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.20	Each state and territory government, in consultation with appropriate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and community representatives, should develop and implement plans to:	12.20a	fully implement the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Placement Principle	Accept In Principle
			12.20b	improve community and child protection sector understanding of the intent and scope of the principle	
			12.20c	develop outcome measures that allow quantification and reporting on the extent of the full application of the principle, and evaluation of its impact on child safety and the reunification of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children with their families	
			12.20d	invest in community capacity building as a recognised part of kinship care, in addition to supporting individual carers, in recognition of the role of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in bringing up children.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.21	Each state and territory government should ensure:	12.21a	the adequate assessment of all children with disability entering out-of-home care	Accept In Principle
			12.21b	the availability and provision of therapeutic support	
			12.21c	support for disability-related needs	
			12.21d	the development and implementation of care plans that identify specific risk-management and safety strategies for individual children, including the identification of trusted and safe adults in the child's life.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	12.22	State and territory governments should ensure that the supports provided to assist all care-leavers to safely and successfully transition to independent living include:	12.22a	strategies to assist care-leavers who disclose that they were sexually abused while in out-of-home care to access general post-care supports	Accept
			12.22b	the development of targeted supports to address the specific needs of sexual abuse survivors, such as help in accessing therapeutic treatment to deal with impacts of abuse, and for these supports to be accessible until at least the age of 25.	
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	13.1	All schools should implement the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission.			Accept In Principle
<i>Final Report</i> (2017)	13.2	State and territory independent oversight authorities responsible for implementing the Child Safe Standards (see Recommendation 6.10) should delegate to school registration authorities the responsibility for monitoring and enforcing the Child Safe Standards in government and non-government schools.			Accept In Principle

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Final Report (2017)	13.3	School registration authorities should place particular emphasis on monitoring government and non-government boarding schools to ensure they meet the Child Safe Standards. Policy guidance and practical support should be provided to all boarding schools to meet these standards, including advice on complaint handling.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	13.4	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should ensure that needs-based funding arrangements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander boarding students are sufficient for schools and hostels to create child safe environments.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	13.5	Boarding hostels for children and young people should implement the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission. State and territory independent oversight authorities should monitor and enforce the Child Safe Standards in these institutions.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	13.6	Consistent with the Child Safe Standards, complaint handling policies for schools (see Recommendation 7.7) should include effective policies and procedures for managing complaints about children with harmful sexual behaviours.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	13.7	State and territory governments should provide nationally consistent and easily accessible guidance to teachers and principals on preventing and responding to child sexual abuse in all government and non-government schools.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	13.8	The Council of Australian Governments (COAG) should consider strengthening teacher registration requirements to better protect children from sexual abuse in schools. In particular, COAG should review minimum national requirements for assessing the suitability of teachers, and conducting disciplinary investigations.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	14.1	All sport and recreation institutions, including arts, culture, community and hobby groups, that engage with or provide services to children should implement the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	14.2	The National Office for Child Safety should establish a child safety advisory committee for the sport and recreation sector with membership from government and non-government peak bodies to advise the national office on sector-specific child safety issues.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	14.3	The education and information website known as Play by the Rules should be expanded and funded to develop resources – in partnership with the National Office for Child Safety – that are relevant to the broader sport and recreation sector.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	14.4	The independent state and territory oversight bodies that implement the Child Safe Standards should establish a free email subscription function for the sport and recreation sector so that all providers of these services to children can subscribe to receive relevant child safe information and links to resources.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.1	All institutions engaged in child-related work, including detention institutions and those involving detention and detention-like practices, should implement the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.2	Given the Australian Government’s commitment to ratify the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, the National Preventive Mechanism(s) should be provided with the expertise to consider and make recommendations relating to preventing and responding to child sexual abuse as part of regularly examining the treatment of persons deprived of their liberty in places of detention.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	15.3	Youth justice agencies in each state and territory should review the building and design features of youth detention to identify and address elements that may place children at risk. This should include consideration of how to most effectively use technology, such as closed-circuit television (CCTV) cameras and body-worn cameras, to capture interactions between children and between staff and children without unduly infringing children’s privacy.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.4	As part of efforts to mitigate risks of child sexual abuse in the physical environment of youth detention, state and territory governments should review legislation, policy and procedures to ensure: (State and territory governments should consider implementing strategies for detecting contraband, such as risk assessments or body scanners, to minimise the need for strip searching children.)	15.4a	appropriate and safe placements of children in youth detention, including a risk assessment process before placement decisions that identifies if a child may be vulnerable to child sexual abuse or if a child is displaying harmful sexual behaviours	Accept In Principle
			15.4b	children are not placed in adult prisons	

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			15.4c	frameworks take into account the importance of children having access to trusted adults, including family, friends and community, in the prevention and disclosure of child sexual abuse and provide for maximum contact between children and trusted adults through visitation, and use of the telephone and audio-visual technology	
			15.4di	best practice processes are in place for strip searches and other authorised physical contact between staff and children, including sufficient safeguards to protect children such as: adequate communication between staff and the child before, during and after a search is conducted or other physical contact occurs	
			15.4dii	best practice processes are in place for strip searches and other authorised physical contact between staff and children, including sufficient safeguards to protect children such as: clear protocols detailing when such practices are permitted and how they should be performed. The key elements of these protocols should be provided to children in an accessible format	
			15.4diii	best practice processes are in place for strip searches and other authorised physical contact between staff and children, including sufficient safeguards to protect children such as: staff training that highlights the potential for strip searching to re-traumatise children who have been sexually abused and how the misuse of search powers can lead to sexual humiliation or abuse.	
Final Report (2017)	15.5	State and territory governments should consider further strategies that provide for the cultural safety of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in youth detention including:	15.5a	recruiting and developing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to work at all levels of the youth justice system, including in key roles in complaint handling systems	Accept In Principle
			15.5b	providing access to interpreters, particularly with respect to induction and education programs, and accessing internal and external complaint handling systems	
			15.5c	ensuring that all youth detention facilities have culturally appropriate policies and procedures that facilitate connection with family, community and culture, and reflect an understanding of, and respect for, cultural practices in different clan groups	
			15.5d	employing, training and professionally developing culturally competent staff who understand the particular needs and experiences of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, including the specific barriers that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children face in disclosing sexual abuse.	
Final Report (2017)	15.6	All staff should receive appropriate training on the needs and experiences of children with disability, mental health problems, and alcohol or other drug problems, and children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds that highlights the barriers these children may face in disclosing sexual abuse.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.7	State and territory governments should improve access to therapeutic treatment for survivors of child sexual abuse who are in youth detention, including by assessing their advocacy, support and therapeutic treatment needs and referring them to appropriate services, and ensure they are linked to ongoing treatment when they leave detention.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.8	State and territory governments should ensure that all staff in youth detention are provided with training and ongoing professional development in trauma-informed care to assist them to meet the needs of children in youth detention, including children at risk of sexual abuse and children with harmful sexual behaviours.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.9	State and territory governments should review the current internal and external complaint handling systems concerning youth detention to ensure they are capable of effectively dealing with complaints of child sexual abuse, including so that:	15.9a	children can easily access child-appropriate information about internal complaint processes and external oversight bodies that may receive or refer children's complaints, such as visitor's schemes, ombudsmen, inspectors of custodial services, and children's commissioners or guardians	Accept In Principle
			15.9b	children have confidential and unrestricted access to external oversight bodies	
			15.9c	staff involved in managing complaints both internally and externally include Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and professionals qualified to provide trauma-informed care	
			15.9d	complaint handling systems are accessible for children with literacy difficulties or who speak English as a second language	
			15.9e	children are regularly consulted about the effectiveness of complaint handling systems and systems are continually improved.	
Final Report (2017)	15.10	State and territory governments should ensure they have an independent oversight body with the appropriate visitation, complaint handling and reporting powers, to provide oversight of youth detention. This could include an appropriately funded and independent Inspector of Custodial Services or similar body. New and existing bodies should have expertise in child-trauma, and the prevention and identification of child sexual abuse.			Accept In Principle
Final Report (2017)	15.11	The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should publicly report within 12 months on how it has implemented the Child Protection Panel's recommendations.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	15.12	No stem	15.12a	The Australian Government should establish a mechanism to regularly audit the implementation of the Child Safe Standards in immigration detention by staff, contractors and agents of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection. The outcomes of each audit should be publicly reported.	Noted
			15.12b	The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should contractually require its service providers to comply with the Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission, as applied to immigration detention.	

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Final Report (2017)	15.13	The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should identify the scope and nature of the need for support services for victims in immigration detention. The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should ensure that appropriate therapeutic and other specialist and support services are funded to meet the identified needs of victims in immigration detention and ensure they are linked to ongoing treatment when they leave detention.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	15.14	The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should designate appropriately qualified child safety officers for each place in which children are detained. These officers should assist and build the capacity of staff and service providers at the local level to implement the Child Safe Standards.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	15.15	The Department of Immigration and Border Protection should implement an independent visitors program in immigration detention.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.1	The Anglican Church of Australia should adopt a uniform episcopal standards framework that ensures that bishops and former bishops are accountable to an appropriate authority or body in relation to their response to complaints of child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.2	The Anglican Church of Australia should adopt a policy relating to the management of actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to allegations of child sexual abuse, which expressly covers:	16.2a	members of professional standards bodies	Noted
			16.2b	members of diocesan councils (otherwise known as bishop-in-council or standing committee of synod)	
			16.2c	members of the Standing Committee of the General Synod	
			16.2d	chancellors and legal advisers for dioceses.	
Final Report (2017)	16.3	The Anglican Church of Australia should amend Being together and any other statement of expectations or code of conduct for lay members of the Anglican Church to expressly refer to the importance of child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.4	The Anglican Church of Australia should develop a national approach to the selection, screening and training of candidates for ordination in the Anglican Church.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.5	The Anglican Church of Australia should develop and each diocese should implement mandatory national standards to ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry (bishops, clergy, religious and lay personnel):	16.5a	undertake mandatory, regular professional development, compulsory components being professional responsibility and boundaries, ethics in ministry and child safety	Noted
			16.5b	undertake mandatory professional/pastoral supervision	
			16.5c	undergo regular performance appraisals.	
Final Report (2017)	16.6	The bishop of each Catholic Church diocese in Australia should ensure that parish priests are not the employers of principals and teachers in Catholic schools.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.7	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should conduct a national review of the governance and management structures of dioceses and parishes, including in relation to issues of transparency, accountability, consultation and the participation of lay men and women. This review should draw from the approaches to governance of Catholic health, community services and education agencies.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.8	In the interests of child safety and improved institutional responses to child sexual abuse, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to:	16.8a	publish criteria for the selection of bishops, including relating to the promotion of child safety	Noted
			16.8b	establish a transparent process for appointing bishops which includes the direct participation of lay people.	
Final Report (2017)	16.9	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend the 1983 Code of Canon Law to create a new canon or series of canons specifically relating to child sexual abuse, as follows:	16.9a	All delicts relating to child sexual abuse should be articulated as canonical crimes against the child, not as moral failings or as breaches of the 'special obligation' of clerics and religious to observe celibacy.	Noted
			16.9b	All delicts relating to child sexual abuse should apply to any person holding a 'dignity, office or responsibility in the Church' regardless of whether they are ordained or not ordained.	
			16.9c	In relation to the acquisition, possession, or distribution of pornographic images, the delict (currently contained in Article 6 §2 1° of the revised 2010 norms attached to the motu proprio Sacramentorum sanctitatis tutela) should be amended to refer to minors under the age of 18, not minors under the age of 14.	
Final Report (2017)	16.10	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend canon law so that the pontifical secret does not apply to any aspect of allegations or canonical disciplinary processes relating to child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.11	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend canon law to ensure that the 'pastoral approach' is not an essential precondition to the commencement of canonical action relating to child sexual abuse.			Noted

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Final Report (2017)	16.12	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend canon law to remove the time limit (prescription) for commencement of canonical actions relating to child sexual abuse. This amendment should apply retrospectively.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.13	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend the 'imputability' test in canon law so that a diagnosis of paedophilia is not relevant to the prosecution of or penalty for a canonical offence relating to child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.14	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend canon law to give effect to Recommendations 16.55 and 16.56.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.15	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia, in consultation with the Holy See, should consider establishing an Australian tribunal for trying canonical disciplinary cases against clergy, whose decisions could be appealed to the Apostolic Signatura in the usual way.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.16	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to introduce measures to ensure that Vatican Congregations and canonical appeal courts always publish decisions in disciplinary matters relating to child sexual abuse, and provide written reasons for their decisions. Publication should occur in a timely manner. In some cases it may be appropriate to suppress information that might lead to the identification of a victim.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.17	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to amend canon law to remove the requirement to destroy documents relating to canonical criminal cases in matters of morals, where the accused cleric has died or ten years have elapsed from the condemnatory sentence. In order to allow for delayed disclosure of abuse by victims and to take account of the limitation periods for civil actions for child sexual abuse, the minimum requirement for retention of records in the secret archives should be at least 45 years.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.18	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should request the Holy See to consider introducing voluntary celibacy for diocesan clergy.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.19	All Catholic religious institutes in Australia, in consultation with their international leadership and the Holy See as required, should implement measures to address the risks of harm to children and the potential psychological and sexual dysfunction associated with a celibate rule of religious life. This should include consideration of whether and how existing models of religious life could be modified to facilitate alternative forms of association, shorter terms of celibate commitment, and/or voluntary celibacy (where that is consistent with the form of association that has been chosen).			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.20	In order to promote healthy lives for those who choose to be celibate, the Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and all Catholic religious institutes in Australia should further develop, regularly evaluate and continually improve, their processes for selecting, screening and training of candidates for the clergy and religious life, and their processes of ongoing formation, support and supervision of clergy and religious.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.21	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia should establish a national protocol for screening candidates before and during seminary or religious formation, as well as before ordination or the profession of religious vows.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.22	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia should establish a mechanism to ensure that diocesan bishops and religious superiors draw upon broad-ranging professional advice in their decision-making, including from staff from seminaries or houses of formation, psychologists, senior clergy and religious, and lay people, in relation to the admission of individuals to:	16.22a	seminaries and houses of religious formation	Noted
			16.22b	ordination and/or profession of vows.	
Final Report (2017)	16.23	In relation to guideline documents for the formation of priests and religious:	16.23a	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should review and revise the Ratio nationalis institutionis sacerdotalis: Programme for priestly formation (current version December 2015), and all other guideline documents relating to the formation of priests, permanent deacons, and those in pastoral ministry, to explicitly address the issue of child sexual abuse by clergy and best practice in relation to its prevention.	Noted
			16.23b	All Catholic religious institutes in Australia should review and revise their particular norms and guideline documents relating to the formation of priests, religious brothers, and religious sisters, to explicitly address the issue of child sexual abuse and best practice in relation to its prevention.	

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Final Report (2017)	16.24	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia should conduct a national review of current models of initial formation to ensure that they promote pastoral effectiveness, (including in relation to child safety and pastoral responses to victims and survivors) and protect against the development of clericalist attitudes.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.25	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference and Catholic Religious Australia should develop and each diocese and religious institute should implement mandatory national standards to ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry (bishops, provincials, clergy, religious, and lay personnel):	16.25a	undertake mandatory, regular professional development, compulsory components being professional responsibility and boundaries, ethics in ministry, and child safety	Noted
			16.25b	undertake mandatory professional/pastoral supervision	
			16.25c	undergo regular performance appraisals.	
Final Report (2017)	16.26	The Australian Catholic Bishops Conference should consult with the Holy See, and make public any advice received, in order to clarify whether:	16.26a	information received from a child during the sacrament of reconciliation that they have been sexually abused is covered by the seal of confession	Noted
			16.26b	if a person confesses during the sacrament of reconciliation to perpetrating child sexual abuse, absolution can and should be withheld until they report themselves to civil authorities.	
Final Report (2017)	16.27	The Jehovah's Witness organisation should abandon its application of the two-witness rule in cases involving complaints of child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.28	The Jehovah's Witness organisation should revise its policies so that women are involved in processes related to investigating and determining allegations of child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.29	The Jehovah's Witness organisation should no longer require its members to shun those who disassociate from the organisation in cases where the reason for disassociation is related to a person being a victim of child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.30	All Jewish institutions in Australia should ensure that their complaint handling policies explicitly state that the halachic concepts of mesirah, moser and loshon horo do not apply to the communication and reporting of allegations of child sexual abuse to police and other civil authorities.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.31	All institutions that provide activities or services of any kind, under the auspices of a particular religious denomination or faith, through which adults have contact with children, should implement the 10 Child Safe Standards identified by the Royal Commission.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.32	Religious organisations should adopt the Royal Commission's 10 Child Safe Standards as nationally mandated standards for each of their affiliated institutions.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.33	Religious organisations should drive a consistent approach to the implementation of the Royal Commission's 10 Child Safe Standards in each of their affiliated institutions.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.34	Religious organisations should work closely with relevant state and territory oversight bodies to support the implementation of and compliance with the Royal Commission's 10 Child Safe Standards in each of their affiliated institutions.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.35	Religious institutions in highly regulated sectors, such as schools and out-of-home care service providers, should report their compliance with the Royal Commission's 10 Child Safe Standards, as monitored by the relevant sector regulator, to the religious organisation to which they are affiliated.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.36	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 1, each religious institution in Australia should ensure that its religious leaders are provided with leadership training both pre- and post-appointment, including in relation to the promotion of child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.37	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 1, leaders of religious institutions should ensure that there are mechanisms through which they receive advice from individuals with relevant professional expertise on all matters relating to child sexual abuse and child safety. This should include in relation to prevention, policies and procedures and complaint handling. These mechanisms should facilitate advice from people with a variety of professional backgrounds and include lay men and women.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.38	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 1, each religious institution should ensure that religious leaders are accountable to an appropriate authority or body, such as a board of management or council, for the decisions they make with respect to child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.39	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 1, each religious institution should have a policy relating to the management of actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to allegations of child sexual abuse. The policy should cover all individuals who have a role in responding to complaints of child sexual abuse.			Noted

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Final Report (2017)	16.40	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 2, wherever a religious institution has children in its care, those children should be provided with age-appropriate prevention education that aims to increase their knowledge of child sexual abuse and build practical skills to assist in strengthening self-protective skills and strategies. Prevention education in religious institutions should specifically address the power and status of people in religious ministry and educate children that no one has a right to invade their privacy and make them feel unsafe.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.41	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 3, each religious institution should make provision for family and community involvement by publishing all policies relevant to child safety on its website, providing opportunities for comment on its approach to child safety, and seeking periodic feedback about the effectiveness of its approach to child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.42	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 5, each religious institution should require that candidates for religious ministry undergo external psychological testing, including psychosexual assessment, for the purposes of determining their suitability to be a person in religious ministry and to undertake work involving children.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.43	Each religious institution should ensure that candidates for religious ministry undertake minimum training on child safety and related matters, including training that:	16.43a	equips candidates with an understanding of the Royal Commission's 10 Child Safe Standards	Noted
			16.43bi	educates candidates on: professional responsibility and boundaries, ethics in ministry and child safety	
			16.43bii	educates candidates on: policies regarding appropriate responses to allegations or complaints of child sexual abuse, and how to implement these policies	
			16.43biii	educates candidates on: how to work with children, including childhood development	
			16.43biv	educates candidates on: identifying and understanding the nature, indicators and impacts of child sexual abuse.	
Final Report (2017)	16.44	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 5, each religious institution should ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, are subject to effective management and oversight and undertake annual performance appraisals.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.45	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 5, each religious institution should ensure that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, have professional supervision with a trained professional or pastoral supervisor who has a degree of independence from the institution within which the person is in ministry.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.46	Religious institutions which receive people from overseas to work in religious or pastoral ministry, or otherwise within their institution, should have targeted programs for the screening, initial training and professional supervision and development of those people. These programs should include material covering professional responsibility and boundaries, ethics in ministry and child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.47	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 7, each religious institution should require that all people in religious or pastoral ministry, including religious leaders, undertake regular training on the institution's child safe policies and procedures. They should also be provided with opportunities for external training on best practice approaches to child safety.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.48	Religious institutions which have a rite of religious confession for children should implement a policy that requires the rite only be conducted in an open space within the clear line of sight of another adult. The policy should specify that, if another adult is not available, the rite of religious confession for the child should not be performed.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.49	Codes of conduct in religious institutions should explicitly and equally apply to people in religious ministry and to lay people.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.50	Consistent with Child Safe Standard 7, each religious institution should require all people in religious ministry, leaders, members of boards, councils and other governing bodies, employees, relevant contractors and volunteers to undergo initial and periodic training on its code of conduct. This training should include:	16.50a	what kinds of allegations or complaints relating to child sexual abuse should be reported and to whom	Noted
			16.50b	identifying inappropriate behaviour which may be a precursor to abuse, including grooming	
			16.50c	recognising physical and behavioural indicators of child sexual abuse	
			16.50d	that all complaints relating to child sexual abuse must be taken seriously, regardless of the perceived severity of the behaviour.	
Final Report (2017)	16.51	All religious institutions' complaint handling policies should require that, upon receiving a complaint of child sexual abuse, an initial risk assessment is conducted to identify and minimise any risks to children.			Noted

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SIX-MONTH RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

Report	Rec #	Recommendation	Sub Rec #	Sub-Recommendation	Final Position
Final Report (2017)	16.52	All religious institutions' complaint handling policies should require that, if a complaint of child sexual abuse against a person in religious ministry is plausible, and there is a risk that person may come into contact with children in the course of their ministry, the person be stood down from ministry while the complaint is investigated.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.53	The standard of proof that a religious institution should apply when deciding whether a complaint of child sexual abuse has been substantiated is the balance of probabilities, having regard to the principles in <i>Briginshaw v Briginshaw</i> .			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.54	Religious institutions should apply the same standards for investigating complaints of child sexual abuse whether or not the subject of the complaint is a person in religious ministry.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.55	Any person in religious ministry who is the subject of a complaint of child sexual abuse which is substantiated on the balance of probabilities, having regard to the principles in <i>Briginshaw v Briginshaw</i> , or who is convicted of an offence relating to child sexual abuse, should be permanently removed from ministry. Religious institutions should also take all necessary steps to effectively prohibit the person from in any way holding himself or herself out as being a person with religious authority.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	16.56	Any person in religious ministry who is convicted of an offence relating to child sexual abuse should:	16.56a	in the case of Catholic priests and religious, be dismissed from the priesthood and/or dispensed from his or her vows as a religious	Noted
			16.56b	in the case of Anglican clergy, be deposed from holy orders	
			16.56c	in the case of Uniting Church ministers, have his or her recognition as a minister withdrawn	
			16.56d	in the case of an ordained person in any other religious denomination that has a concept of ordination, holy orders and/or vows, be dismissed, deposed or otherwise effectively have their religious status removed.	
Final Report (2017)	16.57	Where a religious institution becomes aware that any person attending any of its religious services or activities is the subject of a substantiated complaint of child sexual abuse, or has been convicted of an offence relating to child sexual abuse, the religious institution should:	16.57a	assess the level of risk posed to children by that perpetrator's ongoing involvement in the religious community	Noted
			16.57b	take appropriate steps to manage that risk.	
Final Report (2017)	16.58	Each religious organisation should consider establishing a national register which records limited but sufficient information to assist affiliated institutions identify and respond to any risks to children that may be posed by people in religious or pastoral ministry.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	17.1	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should each issue a formal response to this Final Report within six months of it being tabled, indicating whether our recommendations are accepted, accepted in principle, rejected or subject to further consideration.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	17.2	The Australian Government and state and territory governments should, beginning 12 months after this Final Report is tabled, report on their implementation of the Royal Commission's recommendations made in this Final Report 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.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	17.3	Major institutions and peak bodies of institutions that engage in child-related work should, beginning 12 months after this Final Report is tabled, report on their implementation of the Royal Commission's recommendations to the National Office for Child Safety through five consecutive annual reports. The National Office for Child Safety should make these reports publicly available. At a minimum, the institutions reporting should include those that were the subject of the Royal Commission's institutional review hearings held from 5 December 2016 to 10 March 2017.			Accept
Final Report (2017)	17.4	The Australian Government should initiate a review to be conducted 10 years after the tabling of this Final Report. This review should:	17.4a	establish the extent to which the Royal Commission's recommendations have been implemented 10 years after the tabling of the Final Report	Noted
			17.4b	examine the extent to which the measures taken in response to the Royal Commission have been effective in preventing child sexual abuse, improving the responses of institutions to child sexual abuse and ensuring that victims and survivors of child sexual abuse obtain justice, treatment and support	
			17.4c	advise on what further steps should be taken by governments and institutions to ensure continuing improvement in policy and service delivery in relation to child sexual abuse in institutional contexts.	
Final Report (2017)	17.5	The Australian Government should host and maintain the Royal Commission website for the duration of the national redress scheme for victims and survivors of institutional child sexual abuse.			Noted
Final Report (2017)	17.6	A national memorial should be commissioned by the Australian Government for victims and survivors of child sexual abuse in institutional contexts. Victims and survivors should be consulted on the memorial design and it should be located in Canberra.			Noted