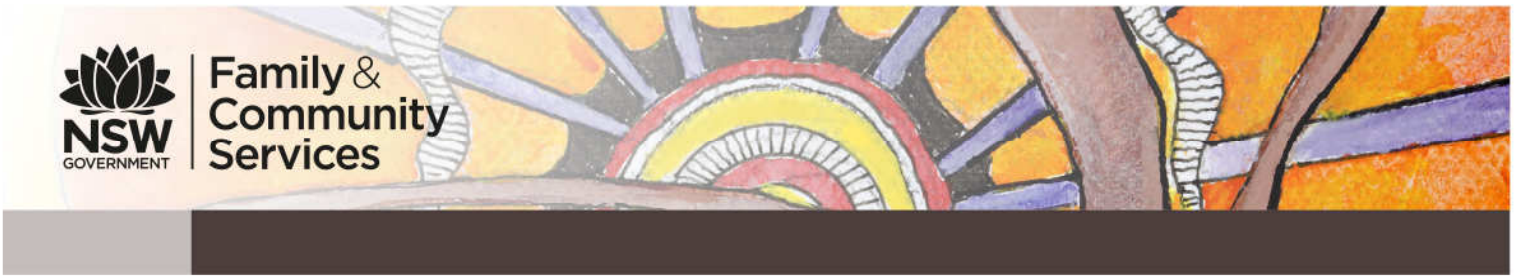

Aboriginal Care Review – OOHC NGO Client Information Checklist

The Independent Review of Aboriginal Children and Young People in OOHC in NSW is looking at systems, policies and practices as well as the involvement of children, family, community, service sector and carers in decision-making for Aboriginal children and young people in OOHC. This Independent Review is chaired by Professor Megan Davis, University of NSW. Information on the Review is available at http://www.familyisculture.nsw.gov.au/home

The Review involves collating data about the individual circumstances of 1153 Aboriginal children and young people who entered OOHC in NSW between 1 July 2015 and 30 June 2016. Some of these children and young people are, or have been, in care with OOHC NGO partners. Where a child or young person is, or has been, in care with an OOHC NGO partner, the Review requires the NGO to provide a range of information as described in the checklist below.

Information provided by NGOs will be used to complete the review of the individual circumstances of children in their care. Where the Review makes recommendations about a specific child or family, the recommendations will be sent to the Principal Officer of the agency with responsibility for that child or family, for consideration in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and organisations as appropriate. FACS will subsequently seek progress updates on these recommendations for the purpose of evaluating the Review recommendations.

Information provided by the NGOs will be used only for the purposes of this Review and will not be used for any other purpose.

In order for the review to maintain its schedule, a 1 week response time is required for agencies to provide information. Information is to be forwarded directly to ACYPReview@facs.nsw.gov.au

Information required from an OOHC NGO may include:

Question	Comment
Aboriginal Placement Principle	
Since entering care in 2015-16, how many OOHC placements, not including respite placements, has the C/YP had?	Please count how many placements the child has had with your agency since entering OOHC in 2015/2016. Do not count respite care placements.
What is the current placement type?	This relates to where the child is at the time of the review. Options may include foster care, kinship care or specify other situation if required.
Is the current carer Aboriginal?	Please identify if the current carer is Aboriginal.
Is there evidence that the placement was made after consultation with the child or young person's family, kinship group, community or Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation?	Legislation specifies that Aboriginal people should be consulted about placements for Aboriginal children. Please identify if caseworkers documented their attempts to engage families, kin and community in decision making about placement. This does not mean that the child was always placed with the people nominated, but whether there was a discussion about where the child should be placed. Please provide details of which family members, kin, community members or organisations were consulted.
Carer Assessment	
Were Aboriginal family/ kin authorised to care for the child?	Options may include: • Yes assessed and authorised • Yes assessed and not authorised • Not assessed
Were non-Aboriginal family authorised to care for the child?	Options may include: • Yes assessed and authorised • Yes assessed and not authorised

	• Not assessed
OOHC Case Plan	
Current approved OOHC case plan.	Provide copy of current OOHC case plan. Please ensure these documents include: • Details of contact with mother, father and siblings not placed with them. • Whether contact is supervised and why. • Attendees at case plan development.
Has this OOHC case plan been reviewed?	Indicate frequency of review.
Current cultural plan	Provide copy of current OOHC case plan. Please ensure these documents include: • Evidence of connection to country • Evidence of age appropriate exposure to cultural elements • Evidence of engagement with Aboriginal services
Aboriginal Consultation	
Evidence that Aboriginal consultation has occurred.	Provide records of consultation including who was present (i.e. the role of the people present).
Other Information	
Other information specific to circumstances of a child or young person.	Other information may include circumstances around health, disability, education, specialist services or other matters as required.