



Collaborative Sector Forum Program

Friday 11 November 2022

Novotel Sydney International Airport

8.30am	<i>Tea, Coffee and light refreshments</i>
9.00am	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country Steve Kinmond, CEO ACWA and John Leha, CEO AbSec
9.10am	Address by the Minister The Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC, Minister for Families and Communities
9.25am	Reflections and insights James Toomey, Deputy Secretary Housing, Disability and District Services
Session 1 – Permanency Support Program Data Session Facilitator: Steve Kinmond, ACWA CEO	
9.35am	Session Overview – Using PSP data to enhance business activities and deliver improved outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and their families Steve Kinmond, CEO ACWA
9.45am	PSP Data Roadmap report – Recap and Observations Professor Leah Bromfield, Australian Centre for Child Protection (ACPP) and Dr Olivia Octoman, Research fellow, ACCP
10.00am	Implementation considerations for PSP data and reporting Dr Vanessa Rose, Director, Centre for Evidence and Implementation
10.15am	Overview of current data projects, future priorities and potential next steps to implement the PSP Data Roadmap Anne Campbell, Deputy Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ)
10.30am	Panel Q/A Session – Improving the governance processes for sharing PSP data and working collaboratively to respond to identified trends Professor Leah Bromfield, ACCP; Dr Olivia Octoman, ACCP; Dr Vanessa Rose, Director, Centre for Evidence and Implementation; Craig Layton, Executive Director Child & Family; Peter Reily, Director Organisational Performance; Deirdre Cheers, CEO Barnardos; Dr Howard Bath; Simon Walsh, CEO Allambi Care; Dana Clarke, CEO Burrun Dalai
11.00am	<i>Morning Tea</i>



11.15am	<p>Breakout group sessions: What's needed to mobilise effective PSP data governance and related operational arrangements? Using the data to identify and inform our responses to sector-wide challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Breakout group discussions (all participants) - Reports back from groups
12noon	Reconvening of Panel – Agreed next steps
12.30pm	<i>Lunch</i>
1.15pm	<p>Message from the Secretary Michael Tidball, Secretary, Department of Communities and Justice</p>
<p>Session 2 – Initiatives relating to Aboriginal children and families Session Facilitator: John Leha, CEO, AbSec</p>	
1.30pm	<p>What DCJ is doing to implement the ACMP Jayde Ward, Director – TAO, DCJ</p>
1.45pm	<p>What does the ACMP mean for the sector? John Leha, AbSec CEO</p>
2.00pm	<p>Implementation of the Aboriginal Case Management Policy across Targeted Early Intervention Anthony Shannon, Director Early Intervention, Youth & Volunteering</p>
2.15pm	<p>ACMP Implementation overview – Hunter Central Coast District Belinda Edwards, A/Executive District Director, DCJ</p>
2.30pm	<p>Update on the Transition of Aboriginal children to the community-controlled sector Jayde Ward, Director Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, DCJ</p>
3.00pm	<p>Panel Q/A Session with presenters Jayde Ward, DCJ; John Leha, AbSec; Anthony Shannon, DCJ; Belinda Edwards, A/Executive District Director, DCJ</p>
3.30pm	<p>Forum reflections and concluding remarks John Leha, CEO, AbSec</p>
3.45pm	Forum close



Forum Presenters



Professor Leah Bromfield, Director, Australian Centre for Child Protection

Professor Leah Bromfield is an internationally recognised and award-winning researcher and leader in the field of child abuse and neglect and child sexual abuse. Professor Bromfield has held a range of leading positions, which have driven new approaches across the field, including as current Director for the Australian Centre for Child Protection, where she has spearheaded the application of contemporary evidence, research and a public health approach to lead major reforms and address the epidemic of child abuse and neglect and child sexual abuse.

Dr Vanessa Rose, Director, Centre for Evidence and Implementation

Vanessa Rose, PhD, is a Director of CEI with extensive experience in health and human services research and evaluation, including in youth homelessness, child protection, social housing, and locationally disadvantaged communities. Her work focuses on encouraging the generation and use of high-quality evidence in policy and practice to improve the lives of young people, families and communities facing adversity. Vanessa has a special interest in applying implementation science to embed evidence and quality outcome measurement in systems. She previously led a program of work at the University of NSW focused on addressing inequalities, establishing a community-based research centre to bridge the gap between research-practice and research-users. At CEI, Vanessa leads the evaluation portfolio which assists philanthropic organisations, governments, and not-for-profits in decision-making for future investment. She is lead of a consortium evaluating the PSP.



Dr Olivia Octoman, Research fellow, Australian Centre for Child Protection



Dr Olivia Octoman is a Research Fellow at the Australian Centre for Child Protection who has over a decade of experience. She is dedicated to developing high quality research that can be implemented into policy and practice in the child welfare sector, and to influence vital Inquiries and Commissions into child protection in Australia. Her research into child protection intake, assessment and response systems has underpinned findings and recommendations of the Royal Commission into the Protection and Detention of Children in the Northern Territory. Utilising a public health, data driven approach, she led a team examining risk factors and child outcomes in child protection casefile reviews as part of the South Australian Early Intervention Research Directorate. This project was recognised for innovation as a finalist in the 2020 SA Science Excellence Awards. Olivia has been a member of project teams examining the incidence and prevalence of child sexual abuse for the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Steve Kinmond OAM, CEO, ACWA

Prior to his appointment as the CEO of the Association of Children's Welfare Agencies (ACWA) in February 2019, Steve was the NSW Community & Disability Services Commissioner and Deputy Ombudsman for 15 years. Before that, he was the Assistant Ombudsman (Police) for eight years. Steve had legislative responsibility for reviewing and promoting improvements in community and disability services; reviewing the deaths of people with disability and children; handling complaints about government and non-government community and disability services; and ensuring relevant agencies appropriately respond to reportable incidents involving people with disability in supported accommodation and allegations of child abuse made against 'employees'. He has also had extensive involvement in reviewing service delivery and justice issues affecting Aboriginal communities. Steve also worked as a solicitor and run his own consultancy practice.





John Leha, CEO, AbSec

John Leha has been AbSec's Chief Executive Officer since March 2021. He is a proud Birri Gubba, Wakka Wakka and Tongan man born and raised on Gadigal land and reports to the AbSec Board. He is also a member of the Board of SNAICC, the national peak body for Aboriginal children and families. John was previously the Director of Operations at the National Centre of Indigenous Excellence, the former Chairperson for Gadigal Information Service and a founding member and Chairperson of BlaQ Aboriginal Corporation. As an active member of the Sydney Aboriginal community, John has worked extensively in Indigenous health, education and employment programs across state and federal government. He is also a Metropolitan Local Aboriginal Land Council member and is deeply involved and connected to community through his work with the Kingsford Community Legal Centre, the AIDS Council of New South Wales' Aboriginal Project and the Indigenous Marathon Foundation.

Dana Clarke, CEO, Burrun Dalai

Dana Clarke is a proud Biripi and Worimi woman. Dana has been an active member of the Board since 2005 and holds the position of Chairperson of AbSec. Dana has contributed to our communities through a range of roles in Aboriginal health, child protection, sexual assault and mental health for over 25 years. Currently, Dana is the Chief Executive Officer of Burrun Dalai Aboriginal Corporation. Burrun Dalai delivers early intervention, family preservation and out-of-home care services across the Nambucca, Macleay, Hastings and Manning Valleys as well as the Tamworth and Armidale Regions. Dana's work reflects her belief that our kids and families are our future. Dana is committed to ensuring our communities are best supported to guarantee that our kids remain with their families, rich in their culture and belonging. As Dana puts it, "family is everything; it is our past and our future".



Simon Walsh, CEO, Allambi Care

Simon Walsh is CEO of Allambi Care, based in Lake Macquarie. Allambi is a leading provider of Family and Early Intervention Services, Foster Care, Intensive Therapeutic Care, NDIS Services, and Clinical Support to children, young people and families who live in NSW and Victoria. Simon has been at the forefront of developing policy and service delivery for Allambi Care and its stakeholders and works with like minded sector leaders at state, national and international levels including the USA, Canada and Europe. Simon approaches his work from a relational, needs-based model of care. He gains great satisfaction from working with a cohesive multidisciplinary team and seeing positive results achieved by children, young people and families.

Deirdre Cheers, CEO Barnardos Australia

A respected leader in Australian and International children's social care, Deirdre is a well-known advocate for vulnerable children and young people. Over an extensive career she has specialised in analysing the outcomes for children of statutory child protection intervention (including intended and unintended consequences) and the application of research evidence to out-of-home care. She is passionate about children's rights, the role of charities in ensuring equality of opportunity for every Australian child, and data driven decision making in both children's social care policy development and individual planning for children. With Masters qualifications in Social Work Research and Public Administration and an extensive publication and presentation record across a range of child protection policy, practice and research areas, Deirdre is a founding member and participant in the inaugural International Network on Infants and Toddlers in Child Protection.





Dr Howard Bath, Consultant - Research, Training and Program Development, Allambi Care

Dr Howard Bath has had a long career working with children and young people in the child welfare and youth justice systems in roles such as youth worker, house parent, program manager, and agency director. Trained as a clinical psychologist he also provided clinical services for young people and their families. Through Allambi Care he currently provides research, training and program development services for organisations across Australia and internationally. From 2008 to 2015 he was the inaugural Children's Commissioner in the NT with a mission to promote the wellbeing of vulnerable children.

Anne Campbell, Deputy Secretary Strategy, Policy & Commissioning, DCJ

Anne has been in the role of Deputy Secretary Strategy, Policy and Commissioning, Department of Communities and Justice since October 2021. She previously led the transfer of all NSW specialist disability services to the non-government sector as part of the NSW transition to the NDIS. Anne is a very experienced public sector leader who has held senior executive policy, program, strategy and operations jobs in child protection, housing, homelessness, domestic and family violence and disability.



Craig Layton Executive Director Child and Family, DCJ

Craig Layton is the Executive Director, Child and Family, in the NSW Department of Communities and Justice. He is responsible for policy and programs to protect children and families and support them to thrive, including out-of-home care, child protection, early intervention, youth, carers and volunteering. Craig has worked in policy, strategy and human services in the NSW Government for over 15 years and has been involved in developing and managing a number of major social policy reforms, including the Permanency Support Program to reform out-of-home care, the NSW transition to the National Disability Insurance Scheme, the Stronger Together 2 and Ready Together disability reforms, and the NSW Ability Links program.

Jayde Ward, Director Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes, DCJ.

Jayde Ward is a Wiradjuri woman from her mother's side, born and raised on Gadigal Country in Sydney. She has been the Director of Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes at the Department of Communities and Justice NSW for almost 2 years. As former State Manager Aboriginal Education at Catholic Schools NSW for 5 years, a primary school teacher and foster carer for Aboriginal children, Jayde is passionate about improving outcomes for Aboriginal children, families and communities. Jayde and the Transforming Aboriginal Outcomes team, strategically drive, align and support work in response to the NSW Government commitment to Closing the Gap and the implementation of the Family is Culture Report.



Anthony Shannon, Director Early Intervention, Volunteering, Youth & Carers, DCJ.

Anthony leads child protection early intervention and youth participation programs, and the NSW Volunteering Strategy and Carers Strategy. Anthony has 18 years' experience with DCJ across state-wide child protection and homelessness reforms, and District level funding and sector partnerships. Previously, Anthony was ten years in the NGO sector, leading youth service organisations.