

A Good Life for Every Child: Living Standards during the Early Years in Tasmania

Information Sheet for Parents and Caregivers – Survey / Interview

What is this project about?

The Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People is an independent organisation that listens to children and young people and advocates for their rights, wellbeing and interests.

We want to explore what is helping and what makes it harder for children aged 0–4 years in Tasmania to thrive in their early years.

As part of this project, we are inviting parents and caregivers to share their experiences of raising young children in Tasmania and their views about what children need to have a good life.

What is the Commissioner's role?

Ros Cornish is Tasmania's Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People.

The Interim Commissioner listens to children, young people and families and uses what they learn to advocate for positive change, ensuring government hears their voices and acts on the issues that affect them.

Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been invited because you are a parent, caregiver or family member of a child aged 0–4 years or currently pregnant and are living in Tasmania.

Participation is completely voluntary.

What will I be asked to do?

Complete the EOI form.

If you are chosen to participate, you will be invited to:

- Complete an online survey or
- Participate in a phone interview.

The survey or interview will ask about:

- What helps children thrive during the early years.
- The challenges and pressures facing children and families.
- Services, supports and programs that have been helpful.
- Changes that would make the biggest difference for children and families.

There are no right or wrong answers. We are interested in your experiences and perspectives.

Who will I speak with?

Interviews will be conducted by staff from the Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People.

The interviewer will ensure that the conversation is respectful, supportive and focused on the issues that are important to you.

You can choose:

- Which questions you answer.
- What information you share.
- To take a break or stop the interview at any time.

Will information be recorded?

If you participate in a phone interview, we will ask for your permission to audio-record the conversation. This recording helps ensure we accurately capture your views and experiences.

For online surveys, responses will be collected through Microsoft Forms.

We may also take notes during interviews to assist with analysis.

Will my name be used?

No.

Your name and identifying information will not be included in any report, publication or public communication arising from the project.

We may include de-identified quotes or examples from interviews or surveys to help illustrate key themes, but individuals will not be identified.

If information is disclosed that raises concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or another person, we may need to share that information with appropriate CCYP staff and, where required, relevant authorities to help keep people safe.

Do I have to take part?

No.

Participation is entirely voluntary.

You can:

- Choose not to participate.
- Skip any question.
- Stop the interview at any time.
- Withdraw your participation before analysis of the data has commenced.

Choosing not to participate will not affect any services or supports that you or your family receive.

Are there any risks?

This engagement asks you to think about what supports children to thrive. While many people enjoy reflecting on their hopes and aspirations for their children, others may find it difficult if it highlights challenges they have experienced in meeting their child's needs.

If you become uncomfortable at any point:

- You do not have to answer any question.
- You can take a break.

- You can stop the interview or survey at any time.

The interview will be conducted respectfully and sensitively, and participation will always remain under your control.

Are there any benefits?

By participating, you will have the opportunity to share your experiences and perspectives about raising young children in Tasmania.

You will receive a \$40 voucher as recognition for participating.

By sharing your experiences, you will help build a better understanding of what helps children aged 0-4 and their families thrive. The Interim Commissioner will use what is learned to advocate for positive change, ensuring government, services and decision-makers hear and respond to the experiences of children and families, with the goal of improving outcomes for all children.

What will happen after the project?

The findings may be used to:

- Inform the Commissioner's advocacy work.
- Support policy and service improvements.
- Influence discussions about children's rights and wellbeing.
- Identify actions that could improve living standards for young children and their families.

Who can I contact?

If you have any questions about the project, please contact:

Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People

Phone: (03) 6166 1366

Email: childcomm@childcomm.tas.gov.au

Website: <https://childcomm.tas.gov.au/>



If you have concerns or would like to make a complaint about the project, please contact the Office using the details above.