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ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25



CCYP

Commissioner for Children
and Young People Tasmania

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania Annual Report 2024-25

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Any questions regarding this report or the work of Tasmania's Commissioner for Children and Young People more generally may be directed to the Commissioner by emailing childcomm@childcomm.tas.gov.au or by telephoning +61 3 6166 1366.

For more information, visit: www.childcomm.tas.gov.au.

Acknowledgement of Country

The Commissioner for Children and Young People acknowledges and pays respect to the Palawa people of Lutruwita/Tasmania as the original and ongoing custodians of this land and for the more than 40,000 years they have cared for their Country and their children.



3 November 2025

President
Legislative Council
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Speaker of the House
House of Assembly
Parliament House
HOBART TAS 7000

Dear Honourable President
Dear Honourable Speaker

Annual Report for 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025

The Commissioner for Children and Young People Annual Report is presented to Parliament in accordance with the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2016*, section 19(2).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Isabelle Crompton'.

Isabelle Crompton
Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People

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Interim Commissioner for
Children and Young People,
Isabelle Crompton. Photo
credit: Hagen Hopkins

It is my pleasure to introduce the 2024-25 Annual Report for the Commissioner for Children and Young People.

Consistent with our vision that all children and young people in Tasmania have their rights upheld and live their best lives, the Office of the Commissioner has continued to engage meaningfully with children and young people across the state, listening carefully to their views, and taking action to ensure their insights, needs, and rights are listened to, given serious consideration and inform decisions affecting them.

MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM COMMISSIONER

A highlight of the year has been the ongoing contribution made by the *Voices for Tasmanian Youth* (VTY) consultative council to systemic changes to enhance the safety and wellbeing of all young Tasmanians.

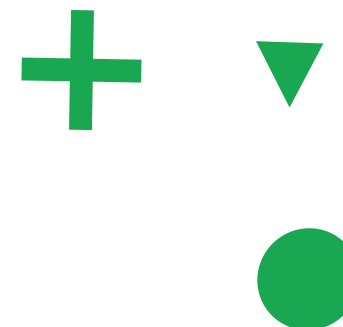
The VTY, comprised of children and young people aged 10 to 17 representing diverse communities, identities, and experiences, were supported by the Office to produce: two significant reports for government, a media event and meeting with powerful decision-makers, a social media “takeover”, a checklist resource for communications professionals, and more. The VTY project amplified young voices, while demonstrating the power of co-design in shaping policy and practice and contributing to cultural change.

The statewide tour of *A Mountain of Voices*, produced in partnership with arts organisation Terrapin, was another clear highlight. The Mountain is an interactive installation dreamed up by VTY members to enable children and young people to safely share their hopes, dreams, views and ideas directly with decision-makers in their own communities. More than 240 young

Tasmanians from across the state participated in workshops and interactive events with decision-makers in their communities, with a report and enduring artwork based on this engagement due for release later in 2025.

A further highlight was our extensive engagement to understand the views of children and young people on the proposed establishment of a new Commission for Children and Young People. Through this process we received postcards from more than 670 children and young people from across Tasmania and advice through child and young person-centred focus groups. The resulting *Letting them have a say* report will enable lawmakers to consider the honest views and voices of children and young people when debating the establishing legislation for the new Commission.

While there is no doubt that decision-making and service delivery is strengthened when we hear and value the voices of young Tasmanians, there is much work to be done to achieve our vision. During the year, our work highlighted the high levels of poverty and disadvantage experienced by children in Tasmania – a situation



that is preventable and unacceptable. Advocacy continued for accelerated, sustained and coordinated child rights-based youth justice system reforms in the interests of our children and our communities. Our work emphasised the vital role of government to design, implement and appropriately resource policies, programs, services, and activities across the public health continuum to provide timely, needs-based support for children, families and carers.

The timing of the publication of this Annual Report is notable, falling just after the 25th anniversary of the commencement of Tasmania's first Commissioner for Children, and as we prepare for the planned establishment of a structurally independent Commission for Children and Young People with new functions and powers.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the enormously effective and dedicated Office of the Commissioner team. I thank each team member for their expertise and unwavering commitment to making rights real for the 114,000 Tasmanians we work for every day, as well as the outstanding support they have provided me as Interim Commissioner.

Finally, I extend my deepest thanks to the many hundreds of children and young people who spoke with me, wrote to me, and engaged with our programs during the year.

Their optimism, empathy, creativity, bravery and passion for a brighter, better Tasmania for all, has shaped and sustained the work summarised on these pages.

Isabelle Crompton

Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People

THE COMMISSIONER'S ROLE

The Commissioner for Children and Young People is an independent and impartial statutory officer established under Tasmania's *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2016* (CCYP Act).

The general functions of the Commissioner under the CCYP Act are to:



The Commissioner's role is generally systemic in nature. The Commissioner advocates for laws, policies and practices that uphold, protect and promote the rights and wellbeing of children and young people.

The Commissioner cannot investigate or review decisions made in respect of an individual case or specific circumstances, unless formally requested to do so by the Minister for Children and Youth. The Commissioner's ability to advocate for the rights and wellbeing of individual children and young people is limited to advocating for children and young people detained under the *Youth Justice Act 1997*. The Commissioner has no functions regarding the regulation of organisations working with or caring for children and young people. The Office of the Independent Regulator oversees Tasmanian organisations required to comply with the Child and Youth Safe Organisations Framework. See oir.tas.gov.au.

The Commissioner regularly speaks with, and hears from, community members, including children and young people, about a range of issues concerning young Tasmanians. Information received in this way helps inform the Commissioner's work and systemic advocacy on behalf of children and young people. The views of children and young people inform and are

reflected in the publications, reports, submissions and other media issued by the Commissioner.

In August 2023, the Tasmanian Government received a momentous report from the *Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings* (Commission of Inquiry). In its report, *Who was looking after me? Prioritising the safety of Tasmanian children*, the Commission of Inquiry called for significant reforms to better protect Tasmanian children and young people from abuse and harm in the organisations that care for them. The Tasmanian Government accepted the Commission of Inquiry's 191 recommendations for change, including the establishment of a new statutory Commission for Children and Young People (new Commission) with expanded functions and powers.

During the reporting period, the Tasmanian Government continued its work towards establishing the new Commission. The ongoing contributions of the Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People to this important work, including crucial engagement with hundreds of children and young people to hear and learn about their expectations and hopes for their new Commission, are detailed in this report.

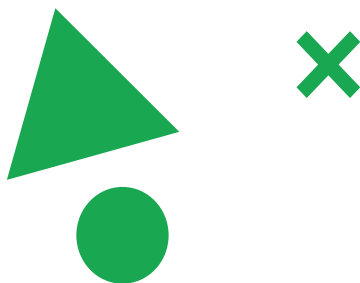


The Interim Commissioner with Roving Reporters during a school visit

25 YEARS OF CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONERS IN TASMANIA

Tasmania was one of the first Australian states and territories to establish a children's commissioner.

The role was initially established under the *Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1997*, with the first Commissioner for Children commencing in October 2000. In 2016, standalone legislation established the current role and functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People (the Commissioner).



Commissioners

Patmalar Ambikapathy

*Commissioner for Children,
October 2000 – April 2004*

David K. Fanning

*Commissioner for Children,
April 2004 – October 2006*

Dr Susan Jenkins

*Interim Commissioner for Children,
December 2006 – April 2007*

Paul Mason

*Commissioner for Children,
April 2007 – October 2010*

Aileen Ashford

*Commissioner for Children,
October 2010 – June 2013*

Elizabeth Daly

*Acting Commissioner for Children,
June 2013 – December 2013*

Mark Morrissey

*Commissioner for Children,
October 2014 – June 2016*

Commissioner for Children and Young People,
July 2016 – September 2017*

David Clements

*Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People,
September 2017 – November 2018*

Leanne McLean

*Commissioner for Children and Young People,
November 2018 – October 2024*

Isabelle Crompton

*Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People,
October 2024 – current*

* On 1 July 2016, the Commissioner for Children became the Commissioner for Children and Young People with the commencement of the *Commissioner for Children and Young People Act 2016*.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

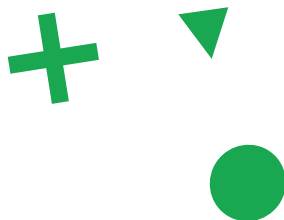
In carrying out a function or exercising a power under the CCYP Act, the Commissioner does so according to the principle that the wellbeing and best interests of children and young people are paramount. The Commissioner's work is guided by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Commissioner's work is also performed according to the following additional legislative principles:

- Children and young people are entitled to live in a caring and nurturing environment and to be protected from harm and exploitation
- The interests and needs of children and young people who are disadvantaged for any reason or vulnerable should be given special regard and serious consideration
- The contributions made by children and young people to the community should be recognised for their value and merit
- The views of children and young people on all matters affecting them should be given serious consideration and taken into account

- Parents, families and communities have the primary role in safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children and young people and should be supported in carrying out their role.

The Commissioner's work is also guided by the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, Tasmania's Child and Youth Safe Standards, and the Universal Principle for Aboriginal Cultural Safety.



YEAR AT A GLANCE

Here is a snapshot of the work of the Office of the Commissioner during the 2024-25 reporting year:



38

engagement opportunities shared through Your Engagement Place



30

official events attended by the Interim Commissioner



125

public enquirers responded to



109

visits to young people at Ashley Youth Detention Centre



679

postcards received from children and young people about the proposed new Commission for Children and Young People



26

external group memberships



10k+

website visitors



18

reports,
publications
and resources
released



640

occasions of
advocacy support
for young people
in detention



11

media releases
and opinion pieces
published



15

formal
submissions
made



1

amazing art-based
engagement, *A Mountain
of Voices*, sent on tour
around the State



249

*A Mountain
of Voices*
participants

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

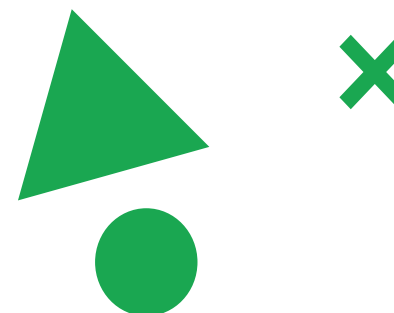
The Commissioner is supported by a small, multi-disciplinary team of dedicated and passionate professionals (Office of the Commissioner).

While the Commissioner's role is independent of government, the Office of the Commissioner received operational support in areas such as human resources, finance and budget, payroll, information technology and facility services from the Department for Education, Children and Young People (DECYP) during the reporting period.

Financial statements regarding the Office of the Commissioner are included in DECYP Annual Reports. Additional resourcing was provided for specific projects through the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC).

The Office of the Commissioner's Strategic Framework highlights that a key enabler for the achievement of objectives is that it is equipped with the skills, capabilities and knowledge required to deliver on strategic priorities. Given the breadth and scope of the functions of the Commissioner, the complex policy and legal landscape in which they operate, and their extensive engagement with children, and other

community members, many of whom have experienced trauma, investment has continued to be made in building the resilience and skills of the Office of the Commissioner team. Staff are offered individualised performance development including coaching and mentoring; staff wellbeing support services; opportunities to learn about other roles in the office and to chair meetings; opportunities to attend conferences; and opportunities to participate in self-paced and/or face-to-face professional development.



STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Each year before 31 March, the Commissioner is required to prepare an Annual Plan describing the proposed program of work and activities for the following financial year. The Annual Plan for the period 2024-25 is available at childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/2024-2025-ccyp-annual-plan.

To provide a medium-term strategic focus for activities, and to inform day-to-day work and priority setting, the Office of the Commissioner developed a Strategic Framework, initially to guide the years 2022-23. Recognising its utility, the Strategic Framework was carried over into the 2023-24 and 2024-25 reporting years.

The Strategic Framework states the Office of the Commissioner's vision: *That all children and young people in Tasmania have their rights upheld and live their best lives.*

Towards achieving this vision, it also sets out a mission: *We uphold, protect and promote the rights and wellbeing of children and young people in Tasmania.*

The Strategic Framework instils the following organisational values:

- child-centred
- collegiality
- equity
- courage
- integrity
- kindness.

It also identifies the following key enablers:

- children and young people
- our strategic partnerships and networks
- our people (i.e. the staff of the Office of the Commissioner).

The Strategic Framework is available at <https://childcomm.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CCYP-Full-Strategic-Framework-20222023.pdf>, with a shorter, more accessible summary of the Strategic Framework available at childcomm.tas.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/CCYP-Strategic-Framework-Summary-20222023.pdf.

In this Annual Report, the Interim Commissioner's activities, initiatives and outcomes are described in relation to priority areas outlined in the Strategic Framework, being:

- Aboriginal cultural awareness
- engagement and communication
- monitoring
- advocacy, research and advice.

A new Annual Plan for the forward 2025-26 period was submitted to the Minister on 31 March 2025 and is available at childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/annual-plan-2025-2026.



DELIVERING AGAINST OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Aboriginal cultural awareness

During the year, the Office of the Commissioner team worked to further develop their understanding of Tasmanian Aboriginal culture and heritage and advocated for Aboriginal children and young people, including by continuing advocacy for the establishment of independent statutory oversight and advocacy mechanisms for Aboriginal children and young people.

Strengthening our understanding of Tasmanian Aboriginal history and culture

In June 2025, the Interim Commissioner invited several young people to attend as guests at Reconciliation Tasmania's **National Reconciliation Week Breakfast**. Together they reflected on a powerful keynote address by Pakana writer, filmmaker and political activist for Law in Country, Jim Everett-Puralia Meenamatta, as well as a moving presentation by Palawa singer-songwriter Dewayne Everettsmith.

In July 2024, the Interim Commissioner and members of the Office of the Commissioner were pleased to celebrate NAIDOC Week by attending a screening of the documentary film **The Australian Dream**, following the experiences of Australian Rules footballer Adam Goodes.

During the reporting period, members of the Office of the Commissioner were again supported to attend Aboriginal Cultural Respect training conducted by the Tasmanian Training Consortium. This well-received training, led by members of the State Service Management Office's Aboriginal Employment team, has contributed to increasing internal awareness about the way the Office conducts its work with Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

Advocating for the rights of Aboriginal children and young people

During the reporting period, the Office of the Commissioner continued work on a multi-year project to enhance the monitoring of children and young people's wellbeing through the development of a new child rights-based approach.

Through this new rights-based approach to monitoring, **Making Rights Real**, the Office of the Commissioner seeks to respect, promote and uphold the rights of Aboriginal children in a way that is both culturally respectful and grounded in the principles of self-determination and the rights articulated in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Aboriginal communities have the right to determine how data about their children and young people is collected, interpreted, and used to inform policy and practice.

Ongoing work to implement *Making Rights Real* will be guided by the Tasmanian Aboriginal community, with all opportunities to work with Aboriginal Tasmanians in data governance and decision-making being actively pursued.



Throughout the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner and members of the Office of the Commissioner engaged with DPAC and DECYP regarding the Tasmanian Government's [Aboriginal Youth Justice Strategy](#). Consultation will continue into the next reporting period, with a focus on listening to the Tasmanian Aboriginal community to learn how continuing advocacy will be most effective.

Members of the Office of the Commissioner also met with counterparts in the National Commission for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People, providing advice in the lead up to the appointment of Australia's first [National Commissioner for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children and Young People](#).

Advocacy for a Tasmanian Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People

In December 2024, the Interim Commissioner encouraged the Tasmanian Government, through a submission in response to the draft Commission for Children and Young People Bill 2024, to engage in genuine partnership with Tasmanian Aboriginal people and organisations in considering options for a governance model that positively and deliberately respects and upholds the principle of self-determination. This approach is essential as the Government works towards implementation of Commission of Inquiry recommendation 9.14, being the establishment of Tasmania's first Commissioner for Aboriginal Children and Young People with, among other

things, statutory powers and functions to monitor the experiences of Aboriginal children in out-of-home care and youth detention. The Interim Commissioner has continued to advocate, at every level, for the Tasmanian Aboriginal community to shape how this vitally important statutory role is established. The importance of respecting self-determination throughout this process was a key message delivered by the Interim Commissioner as part of a presentation and panel discussion during a [TasCOSS Policy Conversation](#) event on 14 November 2024.

Engagement and communication

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner actively sought out the views of children and young people, while promoting their involvement in the decisions that affect their lives.

The Interim Commissioner also continued to engage with children and young people, and other stakeholders, through a range of communications channels to increase public understanding of the role of the Commissioner and of children's rights generally.

Engaging with children and young people about their new Commission

In September 2024, the Tasmanian Government released the draft Commission for Children and Young People Bill 2024 (draft Bill) for community consultation, outlining how it intends on establishing a new statutory Commission, as recommended by the Commission of Inquiry.

During October and November 2024, children and young people were invited to fill out and return **"postcards" to the Interim Commissioner** with written and creative responses to a prompt about how their new Commission should work.

In reply, 679 children and young people from across Tasmania expressed their thoughts, hopes, and ideas. The rate of postcard returns and the depth of insights shared bolstered the Interim Commissioner's submission in reply to the Government's draft Bill, helping to ensure that the voices of children and young people are centred while work continues to refine the legislation that will establish the new Commission.

During this period, the Interim Commissioner also conducted a series of in-person and online focus groups around Tasmania, to explore the views of young Tasmanians about their new Commission.

In March 2025, and to share the detailed insights shared by children and young people through

this engagement process more broadly, the Interim Commissioner published the report ***"Letting them have a say" – Children and young people's views on the proposed new Commission for Children and Young People***. A copy of this report, along with a child-friendly poster version, is available on the CCYP website. See childcomm.tas.gov.au/new-commission-report-released.



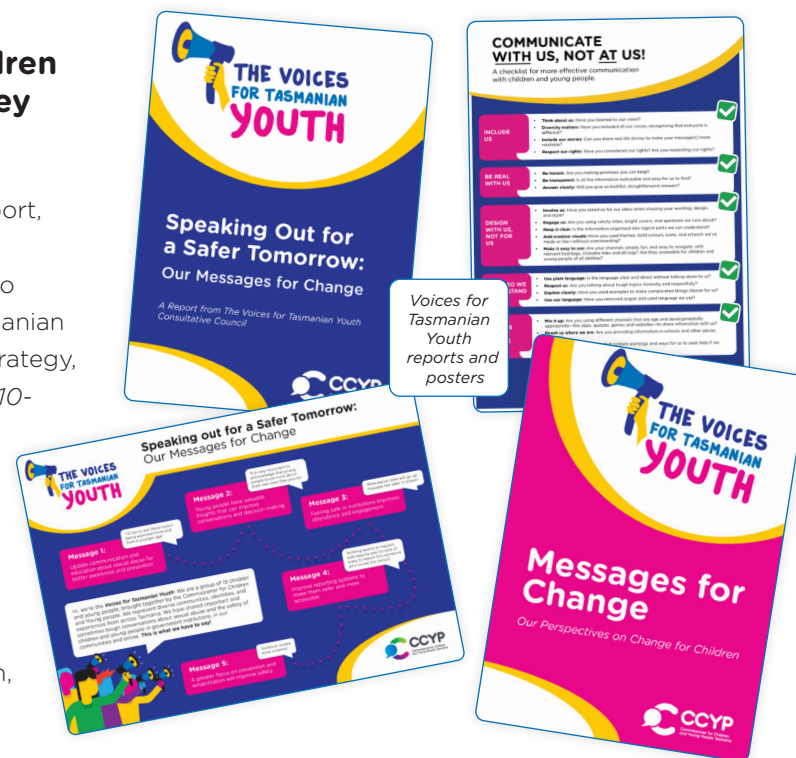
Also in March 2025, and to further elevate the voices of children and young people during the conversation about the new Commission, the Office of the Commissioner collaborated with a group of young people, the CREATE Foundation and the Youth Network of Tasmania, to create a short video showcasing a range of views. See childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/what-young-tasmanians-want-from-the-new-commission-for-children-and-young-people.

Creating opportunities for children to tell decision-makers what they think

As reported in CCYP's 2023-24 Annual Report, the former Commissioner established a Consultative Council under the CCYP Act, to consider and respond to its proposed Tasmanian Government Child Sexual Abuse Reform Strategy, now titled *Change for Children: Tasmania's 10-year strategy for upholding the rights of children by preventing, identifying and responding to child sexual abuse*.

The Council, comprised of 19 children and young people aged 10 to 18, named itself the **Voices for Tasmanian Youth** (VTY) and set about a process of supported co-design, producing a series of detailed outputs shared during the reporting period.

On 12 July 2024, the VTY staged a **media launch** in Launceston attended by Tasmanian Government decision-makers including the Premier, the Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP, the then Minister for Children and Youth, the Honourable Roger Jaensch MP, the Head of the Tasmanian State Service, Ms Kathrine Morgan-Wicks, and lead of the Woolcott Review, Mr Peter Woolcott AO. At this event, VTY members spoke about their experiences as Council members, before presenting the Premier and Minister with a comprehensive written report titled *Speaking out for a Safer Tomorrow: Our Messages for Change*. After the conclusion of a



public media opportunity, the event transitioned into a closed-door discussion, providing VTY members a forum to speak directly with the decision-makers in attendance.

This event also saw the first presentation of *A Mountain of Voices* – an interactive creative response developed by the VTY in partnership with Tasmanian arts organisation Terrapin. Further details about A Mountain of Voices are provided in the following section of this report.

The work of the VTY continued through subsequent stages of engagement with older

Council members, leading to the publication in October 2024 of a further report, *Messages for Change: Our Perspectives on Change for Children*, as well as the release of *Communicate with us, not at us! A checklist for more effective communication with children and young people* in February 2025. The latter, a guide to support government to better communicate with children and young people, has since been included as a featured resource within the Tasmanian Government Communication guide. See <https://www.tas.gov.au/communications/accessibility-and-inclusivity/communication-channels>.

Recognising the detailed, influential work of the VTY, as well as the importance of continuing to include the voices of children and young people in later stages of its reform program, the Tasmanian Government, through DPAC, has subsequently supported the Office of the Commissioner to convene and sustain a new Consultative Council over forward years. Planning for this new engagement is underway and recruitment for this group will commence during the next reporting period.

To learn more about the VTY and to find copies of the reports mentioned above, including child-friendly resources, see childcomm.tas.gov.au/VTY.

A Mountain of Voices

Unveiled at a media launch in July 2024, *A Mountain of Voices* (the *Mountain*) is a creative, arts-based response to the themes and messages explored by the VTY.

Developed in partnership with Terrapin, through a series of creative workshops, the Mountain is presented as a scalable sculpture, in the form of a stylised mountain peak, inviting children and young people to share their thoughts, views and ideas with the adults around them.

Only children and young people can climb the *Mountain* and speak into a megaphone at its summit, sharing their “Power Statements” to remind adults of why their voices matter.

Young people are also invited to write a “Power Statement” or draw a picture on a Post-It note, which they can fix to the slopes of the *Mountain*. As their statements build up, each young person who climbs the *Mountain* is symbolically lifted by the voices of their peers.

After its launch in 2024, the *Mountain* was taken on tour around Tasmania throughout the first half of 2025, visiting Glenorchy, New Norfolk, Ulverstone and Port Dalrymple. During the tour, 249 young people enjoyed workshops, sharing with decision-makers in their local communities the things they consider important for them to know.

As a result of this successful tour, the Interim Commissioner committed to returning to each participant school for follow-up conversations during the next reporting period, and to work further with Terrapin to produce an enduring artwork that will preserve and communicate the messages that have been shared with a broader audience. Further details will be included in the next Annual Report.



The Premier, the Honourable Jeremy Rockliff MP (right) at the VTY media launch, 12 July 2024, with a member of the VTY group (left)



A VTY member (left) shares their Power Statement through The Mountain with a decision-maker guest (right)

Listening to the voices of young people in detention

The *Mountain* tour included the delivery of a **tailored workshop** with a small group of young people at the Ashley Youth Detention Centre (AYDC) in April 2025. Planning is underway for Terrapin to return to AYDC in the next reporting period, with the view to co-creating a bespoke creative output highlighting the views, voices, skills and creativity of young people in detention.

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner released two further reports as part of the **Voices of Young People in the Youth Justice System project** (Voices project). The Voices project promotes and empowers young people with lived experience of the Tasmanian youth justice system to share their views on this system. By working with young people to share their views about what contact with this system can be like for children and young people, this project provides critical insights into the system's impact on children and young people. The Voices project informs the Interim Commissioner's ongoing systemic advocacy about the reforms needed to promote, protect, and uphold the rights and wellbeing of children and young people in Tasmania.

In December 2024, the Interim Commissioner published ***"Kids that have fallen through the cracks" - Young people's views on supporting children, young people and their families***, sharing young people's views about the supports

they believe are needed to reduce the likelihood that children and young people will have contact with the youth justice system.

In March 2025, the Interim Commissioner published ***"Somewhere safe to go" - Young people's experiences of leaving detention***, exploring what it is like for children and young people in Tasmania to leave detention, including how young people may feel upon release, and the importance of ongoing support after leaving detention.

During the reporting period, additional work was undertaken to inform a future Voices project report examining young people's experiences of police and reception prison watch houses. A forthcoming report on this topic will be

informed by the in-depth interviews conducted with young people during the reporting period, as well as visits to reception prison facilities.

All reports published through the Voices project are available on the CCYP website, along with child-friendly poster explainers. See childcomm.tas.gov.au/voicesproject.

For further details about how children and young people in detention are supported by the Office of the Commissioner, see the later section titled *Providing individual advocacy for children in youth justice detention*, on page 30.



Talking about children's rights

The Interim Commissioner maintained an active schedule of public engagements throughout the 2024-25 reporting period, taking every opportunity to meet with members of the Tasmanian community to raise awareness of children's rights, and the role of the Commissioner.

For example, in July 2024, the Interim Commissioner spoke at the launch of the **More for Children** exhibition, staged in Burnie by the Children's Policy Centre (CPC) along with partner organisation Burnie Works. This event brought together children and young people to exhibit artwork they had created as participants in a CPC research program. The Interim Commissioner was pleased to launch a child-friendly report of the research and to meet with many of the young artists and hear directly from them, and their families, about the things that make life good, as well as the things that can make life tough.

In August 2024, the Interim Commissioner was delighted to select and present the Commissioner for Children and Young People's Award for the Department for Education, Children and Young People's annual **Young Archies** art competition. The Interim Commissioner spoke about the right of all children to artistic expression, play and culture, when presenting the award to Ida Welch for a portrait titled *Where the Wild Thing Is!* A copy

of Ida's stunning, fun-infused piece is to be hung alongside the work of previous Commissioner's prize winners in the CCYP office.

In September 2024, the Interim Commissioner was pleased to be involved in the University of Tasmania's annual **Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Lecture**. Acting as Master of Ceremonies during this *Island of Ideas* series event, the Interim Commissioner introduced and then interviewed keynote speaker Associate Professor Catherine Robinson, whose lecture focused on how action can be taken to end homelessness for unaccompanied children in Tasmania and beyond.

Appendix A to this report provides a full list of events at which the Interim Commissioner fulfilled a formal role.

The reach of the Interim Commissioner's advocacy was further extended by engaging with state and national media. During the reporting period, a significant advocacy theme advanced by the Interim Commissioner, through public statements and media opportunities, was the vital importance of the Tasmanian Government maintaining its commitment to its *Youth Justice Blueprint 2024-2034*. See Appendix B for a list of the Interim Commissioner's media releases and opinion pieces on this and other topics. See also Appendix C for a schedule of external membership groups supported by the Interim Commissioner and/or members of the Office of the Commissioner team.



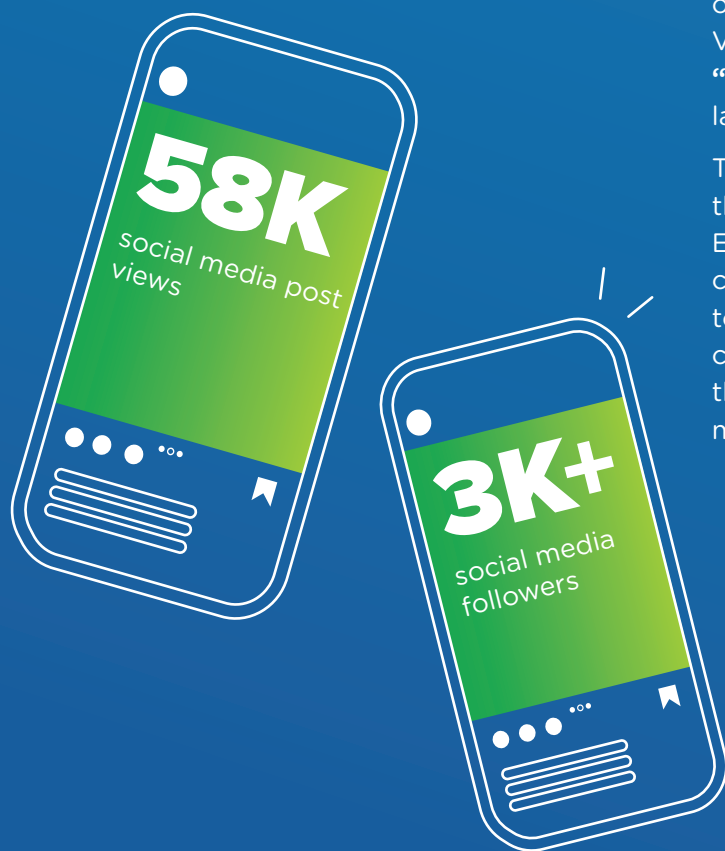
The Interim Commissioner (left), in conversation with Associate Professor Robinson (right)



Ida Welch (left) receives her award from the Interim Commissioner (right)

Sharing opportunities and information online

The CCYP's social media presence remained an important communication channel, assisting the Interim Commissioner to share important messages about, with and for children and young people. At the end of the reporting period, an audience count of 3,418 followers across Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn profiles contributed to CCYP's social media posts being seen more than 58,000 times.



293

VTY social media post reactions



11K+

VTY social media post views

In July 2024, the Office of the Commissioner team harnessed the reach of this social media presence, working with VTY members to prepare a **social media “take-over”** timed to coincide with the launch of their first report.

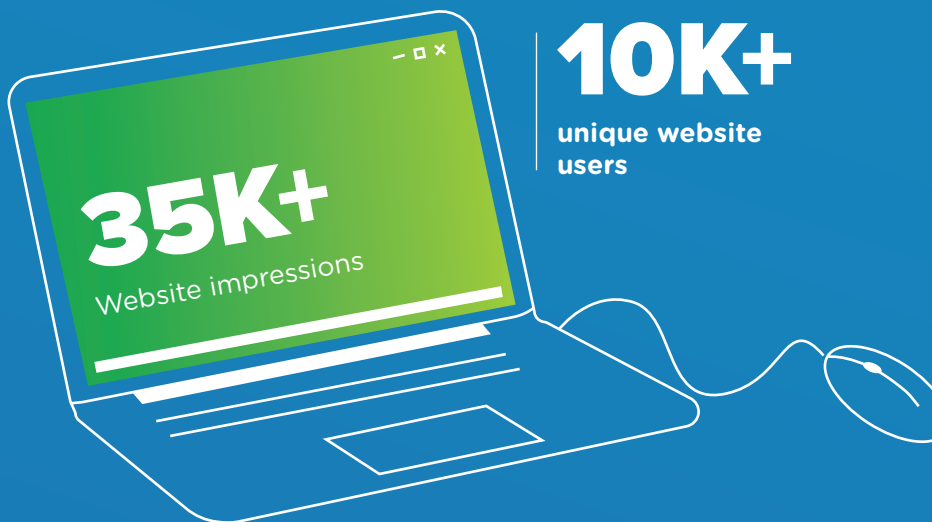
Through workshop-style engagement, the VTY were supported by CCYP's Engagement and Communication teams to consider how they could use social media to share their important messages for change, with consideration given to how this social media activity would be safely managed.

Over the course of a week, CCYP's social media accounts were temporarily rebranded with the VTY's own visual identity. Daily posts, co-devised with VTY members, were then shared, disseminating their key messages, attracting 11,349 views and 293 reactions to date. The posts shared during this social media “take-over” are available to be viewed on CCYP's Instagram account at [instagram.com/child_comm_tas](https://www.instagram.com/child_comm_tas).

CCYP's **Your Engagement Place** (YEP!) hub remained popular during the reporting period, providing a one-stop-shop of curated engagement opportunities open to young Tasmanians aged under 18. Across the reporting period, 38 engagement opportunities were posted through YEP! Work continues to streamline this platform, with subscription and notification improvements made during the reporting period. Children and young people, adults, and organisations interested in learning more about YEP! can visit childcomm.tas.gov.au/YEP.

38

**Opportunities
posted
through YEP!**



10K+

**unique website
users**

The CCYP website continued to assist the Interim Commissioner to effectively share information with a wide audience, attracting 10,456 unique users across the 2024-25 period and recording 35,235 impressions. To explore the many resources made available through the CCYP website, visit childcomm.tas.gov.au.



Monitoring

The CCYP Act requires that the Commissioner promotes, monitors and reviews the wellbeing of Tasmanian children and young people generally. For some time, the Tasmanian Government has broadly defined wellbeing for children and young people through reference to 6 key domains: being loved, safe and valued; having material basics; being healthy; learning; participating; and having a positive sense of culture and identity. When a child's rights are respected, protected and fulfilled, their wellbeing improves.

Collecting, analysing and sharing data and information about the rights and wellbeing of children

Central to the Commissioner's monitoring role is the ability to collect, analyse and share a range of data and other information about the rights and wellbeing of children.

The Interim Commissioner continued to have a specific focus on monitoring Tasmania's out-of-home care system, with the aim of promoting and protecting the rights and wellbeing of Tasmanian children and young people in care. This ongoing work explores the experiences of Tasmania's children and young people in care and examines the processes and system features that affect their wellbeing, focusing on systemic issues in institutional and administrative practices. This monitoring has 4 elements:

- regular data monitoring
- thematic monitoring
- responsive investigations, as required
- monitoring of the Tasmanian Government's implementation of the Interim Commissioner's recommendations to strengthen the out-of-home care system.

For more information, see childcomm.tas.gov.au/everyone/major-programs/out-of-home-care-monitoring.

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner convened and chaired a **Rights-based Monitoring and Evaluation Advisory Panel** (Advisory Panel) which provided advice to inform monitoring activities.

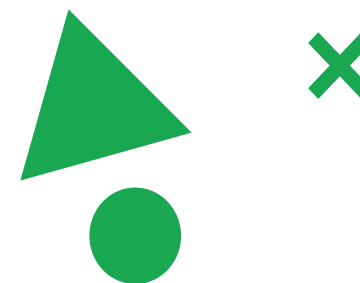
The time, continued effort and shared expertise of the following members of the Advisory Panel is gratefully acknowledged:

- Professor Sharon Bessell (Crawford School of Public Policy's Children's Policy Centre, Australian National University)
- Professor Daryl Higgins (Institute of Child Protection Studies, Australian Catholic University)
- Dr Greet Peersman (Independent Senior Evaluation Consultant)
- Professor Kitty te Riele (Peter Underwood Centre for Educational Attainment, University of Tasmania)
- Professor John Tobin (Melbourne Law School, University of Melbourne).

In December 2023, the Office of the Commissioner published a monitoring report titled ***A Place at the Table: An investigation into a change to the case management of children and young people in care in Tasmania*** (A Place at the Table). For a copy of the report, including a child-friendly version, see childcomm.tas.gov.au/young-people/a-place-at-the-table. During the 2024-25 reporting period, the Interim

Commissioner continued to require periodic progress updates from the Department for Education, Children and Young People towards the findings and recommendations made in *A Place at the Table*. Two updates were received from the Department during the reporting period, showing mixed progress has been achieved. A further update from the Department will fall due in November 2025 and, together with previous updates, will be distilled into a child-friendly report to be produced in the next reporting period, sharing progress about the recommendations made in *A Place at the Table*.

During the reporting period, preparation of the Interim Commissioner's **Monitoring Report No.3: Key data on Tasmania's out-of-home care system, 2019-2024** was advanced, ahead of planned release in the second half of 2025. As with previous editions, *Monitoring Report No. 3* will describe the key characteristics of the Tasmanian out-of-home care system, and provide information about the experiences of children and young people of the system. Previous monitoring reports in this series are available on the [CCYP website](#).



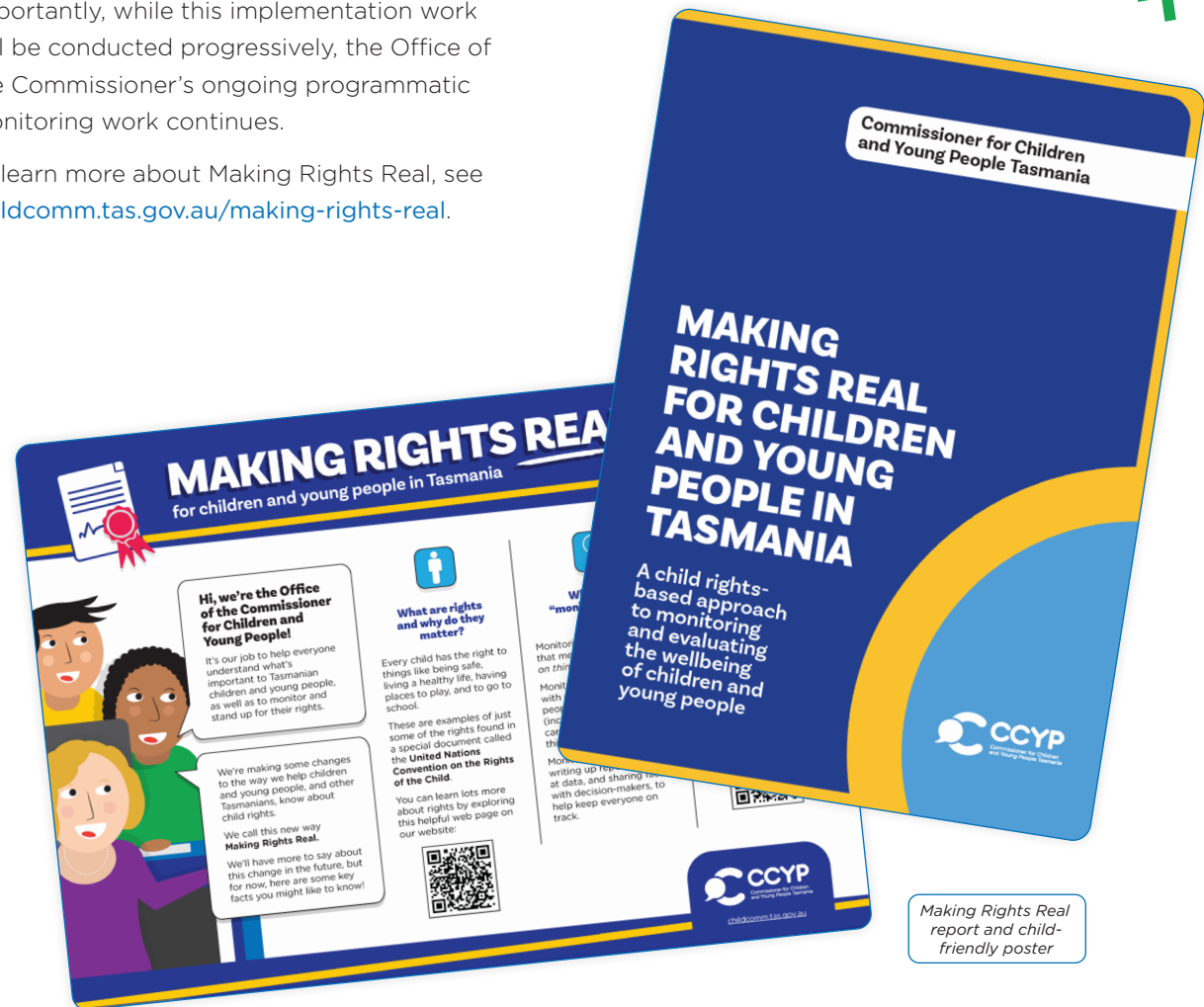
Making Rights Real

As noted in previous CCYP Annual Reports, the Office of the Commissioner has undertaken a multi-year program of work to enhance the monitoring of children and young people's wellbeing through the development of a new child rights-based approach. Completed after the close of the reporting period, the work to conceptualise this new approach, now titled *Making Rights Real*, builds on the efforts of successive Commissioners.

On 27 March 2025, the Interim Commissioner met and briefed the **Tasmanian Government Secretaries' Board** on *Making Rights Real*, inviting represented departments to be involved in the project through the planned formation of a cross-government Child Rights Working Group. The Interim Commissioner presented further *Making Rights Real* briefings, for the **Executive Leadership Team of the Department for Education Children and Young People**, on 13 May 2025, as well as for key non-government sector stakeholders on 27 May 2025.

A *Making Rights Real* conceptual plan has been published on the CCYP website since the close of the reporting period, with work shifting to operationalise this new approach, including engagement with children and young people. Importantly, while this implementation work will be conducted progressively, the Office of the Commissioner's ongoing programmatic monitoring work continues.

To learn more about Making Rights Real, see childcomm.tas.gov.au/making-rights-real.



Making Rights Real report and child-friendly poster

Advocacy, research and advice

As an advocate for all children and young people in Tasmania, the Interim Commissioner regularly engaged in strategic advocacy and provided independent, apolitical and impartial advice and comment on the broad range of issues that affect the wellbeing of Tasmania's children and young people.

Specific elements of this work include:

- commenting on draft Bills
- contributing to other consultative processes
- providing advice to government on issues affecting the rights and wellbeing of children and young people
- participating in public forums, panels and conferences
- providing public commentary, including through media releases and opinion pieces
- engaging in systemic advocacy where a matter is raised by a member of the community
- being an active member of the Australian and New Zealand Children's Commissioners, Guardians and Advocates group.

Public enquiries

This section of the Annual Report outlines the major advocacy issues the Interim Commissioner engaged in during the reporting period. This systemic advocacy work is, in part, informed by concerns and other information conveyed to the Office of the Commissioner by members of the community.

The Commissioner does not have a complaint-investigation role and cannot investigate specific circumstances or specific

decisions made in respect of an individual case. However, members of the public regularly contact the Office of the Commissioner to raise both general and specific concerns about the wellbeing of children and young people. In these circumstances, members of the public are given information about referral options and, where appropriate, their concerns may be shared with relevant authorities for action. During the reporting period, the Office of the Commissioner responded to public enquiries from 125 individuals.

The public enquiries addressed during the reporting period centred on several prevalent themes, including:

- parents, carers, guardians seeking advice on ways to escalate enquiries or make formal complaints regarding Child Safety Services
- children and young people in care, as well as carers, being unsure of advocacy pathways, often seeking advice on who can assist them and how to escalate concerns
- early childhood education enquires related to advice on who to contact when there are concerns, and escalation of complaints, particularly in relation to supervision of children
- issues regarding alleged discrimination, exclusionary practices, children's rights and privacy, bullying, and child safety in the government and non-government education sectors

- gaps in service availability and co-ordination of services for young people leaving care.

Where a concern raises issues of a systemic nature, the Commissioner may seek further information from a relevant agency or organisation or engage in systemic advocacy.

Members of the public wishing to make an enquiry can contact the Office of the Commissioner for Children and Young People by:

- phoning (03) 6166 1366, Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm
- emailing childcomm@childcomm.tas.gov.au
- writing to GPO Box 708, Hobart, Tasmania, 7001.

Being consulted on reforms aimed at improving the rights and wellbeing of children

The Office of the Commissioner remains a trusted authority on matters relating to the rights and wellbeing of children and young people in Tasmania, respected for its capability to provide evidence-based, clear and accessible child-centred feedback and advice.

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner was invited by external parties to provide feedback to inform a range of reforms, policies and projects.



The Interim Commissioner also published several reports and resources, listed at Appendix D, and provided numerous formal submissions, listed at Appendix E.

Topics covered in the Interim Commissioner's formal submissions to inquiries and public consultation processes during 2024-25 included:

- bail law reform
- bullying and discrimination
- Commission of Inquiry related legislative reform
- education
- police powers
- youth justice and detention.

Complementing formal submissions, during the reporting period the Office of the Commissioner also provided specialist child rights-based advice, feedback and ethical child engagement guidance on a range of child and young people focused government policy work (at various stages of development). This included advice and feedback on specific youth justice policy and procedures, out-of-home care policy and procedures, child safeguarding policies and procedures, and more.

Providing effective feedback at an early stage of policy development helps to ensure that children's rights and best interests are appropriately acknowledged and supported and builds capacity in other organisations to consider and respond to any child rights impacts in the policy development process.

Supporting the implementation of recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner and the Office of the Commissioner undertook work that supported the implementation of numerous recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry.

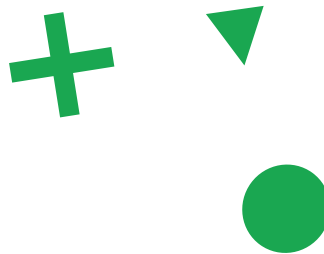
As noted previously, to ensure the voices of children and young people were considered in the ongoing drafting of enabling legislation to establish a new Commission for Children and Young People (recommendation 18.6), the Interim Commissioner undertook an extensive consultation and engagement project leading to the report *“Letting them have a say” – Children and young people’s views on the proposed new Commission for Children and Young People*. See page 16 for further details.

On 19 December 2024, the Interim Commissioner provided the Department of Justice with a submission in response to its Commission for Children and Young People Bill 2024 Consultation Draft, incorporating and responding to the views of children and young people. The submission, and others prepared by the Interim Commissioner, including submissions relating to other Commission of Inquiry related legislative amendments, are available at childcomm.tas.gov.au/everyone/resources.

During the reporting period the Interim Commissioner chaired an **Independent Statutory Officer Working Group** tasked with delivering Commission of Inquiry recommendation 18.14 – the production of a user-friendly guide detailing how oversight bodies respond to reports of child sexual abuse, how they manage complaints and concerns, and how information provided to each body is managed.

In March 2025, the group released a *Guide to Tasmanian oversight bodies – How to be heard when you have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person*, and in April 2025, *How to be heard when you have concerns about the safety of wellbeing of a child or young person – An accessible explainer of Tasmanian oversight bodies* was published.

Copies of these documents are available at childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/guide-to-tasmanian-oversight-bodies.



ANZCCGA

The Interim Commissioner promoted the interests of Tasmanian children and young people as an active member of the [Australian and New Zealand Children's Commissioners, Guardians and Advocates](#) (ANZCCGA) group throughout 2024-25. The ANZCCGA group helps promote and protect the safety, wellbeing and rights of children and young people across Australia and New Zealand by leveraging collective expertise in public policy and program development.

During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner attended 4 meetings of the ANZCCGA group, including in-person meetings convened in Wellington, Aotearoa / New Zealand, in November 2024, and in Sydney, in May 2025.

The group regularly produces policy statements, meeting communiqués and joint media statements. During the reporting period, the Interim Commissioner co-signed joint statements regarding child poverty, a proposed federal social media ban, and for co-ordinated national action to be taken to prevent and respond to child sexual abuse.

On 10 October 2024, Australian members of the group provided a joint submission to the Australian Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee's, *Inquiry into Australia's*

youth justice and incarceration system, calling for "governments to move from a justice response for children under 14 years to a developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed, and culturally safe early intervention model that supports children in their families and communities." The group's submission is available on the Australian [Parliament House website](#). On 3 February 2025, the Interim Commissioner joined other members to appear as a panel of witnesses during a public hearing of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee to speak to their submission. A recording of this appearance is available on the Australian Parliament

House YouTube channel at youtube.com/live/mJL0trb1IGk.

The ANZCCGA group encourages collaboration between the staff of members through a long-standing Policy Officers' Network, and aims to establish a community of practice for members' respective communications officers during the next reporting period.

Collated ANZCCGA policy statements and communiqués are available on the CCYP website at childcomm.tas.gov.au/everyone/about/australian-and-new-zealand-childrens-commissioners-and-guardians-anzccg.



Providing individual advocacy for children in youth justice detention

The CCYP Act provides that the Commissioner has a specific role to act as advocate for individual children and young people detained under the *Youth Justice Act 1997*. In practice, this means children and young people in youth justice detention may request the Commissioner to advocate on any matter affecting their rights and wellbeing. Section 10 of the CCYP Act provides guidance about how the Commissioner may perform this independent advocacy role, including by:

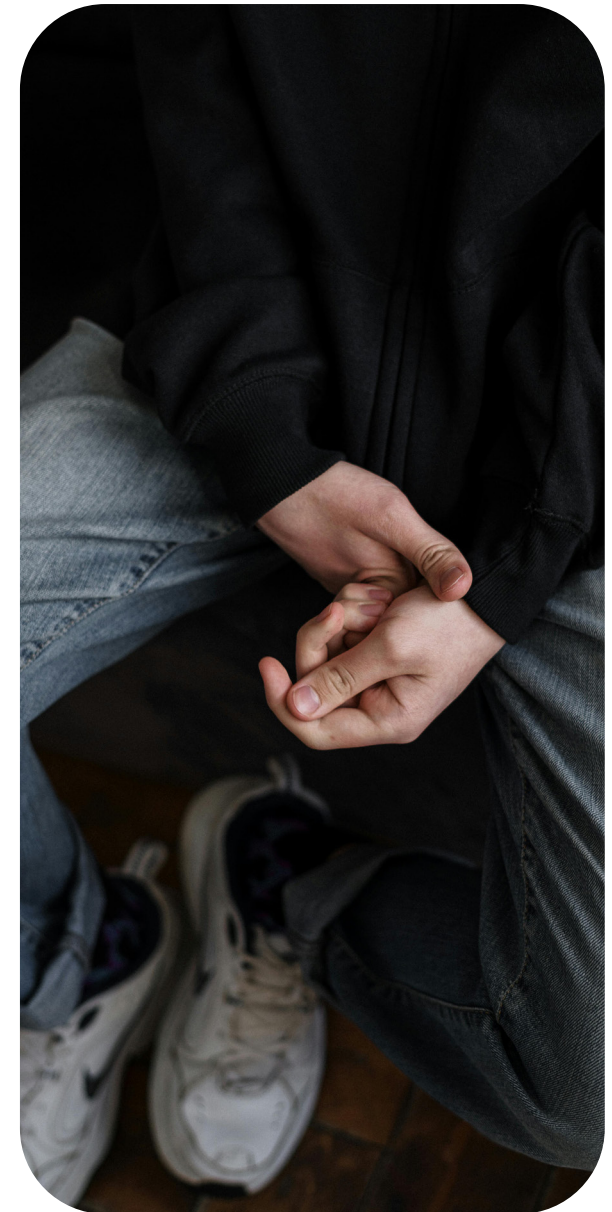
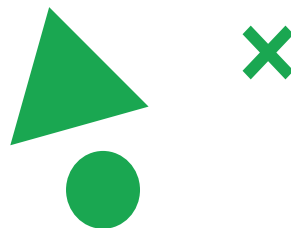
- listening to and giving voice to the concerns and grievances of a young person and facilitating resolution of those concerns
- seeking information about, and facilitating access by, a young person to support services
- assessing whether a young person has been provided with adequate information about their rights
- assessing the physical and emotional wellbeing of a young person

As a prescribed officer within the meaning of section 135(A) of the *Youth Justice Act 1997*, the Commissioner is entitled to access, at any reasonable time, any detention centre, or any detainee at the centre, for the purposes of

performing the function of advocate. While children and young people are generally detained at AYDC, they may also be detained in Tasmania Prison Service facilities.

The Commissioner receives regular reports to assist in monitoring the wellbeing of children and young people in youth justice detention generally, including information about the use of isolation practices and searches.

During the 2024-25 year, the Interim Commissioner met with children and young people at AYDC on 18 occasions. Children and young people in detention had regular contact with the Advocate for Young People in Detention (see the following section for further details) in person and by phone.



The Advocate for Young People in Detention

Since February 2022, the Office of the Commissioner has been resourced to employ an Advocate for Young People in Detention (the Advocate), bolstering the advocacy available to children and young people in detention and enhancing the Commissioner's systemic oversight of the rights and wellbeing of children and young people in custody.

The Advocate is generally onsite at AYDC 3 days per week and is available by phone to listen to any concerns or issues that children or young people may be experiencing. During the reporting period, the Advocate made 105 visits to children and young people at AYDC, supplementing the Interim Commissioner's schedule of visiting generally no less frequently than every 3 weeks.

When visiting AYDC, the Advocate is provided with keys and can move around the centre unaccompanied. This enables the Advocate to observe the children and young people's living environment, provide information about their rights, and interact with staff and program delivery.

By maintaining a regular, in-person presence at AYDC, the Advocate can establish effective rapport with each individual child or young person in detention. Young people have reported that having an Advocate onsite who they know, and trust, is important to them.

The Advocate works to advocate on behalf of children and young people including through participation in care team, multi-disciplinary team, and exit-planning meetings. The Advocate helps young people to raise concerns and make complaints, and advocates for complaint outcomes to be communicated to young people in a timely and child-centred manner, including information about any right of review. Where appropriate, the Advocate attempts to resolve matters as they arise through discussions with AYDC staff. The Advocate liaises on behalf of young people with government and non-government services, oversight bodies, legal practitioners and youth justice workers. Through this work, the Advocate monitors for emerging systemic issues and provides the Commissioner with regular reports and advice. This advice underpins the Commissioner's ongoing systemic advocacy to government on behalf of young people in detention, centring their voices, views and experiences.

Individual advocacy themes during 2024-25

Young people requested advocacy support on 640 occasions across the reporting period. During each occasion for advocacy, a young person may have requested support about a single matter, while at other times they may have requested advocacy support relating to several matters.

The requests made during the reporting period are grouped thematically below and are ordered by frequency.

1. **Health, safety and wellbeing:** including access to mental health support, medical treatment, medication concerns, risks and/or concerns regarding physical safety and access to wellbeing supports. **(177 requests)**
2. **Issues with staff:** including disagreements with staff, concerns regarding staff behaviour, alleged staff misconduct or mistreatment, inadequate responses to young people's needs. **(162 requests)**
3. **Support provision and referrals:** including contacting, accessing and receiving appropriate support from government and non-government service providers, including the Child Safety Service, Community Youth Justice, NDIS, Drug & Alcohol support and mentoring support. **(125 requests)**

4. **Isolation and lockdowns:** including concerns regarding use of isolation, restricted movements around the centre, restricted access to outside areas/fresh air, lockdowns due to staff shortages. **(114 requests)**
 5. **Court and legal matters:** including access to or contact with legal practitioners, seeking legal advice on a range of legal matters, understanding court processes, issues with bail, delays in court proceedings, court-ordered reports. **(111 requests)**
 6. **Complaints:** including assistance to make a formal complaint, a request to follow up on an outcome to a complaint, information on the right to make a complaint, seeking a review of a complaint outcome or issues regarding complaint systems generally. **(110 requests)**
 7. **Exit planning and accommodation:** including requests for support and planning for a young person's exit from detention. May include access to safe and stable accommodation/housing, referrals to support agencies, education/training enrolments, family reunification. **(107 requests)**
 8. **Use of physical force:** including concerns regarding physical holds and restraints by AYDC staff, use of mechanical restraints (e.g. handcuffs) and alleged assaults by staff. **(91 requests)**
 9. **Education and recreation programs:** including access to learning at the Ashley School, other education and training programs, education support, access to fitness and sports programs, outdoor recreation and other recreational programs. **(86 requests)**
 10. **AYDC rules, policies and behaviour development program (BDP):** including concerns regarding the application and fairness of AYDC rules and policies, incentives, colour-status and detention centre offences. **(73 requests)**
 11. **Police and Tasmania Prison Service:** including issues related to young people's experience of police and/or Tasmania Prison Service facilities and staff. **(70 requests)**
 12. **Telephone system, visits and contact with loved ones:** including issues with the telephone system, visit requests and contact with family members, friends, and other support networks through phone access, letters, video calls and in-person visits. **(68 requests)**
 13. **Issues with other young people:** including bullying, fighting, and disagreements/problems with other young people in detention. **(66 requests)**
 14. **Unit moves and cell changes:** including requests for assistance to move units and/or move to a different cell/room. **(51 requests)**
 15. **Personal property, clothing and stores:** including requests for access to clothing, personal hygiene items, entertainment resources, and other items. Issues related to personal items going missing or being removed. **(50 requests)**
- Other themes included:** unfair treatment and discrimination **(46 requests)**, centre improvements and the physical environment **(36 requests)**, harmful sexual behaviour or sexual assault **(30 requests)**, privacy, dignity and confidentiality **(26 requests)**, food/drinks and canteen **(15 requests)**, searches **(14 requests)**, boredom **(12 requests)**, access to advocacy **(8 requests)**, transport and escorts by contracted security staff **(7 requests)**, transfers to Tasmanian Prison Service **(5 requests)** and miscellaneous **(54 requests)**.
- During the reporting period, the Advocate supported young people to submit 30 formal complaints to a range of agencies.



APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Speeches, presentations and events

- Host, Voices for Tasmanian Youth report launch, 12 July 2024
- Speaker, *More for Children* art exhibition, 21 July 2024
- Speaker, Local Government Health and Wellbeing Network (Tasmania), 30 July 2024
- Speaker, Friends School's Primary School Parliament, 21 August 2024
- Guest reader, Rainbow Child Care and Early Learning Centre, Book Week, 23 August 2024
- Panel member and speaker, Young Archies Awards, 31 August 2024
- Speaker, Rotary Club of Hobart, 10 September 2024
- Master of Ceremonies, Sandy Duncanson Social Justice Lecture, 18 September 2024
- Speaker, Non-Government Schools Registration Board, 19 September 2024
- Panel member, Centre for Excellence in Child and Family Welfare formal launch, 9 October 2024
- Panel member and speaker, City of Hobart, 2024 Children's Mayor Investiture, 23 October 2024
- Speaker, Youth Justice Reform Community Engagement Group, 31 October 2024
- Speaker, Tasmanian Community Fund Board meeting, 5 November 2024
- Speaker, Day for Daniel and *What Does Safety Mean?* art exhibition, 12 November 2024
- Panel member, TasCOSS Policy Conversation: *Examining the Commission for Children and Young People Bill 2024*, 14 November 2024
- Host, New Commission for Children and Young People focus group, Hobart, 18 November 2024
- Host, New Commission for Children and Young People focus group, online, 19 November 2024
- Host, New Commission for Children and Young People focus group, Launceston, 20 November 2024
- Speaker, Cradle Coast Campus Symposium on the future of regional education, 21 November 2024
- Speaker, Child Protection Paediatricians Symposium, 29 November 2024
- Speaker, YNOT Tasmanian Youth Sector Symposium, 18 March 2025
- Host, *A Mountain of Voices* engagement tour, New Norfolk High School, 18 March 2025
- Presenter, Tasmanian Government Secretaries' Board, *Making Rights Real – A Child rights-based monitoring and evaluation program*, 27 March 2025
- Host, *A Mountain of Voices* engagement tour, Cosgrove High School, 1 April 2025
- Host, *A Mountain of Voices* engagement tour, Port Dalrymple School, 4 April 2025
- Presenter, Department for Education, Children and Young People Executive Leadership Team, *Making Rights Real – A Child rights-based monitoring and evaluation program*, 13 May 2025
- Host and presenter, CCYP Community Stakeholder Information Session, *Making Rights Real – A Child rights-based monitoring and evaluation program*, 27 May 2025
- Speaker, Don College Community Services class, 3 June 2025
- Panel member, TasCOSS Policy Conversation: *Introducing the Australian Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlas*, 5 June 2025
- Stakeholder panellist, University of Tasmania *Tassie Climate Change-makers* project presentations, 11 June 2025.

APPENDIX B: Media releases and opinion pieces

- Our children's voices will help shape policies, 12 August 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/our-childrens-voices-will-help-shape-policies
- Statement about new Commission for Children and Young People, 20 September 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/statement-about-new-commission-for-children-and-young-people
- Why do we allow child poverty? 14 October 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/why-do-we-allow-child-poverty
- 2023-24 Annual Report tabled, 27 November 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/2023-2024-annual-report-tabled
- New Commission submission lodged, 20 December 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/new-commission-submission-lodged
- Reflections for a New Year, 8 January 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/new-year
- Comments on release of Independent Review of Education in Tasmania, 23 January 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/comments-on-release-of-independent-review-of-education-in-tasmania
- Hundreds of children and young people have their say about their new Commission, 13 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/new-commission-report-released
- Tasmania can lead the Nation, 30 April 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/tasmania-can-lead-the-nation
- Getting it right for our children and communities, 15 May 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/opinion-piece-getting-it-right-for-our-children-and-communities
- A statement on the Custodial Inspector's Children in Tasmania's prisons Review Report 2025, 5 June 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/custodial-inspectors-report-children-in-tasmanias-prisons

APPENDIX C: Memberships

- Alcohol and Other Drug Youth Service and Practice Framework Focus Group, Department of Health
- Ashley Youth Detention Centre Duty Solicitor Working Group
- Ashley Youth Detention Centre Oversight Network
- Australia and New Zealand Children's Commissioners, Guardians and Advocates (ANZCCGA)
- ANZCCGA Policy Officers' Network
- Australian Child and Youth Wellbeing Atlas Steering Committee
- Australian Research Council Linkage Project - Fostering school attendance for students in out-of-home care
- Change from Children Co-Design Working Group, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Children and Youth Workforce Roundtable
- Commission for Children and Young People Working Group, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- Community Services Resilience and Recovery Network, TasCOSS
- Council of Obstetric and Paediatric Mortality and Morbidity
- End Physical Punishment of Australian Children Network
- Evaluation Advisory Group, Office of the Implementation Monitor
- Hobart [Magistrates] Court User Group
- Independent Children's Lawyers Project Steering Committee, Tasmania Legal Aid
- Independent Statutory Officers Working Group (Chair)
- Little Tasmanian Action Group, Brand Tasmania
- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Young People Working Group, Department of Health
- National Youth Intimate Partner Violence Network
- Research Application and Advisory Committee, Education Performance and Review, Department for Education, Children and Young People
- Southern Regional Mental Health Group, Mental Health Council of Tasmania
- Strengthening Capacity of Parenting and Perinatal Mental Health Services Steering Committee, Department of Health
- Thrive to 25, Glenorchy City Council
- Youth Action Priorities, Hobart City Council
- Youth Justice Reform Community Engagement Group.

APPENDIX D: Reports and other publications

- Speaking out for a Safer Tomorrow: Our Messages for Change, 12 July 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/speaking-out-for-a-safer-tomorrow-our-messages-for-change-report
- Speaking out for a Safer Tomorrow: Our Messages for Change, Child-friendly version, 12 July 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/speaking-out-for-a-safer-tomorrow-our-messages-for-change-child-friendly-version
- Messages for Change: Our Perspectives on Change for Children, 10 October 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/messages-for-change-our-perspective-on-change-for-children
- Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania Annual Report 2023-24, 25 November 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/annual-report-2023-2024
- Commissioner for Children and Young People Tasmania Annual Report 2023-24, Child-friendly version, 25 November 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/annual-report-2023-2024-child-friendly-version
- “Kids that have fallen through the cracks”: Young people’s views on supporting children, young people and their families, 17 December 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/kids-that-have-fallen-through-the-cracks
- “Kids that have fallen through the cracks” – Young people’s views on supporting children, young people and their families, Child-friendly poster, 17 December 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/kids-that-have-fallen-through-the-cracks-young-peoples-views-on-supporting-children-young-people-and-their-families
- Communicate with us, not at us! A checklist for more effective communication with children and young people, 7 February 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/communicate-with-us-not-at-us
- Guide to Tasmanian oversight bodies – How to be heard when you have concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or young person*, 1 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/guide-to-tasmanian-oversight-bodies
- “Somewhere safe to go” – Young people’s experiences of leaving detention, 4 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/somewhere-safe-to-go-young-peoples-experiences-of-leaving-detention
- “Somewhere safe to go” – Young people’s experiences of leaving detention, Child-friendly poster, 4 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/somewhere-safe-to-go-young-peoples-experiences-of-leaving-detention-child-friendly-poster
- “Letting them have a say” – Children and young people’s views on the proposed new Commission for Children and Young People, 13 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/letting-them-have-a-say-children-and-young-peoples-views-on-the-proposed-new-commission-for-children-and-young-people
- “Letting them have a say” – Children and young people’s views on the proposed new Commission for Children and Young People, Child-friendly poster, 13 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/letting-them-have-a-say-children-and-young-peoples-views-on-the-proposed-new-commission-for-children-and-young-people-child-friendly-version
- CCYP Strategic Framework Summary 2025 & 2026, 31 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/ccyp-strategic-framework-summary-2025-2026

- Annual Plan 2025-2026, 31 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/annual-plan-2025-2026
- How to be heard when you have concerns about the safety of wellbeing of a child or young person – An accessible explainer of Tasmanian oversight bodies*, 1 April 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/guide-to-tasmanian-oversight-bodies
- ‘Your Voice, Your Rights, Your Commissioner’ CCYP Poster, 26 May 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/your-voice-your-rights-your-commissioner-ccyp-poster
- Making Rights Real Infographic, 19 June 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/making-rights-real-infographic.

** These resources were produced collaboratively by an Independent Statutory Officer Working Group, comprised of the Interim Commissioner for Children and Young People, the Ombudsman, the Office of the Independent Regulator, the Integrity Commission and the Registration to Work with Vulnerable People Scheme.*

APPENDIX E: Formal submissions

- Submission – Tasmanian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (Additional Jurisdictions) Bill 2024 Consultation Draft, 22 August 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/tascat-bill-2024
- Submission – Parliamentary Inquiry into Discrimination and Bullying in Tasmanian Schools, 30 August 2024, available on the [Parliament of Tasmania website](#)
- Submission – Change for Children and Collaborating for Change Consultation Draft, 27 September 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/change-for-children-and-collaborating-for-change-consultation-draft
- Submission – Senate Inquiry into Australia's Youth Justice and Incarceration System, 10 October 2024, available on the [Parliament of Australia website](#)
- Submission – Independent Education Review Public Consultation Paper, 13 October 2024, available on the [Independent Education Review website](#)
- Oral evidence – Parliamentary Inquiry into Discrimination and Bullying in Tasmanian Schools, 7 November 2025, available on the [Parliament of Tasmania website](#)
- Submission – Police Offences Amendment Bill 2024 Consultation Draft, 8 November 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/police-offences-amendment-bill-2024
- Submission – Commission for Children and Young People Bill 2024 Consultation Draft, 19 December 2024, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/commission-for-children-and-young-people-bill-2024
- Submission – Police Powers and Responsibilities Act Proposal Paper, 7 February 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/police-powers-and-responsibilities-act-proposal-paper
- Submission – Police Offences (Knives and Other Weapons) Amendment Bill 2025, 21 February 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/police-offences-knives-and-other-weapons-amendment-bill-2025-consultation-draft
- Submission – Bail Bill 2024 Consultation Draft, 3 March 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/bail-bill-2024-consultation-draft
- Oral evidence – Parliamentary Joint Sessional Committee on the Recommendations of Final Report of the Commission of Inquiry, 28 March 2025, available on the [Parliament of Tasmania website](#)
- Submission – National Out-of-Home Care Standards Refresh, 14 April 2025, unpublished online form submission
- Submission – Comment on Tasmanian Youth Justice Facility Masterplan, 30 May 2025, childcomm.tas.gov.au/resource/comment-on-tasmanian-youth-justice-facility-masterplan
- Submission – Review of Child Safety Arrangements under the National Quality Framework, 11 June 2025, unpublished online form submission.





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