



The Hon Jenny Mikakos MLC
Minister for Families and Children
Level 22, 50 Lonsdale Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

Dear Minister

Ministerial Statement of Expectations - 2017/18 to 2018/19

Thank you for your letter providing the Commission for Children and Young People's Statement of Expectations for 2017/18 to 2018/19.

The final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse reinforces that the Commission for Children and Young People (the Commission) has a vital role to play in responding to the community's concerns about child abuse, and acting to prevent child abuse through its role in administering the Reportable Conduct Scheme (the scheme) and Child Safe Standards (the standards).

We know the devastating, long-lasting impact of child abuse on victims, their families and the wider community. Initiatives such as the standards and the scheme, that act to reduce child abuse and support robust investigation of allegations, have community-wide benefits.

The standards have been in place since 1 January 2016 and have been administered by the Commission since 1 January 2017. The scheme commenced on 1 July 2017 and will not become fully operational until 1 January 2019. Given the early stage of these new regulatory regimes, their importance and their broad application in the Victorian community, it is important to embed good regulatory practice to drive effective and efficient regulation.

The attached Action Plan sets out how the Commission will achieve the improvements set out in the Statement of Expectations.

It is estimated that over 50,000 organisations are required to comply with the standards, with an estimated 10,000 of those organisations also required to comply with the scheme.

Given the size and diversity of the sectors the Commission is responsible for regulating, it is important for the Commission to target its efforts to achieve the maximum benefit for the community. Risk-based regulatory practices informed by robust data collection and analysis will assist in this regard. Setting standards for the Commission's own performance will assist in embedding effective and efficient practices and demonstrate accountability.

I look forward to reporting on the Commission's progress in achieving the actions in the Statement of Expectations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Liana Buchanan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Liana Buchanan

Principal Commissioner

18 June 2018

Statement of Expectations – 2017-18 to 2018-19

Regulator action plan – Commission for Children and Young People

The table below details the Commission for Children and Young People's (the Commission) plan to meet the performance improvement expectations outlined in the Commission's 2017-18 to 2018-19 Statement of Expectations.

Performance Improvement	Actions	Performance Targets
Risk-based strategies	<p>Develop an overarching regulatory approach to guide administration of the Commission's regulatory functions that incorporates the use of risk-based regulatory practices.</p>	<p>By 30 June 2019, the Commission will publish a document on its website outlining the organisation's risk-based approach to administering the reportable conduct scheme and the child safe standards.</p>
Data to inform a risk-based approach	<p>Collection of relevant data to be used for a range of purposes including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o enable baseline for key regulatory processes and o inform a risk-based approach. 	<p>By 30 June 2019, the Commission will make changes to data collection, storage and analysis practices so that critical data is available to inform:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the use of risk-assessments in key decisions in the administration of the reportable conduct scheme and child safe standards • the establishment of baselines for key regulatory processes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o time from receipt of a notification of a reportable allegation to providing initial guidance to an organisation o time to issue the closure letter from receipt of completed investigation from an organisation in reportable conduct matters o number of participants attending information sessions about the reportable conduct scheme and child safe standards.

Performance Improvement	Actions	Performance Targets
Compliance related assistance and advice —	Ensure timely and effective advice is provided to organisations subject to the Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Scheme to assist them to comply with their obligations. In particular, the Commission should ensure assistance and advice is provided to those organisations who will be newly subject to the Reportable Conduct Scheme from 1 January 2019.	<p>By 1 January 2019, the Commission will prepare and implement a strategy to raise awareness in relevant sectors about the commencement of Phase 3 of the reportable conduct scheme on 1 January 2019. This strategy will focus on activities to prepare organisations for 1 January 2019 and will also include the development of tailored guidance material for the early years sector.</p> <p>The Commission will also prepare and implement a strategy targeted at sectors that present a higher risk to children, and are already subject to the reportable conduct scheme and the child safe standards, to further raise their awareness. The aim of this strategy will be to reinforce the need for organisations to comply with the standards, to notify the Commission about reportable allegations and to implement measures to prevent reportable conduct.</p>
Timeliness —	Ensure that enquiries to the Commission for information regarding the Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Scheme are responded to in a timely manner.	By 30 June 2019, the Commission will establish targets for response times for enquiries made of the Commission for information regarding the Child Safe Standards and Reportable Conduct Scheme. As part of its Annual Report, the Commission will publish data on its performance meeting this target.