

FROM PRESSURE TO PURPOSE






What the Commission of Inquiry means for Queensland's child and family sector

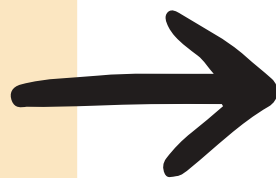
52 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REFORMING QUEENSLAND'S CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM

The Commission of Inquiry's 52 recommendations outline a roadmap for reform across Queensland's child protection system, spanning prevention and early intervention, family-based care, permanency, governance and accountability. At their core, the recommendations seek to support families earlier, strengthen family-based care, improve decision-making and accountability, and create better outcomes for children, young people and families.






THE BIG PICTURE

CURRENT SYSTEM: PRESSURE

-  Crisis support, not early support
-  Residential care growth and over-reliance
-  Workforce strain and high vacancy
-  Fragmented systems and unclear accountability
-  Inconsistent decisions and poor outcomes for children



PROPOSED FUTURE: PURPOSE

-  Earlier support for families
-  More family-based care and reduced reliance on residential care
-  Stable, lifelong connections and better outcomes
-  Independent oversight and strong accountability
-  Better decisions that reflect children's best interests



The Commission found that Queensland's child protection system is under significant pressure and requires **system-wide reform**. Lasting change will take **stronger prevention** and early intervention, **improved family-based care** options, **better decision-making**, **greater accountability** and a **clear implementation pathway**.

SEVEN KEY REFORM AREAS

LEGISLATION AND COURT PROCESSES

Reforming legislation and court processes to make them simpler, more consistent and child-centered

15 RECOMMENDATIONS

DEPARTMENTAL REFORM

Improving the way the child safety system operates to support better decision-making and outcomes

13 RECOMMENDATIONS

MODELS OF CARE AND RESIDENTIAL CARE REFORM

Improving care options for children and young people with a strong emphasis on family-based care

10 RECOMMENDATIONS

REFORM OVERSIGHT, FUNDING AND COMPLAINTS

Strengthening accountability and ensuring the right systems are in place to deliver and sustain reform

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

EARLY INTERVENTION AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Supporting families earlier and addressing the drivers of child protection involvement before concerns escalate

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

PERMANENCY PLANNING

Ensuring children experience stable, lifelong relationships and care arrangements

4 RECOMMENDATIONS

CORPORATE PARENTING

Strengthening Queensland's role as a corporate parent and improving outcomes for children and young people in care

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

WHAT MEMBERS SHOULD KNOW

1 BIGGEST IMMEDIATE SHIFT

A move away from reliance on residential care

The Commission argues that family-based care should be prioritised wherever possible. Queensland must strengthen foster and kinship care while reducing reliance on residential care

2 STRONGER FOCUS ON PREVENTION

Support families earlier, before statutory intervention is needed

The report emphasises supporting families through targeted intervention, practical assistance and better responses during pregnancy and the early years of a child's life

3 SYSTEM REFORM, NOT JUST SERVICE REFORM

Recommendations extend beyond frontline services and include:

-  Governance
-  Workforce
-  Commissioning
-  Funding
-  Complaints systems
-  Information systems

4 IMPLEMENTATION MATTERS

Independent oversight of reform implementation is critical

Success should be measured by improved outcomes for children and families, not simply whether recommendations are completed

PATHWAY TO CHANGE

The report sets proposes a pathway to change

GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

Government response to the recommendations and outline next steps

IMPLEMENTATION PLANNING

Detailed plans and reforms to be developed with cross-government, sector and community input

REFORM IMPLEMENTATION

Reforms are rolled out with investment in workforce, systems, capability and service models

INDEPENDENT OVERSIGHT

An independent body to monitor implementation, progress and outcomes

IMPROVED OUTCOMES

Success to be measured by improved safety, stability and wellbeing for children, young people and families

PEAKCARE'S INITIAL ANALYSIS

The Commission's Final Report presents a blueprint for reforming Queensland's child protection system. While many recommendations focus on specific parts of the system, the report's overarching message is clear: **Queensland must shift from a system that responds to crisis toward one that better supports children and families before harm occurs.**





PeakCare welcomes the report's emphasis on **prevention and early intervention**, recognising that the best outcomes for children are achieved when families receive the right support at the right time. The report also **reinforces the importance of strengthening family-based care** options, **reducing reliance** on residential care and ensuring children experience **stability, connection and belonging** wherever possible.

Importantly, the Commission recognises that **meaningful reform** will require more than changes to frontline services alone. Almost two-thirds of the recommendations focus on **governance, funding, accountability** and **system oversight**, reflecting the need for coordinated, whole-of-system change.



PEAKCARE'S POSITION

PeakCare broadly supports the direction of reform, particularly recommendations that:

-  Strengthen prevention and early intervention
-  Increase family-based care options
-  Improve outcomes for children and families
-  Strengthen accountability and implementation oversight

As the Government considers its response, PeakCare will continue working with members to understand the implications of the recommendations and advocate for reforms that are practical, evidence-informed and centred on the wellbeing of children and families.

WHY THIS MATTERS



Every child deserves to be safe and supported to thrive



Every family deserves timely support and practical help



Every community benefits from strong, connected supported systems



A reformed system today builds a stronger Queensland for tomorrow

WHAT PEAKCARE WILL DO

LISTEN

Work with members to understand the practical implications of the recommendations and identify emerging opportunities and concerns



ADVOCATE

Represent member perspectives and advocate for reforms that are practical, evidence-informed and improve outcomes for children and families



INFLUENCE

Work alongside Government, partner organisations and broader sector to support effective implementation and long-term system improvements



HAVE YOUR SAY AND STAY INFORMED

We encourage members to engage in the consultation and implementation process to help shape a system that truly works for children, young people and families. Make sure you are subscribed to PeakCare emails and following PeakCare's social media channels.

Together, we can move from *Pressure to Purpose*.