

MEDIA RELEASE

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PeakCare

Every child in Queensland deserves safety, stability and the chance to thrive: PeakCare welcomes Commission of Inquiry Final Report

Brisbane, Queensland – With the Queensland Child Safety Commission of Inquiry now finalised and recommendations handed to the Queensland Government, PeakCare believes the focus must now turn to delivering long-term reform that creates a safer, more connected and supported future for Queensland children and families. Reform will require long-term investment, transparent implementation, and genuine partnership with children, families, carers, community-controlled organisations and the non-government sector.

Commissioner Anastasiou clearly outlined at the ceremonial hearing on 21 May that the Commission worked to, "Truly refocus the system on the welfare and best interest of the children who are its true purpose". The Commission received over 1000 submissions and heard from 70 witnesses.

PeakCare acknowledges the immense courage shown by witnesses at the Commission to talk about their personal experiences – often sharing deeply sensitive information – to give voice to the challenges that confront the system. We thank them for sharing their stories so graciously at the Commission.

PeakCare encourages the Minister for Families, Seniors, Disability Services and Child Safety and the Queensland Government to act swiftly on the Inquiry's recommendations to deliver meaningful improvements for children and young people in care, while safeguarding placement stability and avoiding unintended disruption to children's lives.

Chief Executive Officer, Kelly Jebb, strongly believes, "Every Queensland child deserves to be in a safe, stable, secure home environment where they can grow and thrive."

"The Inquiry's final report being handed to Government represents the passing of the baton, not the finish line. The next phase is implementation and PeakCare and the sector stand ready to work with the Government to implement this important reform agenda and to improve the child protection system and outcomes for all children and families together."

PeakCare submissions, on behalf of the child and family sector, called for:

- earlier and more coordinated support for families;
- stronger self-determination for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, families and communities;
- better support for kinship and foster carers, including targeted assistance for sibling kinship carers;
- improved transition supports for young people leaving care;
- a dedicated Minister for Children and a legislated corporate parenting framework to strengthen accountability across government;
- sustained investment in the residential care workforce; and
- therapeutic, trauma-informed care and support for children and young people in out-of-home care.

About PeakCare: PeakCare is the leading child and family peak body in Queensland, advocating for the rights and wellbeing of children, young people, families, and the organisations who support them
peakcare.org.au

ENDS

For media enquiries please contact Gayle Walters 0402 786 417

Available for interview;

- Kelly Jebb, Chief Executive Officer

