Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

5 September 2013

MEDIA RELEASE

Public submissions on Working With Children Checks

The Royal Commission's first issues paper on Working With Children Checks has attracted 54 submissions from around Australia.

A Working With Children Check is a pre-employment screening process to determine a person's suitability to work with children.

Chief Executive Officer, Janette Dines, said the Royal Commission was pleased with the response.

"Some common views were expressed," said Ms Dines:

They include:

- the need for national consistency in the operation of the Working With Children Check
- the need for more research to determine what elements of existing schemes are most effective; and
- the need to consider the Working with Children Check as only one element in a broader framework for protecting children.

The Royal Commission is still seeking submissions on its third issues paper dealing with the creation of child-safe institutions. A fourth issues paper on preventing the sexual abuse of children in out-of-home care will be released next week.

All issues papers and public submissions are published on the Royal Commission's website:

http://www.childabuseroyalcommission.gov.au

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