

## Answers to Supplementary Questions

### Questions

1. Interdepartmental Advisory Group
  - If possible, are you able to advise the names of the members of this Group and their titles?
  - How were they chosen?
  - Were there any resolutions after the first meeting on 2 October 2015
2. Participation Advisory Committee
  - How were these members chosen and what is their background/association/experience with children and young people?

### Answers

1. Interdepartmental Advisory Group
  - a. The Group is comprised of executive level representatives of the ten cluster departments. The Advocate wrote to the Secretaries of each cluster department asking them to nominate the most appropriate senior officer for this role. The members of the Committee change from time to time.
  - b. The Group is an advisory group only and there are no formal resolutions. At the October meeting, the Group provided the Advocate with advice on the themes and directions of the draft Strategic Plan and on strategies for identifying the key government initiatives that might be included in the Plan.
2. Participation Advisory Committee
  - a. The members of the Committee were selected by the Advocate as people with recognised expertise or standing in the area of children and young people's participation. The selections were made from a list of potential candidates identified based on existing networks and research.
  - b. The attached document provides a paragraph on each member's background and experience.

**Expert Advisory Committee on Participation**

**Professor Anne Graham**

Anne is the Foundation Director of the Centre for Children and Young People at Southern Cross University. Anne has a long-standing interest in child and youth participation and the ways in which this is understood and practised in different settings, including in schools, family law and research contexts. She is currently the Chief Investigator for an ARC Project Linkage Grant on student participation in schools. The Advocate for Children and Young People is a partner on this project.

**Ms Gillian Calvert**

Gillian is a child advocate and inaugural NSW Commissioner for Children and Young People from 1999-2009. Prior to that she was responsible for coordinating government action for children; and refocusing government attention on the importance of the early years. Gill started her career as a family therapist and the importance of listening to children and families experience has underpinned her lifelong commitment to children and their wellbeing.

**Ms Samia Michail**

Samia is a Principal Researcher at UnitingCare, Children Young People and Families. In her role, she provides research support for the organisation's participation programs, including the child-led research project.

**Mr Jono Nicholas**

Jono is the CEO of Reach Out Australia. He has a background in child psychology and human rights, and is one of the most prominent advocates for the mental health of young people in Australia. Jono has provided training to Indonesia on the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and co-authored a report for UNICEF on the situation of children and women living in Cambodia.

**Dr Tim Moore**

Tim is a youth worker with 18 years of experience in the children, youth and disability support sectors. He is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Child Protection Studies at the Australian Catholic University, supporting children and young people's participation in research and evaluations. Tim has a strong commitment to engaging children and young people with the services, systems and decision making processes that impact their lives.

**Ms Robyn Monro Miller**

Robyn is the CEO of Network of Community Activities in NSW, a non-government organisation supporting children's participation in play, culture and the arts. Network is an organisation with a long history of advocacy for children and has embedded in its constitution the requirement to promote and support Articles 31 (right to play) and 12 (right to participate) in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. Robyn has 25 years experience working with children and families across education, the community sector, and local government.

**Ms Peta Gillies**

Peta is the CEO of Girl Guides NSW & ACT. Peta is committed to ensuring girls have a voice in the decision-making processes of Girl Guides. All Guides are encouraged to become advocates for change through a variety of girl-led initiatives.

**Ms Lynne Searle**

Lynne is the principal of Gosford High School. She is a strong advocate for student voice, having founded the Central Coast Student Voice Alliance; a network of student representatives from 16 Central Coast Secondary Schools.