

25 June 2020

Director of
Child Protection Litigation

Ms Cheryl Vardon
Principal Commissioner
Queensland Family and Child Commission
PO Box 15217
Brisbane City East 4002

Dear Ms Vardon

Queensland Family & Child Commission's Operational Guidelines: For agency reviews following the death or serious physical injury of a child known to the child protection system

I acknowledge receipt of the State of Queensland (Queensland Family & Child Commission's) *Operational Guidelines: For agency reviews following the death or serious physical injury of a child known to the child protection system*, which are to support internal agency reviews following the death or serious physical injury of a child known to the child protection system.

I am pleased to approve these Guidelines, which were developed through a cross-agency working group that included the participation of [REDACTED] Assistant Director of Child Protection Litigation along with representatives from the other relevant government agencies from across the child protection system, bringing together significant expertise and knowledge.

The death of a child is a profound loss, impacting parents, family and close community as well as carers and professionals who have worked, either directly or indirectly, with the child and their family. Serious physical injuries to children are also accompanied by grief, and families recovering from such tragedies are entitled to compassion and dignity. Where a child dies or sustains a serious physical injury, the Office of the Director of Child Protection Litigation is committed to working in partnership with the other relevant agencies to review the way in which litigation functions were carried out, to build on identified strengths and recognise areas for improvement in service delivery. Such reviews promote ongoing learning and improvement and collaboration across relevant agencies, and ensure a more responsive, accountable streamlined and robust child protection system.

I welcome the ongoing sharing of expertise and collaboration across all relevant agencies to ensure improved outcomes for Queensland's most vulnerable children and their families.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel A. Miller', written in a cursive style.

Nigel A. Miller
Director of Child Protection Litigation
Officer of the Director of Child Protection Litigation