

Telephone: 07 3900 6000

Reference: [REDACTED]

Department of the Premier and Cabinet
PO Box 15185
CITY EAST QLD 4002
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Putting Queensland Kids First consultation team,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the consultation draft of Putting Queensland Kids First. We are grateful for the chance to contribute to the development of a holistic approach to supporting children and families. As discussed in our meeting on the consultation draft: I suggest that the "our approach" section needs to more explicitly include the role of parents and families as the primary source of love, safety and care for children, and recognition that the wellbeing of the family unit is critical to the children in that family. This therefore broadens "prevention and early intervention" services for children into the secondary and tertiary services of their parents, making our understanding of human services a cycle, rather than lineal concept of intervention; and I suggest the vision be reframed to the outcome from the perspective of the child.

The QFCC recognises the variety of initiatives which exists already across multiple government and non-government services, and the successes which can be achieved through intentional coordination of existing programs alongside the introduction of innovative approaches to provide additional support to children and families experiencing increased vulnerability.

I support the comments within Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership response to the submission. Specifically, that the plan does a good job in: focusing on early years and prevention; highlighting the need for investment; linking social and economic outcomes; acknowledging some of the key risk and protective factors that support or



get in the way of children thriving. I also agree with TQKP that the final plan can do more to:

- approach issues systemically (leadership, workforce, data, public engagement) and explicitly ecological (for example see the Nest Child and Youth Wellbeing Wheel Outcomes Framework, and the Growing Up in Queensland Report and success indicators of community, family and individual wellbeing).
- reflect children's and caregivers' voices and experiences.
- explicitly address workforce and organisational issues (see for example the Child Death Review Board's QLD human services workforce related recommendations).
- make explicit commitments to transparent reporting - the Queensland Family and Child Commission would welcome a clear role in delivering transparent and independent reporting against the final framework/strategy in accordance with section 40 of our Act.

To further assist our response, we sought insights from members of the QFCC Youth Advisory network. We have outlined the areas of greatest interest raised by these Queensland young people in the attached response, including references to specific projects and research conducted by the Commission. If you have any questions or would like to speak further about our submission, please contact me directly on [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] or via email at [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Luke Twyford
Principal Commissioner
Queensland Family and Child Commission

29 February 2024

