

Justice and Community Safety Directorate

Review of child protection decisions in the ACT

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Revision: 5

ACT Government is currently consulting the community on the discussion paper, [Review of child protection decisions in the ACT](#).

Background

In April 2016, the *Report of the Inquiry: Review into the system level responses to family violence in the ACT* (the Glanfield Report) made a number of recommendations relating to the operations of Child and Youth Protection Services (CYPS).

Recommendation 12 of the Glanfield Report stated:

"A review should be undertaken of what decisions made by CYPS should be subject to internal or external merits review. The review should have regard to the position of other jurisdictions and be chaired by the Justice and Community Safety Directorate."

To address this recommendation, a working group was established including representatives from the Justice and Community Safety Directorate, the Community Services Directorate and the Coordinator-General for Family Safety.

As part of their work, a discussion paper, [Review of child protection decisions in the ACT](#), has been developed and is now available for consultation.

Submissions

Consultation on the discussion paper *Review of child protection decisions in the ACT* is open to the public. Written submissions addressing one or more of the paper's discussion points are to be emailed to JACSLPPCivil@act.gov.au by **28 June 2019**. Other enquiries can also be directed to this email address.

- **Discussion point 1:** What principles should underpin any future decision review process?
- **Discussion point 2:** How can the accessibility of internal merits review information be improved?
- **Discussion point 3:** Should existing internal merits review mechanisms be codified by amending the Children and Young People Act 2008?
- **Discussion point 4:** Should there be external review mechanisms for certain CYPS decisions and, if so, would decisions such as residency and contact benefit from external review?

- **Discussion point 5:** If an external merits review mechanism should be implemented, what is the most appropriate mechanism for the ACT?

All questions should be directed to JACSLPPCivil@act.gov.au.