



Children's Court of New South Wales

16 May 2019

Maddison Evans
Committee Clerk
Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs
Legislative Council, Parliament House
Perth WA 6000

Dear Ms Evans,

Re: Inquiry into mandatory registration of children and young people on the Sex Offenders Register

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into mandatory registration of children and young people on the Sex Offenders Register.

In 2018, the NSW Parliament passed the *Criminal Legislation Amendment (Child Sexual Abuse) Act 2018* (NSW). The act amended the *Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000* (NSW), which now provides discretion to courts to treat a child offender as non-registrable person: s 3C.

The Children's Court of NSW was supportive of the legislative changes to the *Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000* (NSW). The legislation now enables judicial officers to consider all the facts of a case in deciding whether a child or young person should be placed on the Child Protection Register.

Section 3C of the *Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000* (NSW) was applied in the recent case of *R v RI* [2019] NSWDC 129.

Should you have any further questions in relation to these matters, please contact me or the Children's Court's Executive Officer, Rosemary Davidson, on 02 8688 1462.

Yours faithfully,

Judge Peter Johnstone
President of the Children's Court of NSW