



**Joint Standing Committee on the  
Commissioner for Children and Young People**

**Amendment of Finding 5 and Finding 6  
from Report No.8**

**Report No. 9  
March 2012**

Parliament of Western Australia

## Committee Members

---

Chairman	Ms A R Mitchell MLA Member for Kingsley
Deputy Chairman	Mr M P Whitely MLA Member for Bassendean
Members	Hon Helen Bullock MLC Member for Mining and Pastoral  Hon Nick Goiran MLC Member for South Metropolitans

## Committee Staff

---

Principal Research Officer	Ms Renée Gould
----------------------------	----------------

Legislative Assembly	Tel: (08) 9222 7494
Parliament House	Fax: (08) 9222 7804
Harvest Terrace	Email: <a href="mailto:rgould@parliament.wa.gov.au">rgould@parliament.wa.gov.au</a>
PERTH WA 6000	Website: <a href="http://www.parliament.wa.gov.au/jscccyp">www.parliament.wa.gov.au/jscccyp</a>

**Published by the Parliament of Western Australia, Perth.**

**March 2012.**

ISBN: 978-1-921865-47-3

(Series: Western Australia. Parliament. Legislative Assembly. Committees.  
Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People.  
Report 9)

328.365

**Joint Standing Committee on the  
Commissioner for Children and Young  
People**

---

**Amendment of Finding 5 and Finding 6  
from Report No.8**

---

Report No. 9

Presented by:

**Ms A.R. Mitchell, MLA and Hon N.P. Goiran, MLC**

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council on  
29 March 2012

# Contents

Findings	i
1 Amendment of Finding 5 and Finding 6 from Report No. 8	1

---

# Findings

**Finding 1 (previously Finding 5 Report No.8)**

**Page 1**

There are advantages to working with children checks being administered by a body independent of government, such as an independent Children's Commissioner with a specific child protection focus.

**Finding 2 (previously Finding 6 Report No.8)**

**Page 1**

In Western Australia, as the Children's Commissioner does not have a narrow child protection focus, it is appropriate for the Department for Child Protection to continue to be responsible for the administration of working with children checks as the Department's main focus is child protection.

# Chapter 1

## Amendment of Finding 5 and Finding 6 from Report No.8

On the 1 March 2012, the Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People (the Committee) tabled Report No. 8 entitled *Report on the functions of the Commissioner for Children and Young People: Working with children checks*.

Since this time, the Committee has reconsidered the Findings contained within this Report, and has resolved to amend Finding 5 and Finding 6 on page 17, for the purposes of clarity.

The amended findings read as follows:

### **Finding 1 (previously Finding 5 Report No.8)**

There are advantages to working with children checks being administered by a body independent of government, such as an independent Children's Commissioner with a specific child protection focus.

### **Finding 2 (previously Finding 6 Report No.8)**

In Western Australia, as the Children's Commissioner does not have a narrow child protection focus, it is appropriate for the Department for Child Protection to continue to be responsible for the administration of working with children checks as the Department's main focus is child protection.

The Committee hopes that the Minister for Child Protection will consider the Committee's new Findings—in conjunction with the Findings and Recommendations contained within Report 8— during the statutory review of the *Working with Children (Criminal Record Checking) Act 2004 (WA)* that is currently underway.



MS A R MITCHELL MLA  
CHAIRMAN