

SUMMARY OF MONITORING PLAN: “BEING LOVED AND SAFE”

Out-of-Home Care Monitoring Program

February 2021



What is the Out-of-Home Care Monitoring Program?

Tasmania’s Commissioner for Children and Young People is Leanne McLean. In her Monitoring Program, she looks closely at what’s going on in out-of-home care for Tasmanian children and young people. She wants to make sure children and young people in out-of-home care are all doing well, and are being looked after properly.



The Monitoring Plan has four parts which talk about what the Commissioner will be looking at:

- * **Part A** – How is Tasmania’s out-of-home care system going? To do this the Commissioner will look at information from the Tasmanian Government and organisations that work with children and young people in out-of-home care
- * **Part B** – Are children and young people in out-of-home care feeling “loved and safe”? Can children and young people in out-of-home care help to make decisions about their lives? To learn more about this, the Commissioner will be talking with lots of people, including children and young people with a care experience
- * **Part C** – Does anything about out-of-home care need to be looked at more closely? This is so the Commissioner can understand what’s going on with a possible problem in out-of-home care
- * **Part D** – How is the Government going with making changes to improve Tasmania’s out-of-home care system? These are changes the Commissioner suggested the Government should make in 2020.

Want to know more about the Commissioner’s Monitoring Program? Have a look at the CCYP website here:

[Out-of-Home Care Monitoring \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](https://childcomm.tas.gov.au)

What is the Commissioner planning to look at as part of her Out-of-Home Care Monitoring Program?

In 2021, the Commissioner will be taking a close look at “Being Loved and Safe” because this is so important for all children and young people in out-of-home care. The Commissioner has prepared a Monitoring Plan to guide her work. The Monitoring Plan includes some ideas and suggestions made by Tasmanian children and young people with a care experience, who spoke with her during 2020.

Want to read the whole Monitoring Plan? You can find it on the CCYP website here:

[Out-of-Home Care Monitoring \(childcomm.tas.gov.au\)](https://childcomm.tas.gov.au)

More about “Being Loved and Safe” in Out-of-Home Care

Feeling cared for, supported and safe while you are in out-of-home care is very important for your health and wellbeing. It helps you prepare for life as an adult too.

To learn more about “Being Loved and Safe”, the Commissioner will look really closely at two things:

Safety

Children and young people in out-of-home care have the right to feel safe while living in out-of-home care, including foster care, kinship care and residential care.

This means you deserve to *be* safe and *feel* safe. It also means you are not worried about other people hurting you or scaring you, and that nobody is stopping you from feeling close to your culture.

Stability

Stability is important for children and young people in out-of-home care.

This means you deserve to feel happy and comfortable where you are living, and to feel close to other people who are important to you, including your workers, carers, friends and members of your family (even if you don't live with them).

In 2021 the Commissioner will be spending time with children and young people in out-of-home care, to hear what they have to say about “Being Loved and Safe”. She will also meet with carers, the Government and other organisations who work with children and young people in out-of-home care. The Commissioner will report back on what she learns about the Tasmanian OOHC system, but she won't use your name in any reports.



Here's how you can contact the Commissioner if you'd like to know more about her Monitoring Program or about the Commissioner's job:

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Commissioner for Children
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