



INQUIRIES AND REPORTS RELEVANT TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE

On 11 January 2013, the Commonwealth Letters Patent were signed establishing the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse and this was followed by instructions given by each of the states.

The terms of reference of the Royal Commission require it to consider “changes to laws, policies, practices and systems that have improved over time, the ability of institutions and governments to better protect against and respond to child sexual abuse and related matters in institutional contexts.” As part of the work of the Royal Commission, relevant public reports across Australia have been identified.

The Royal Commission has reviewed over 300 reports published during the last 24 years. Assessed against the terms of reference of the Royal Commission, 84 were identified as directly relevant to the work of the Royal Commission. These reports were not necessarily the result of public inquiries.¹ They arise from the investigations of 79 bodies including Royal Commissions, consultancies, parliamentary committees, advisory bodies and the internal public service.

Table 1 shows the reports chronologically providing a short description.

Figure 1 shows the timeline of inquiry by jurisdiction.

¹ In his comprehensive overview of the use of public inquiries in Australia, Frasser proposes distinctive features of public inquiries that make them different from other processes (see Frasser, S. (2006). *Royal Commissions and Public Inquiries in Australia*, Lexis/Nexis, Sydney).

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse.

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
1989	Mar 1989 - Nov 1989	1	Tas	Review of child abuse support services	<i>Tasmanian Task Force Report on Child Sexual Assault. A Report to the Minister for Community Services (November 1989)</i>	Considered the treatment, counselling and support services required for victims of child abuse, the perpetrators and the families of victims and perpetrators, with a particular brief to examine the area of child sexual assault. Conducted by the Tasmanian Government Child Abuse Support Services Task Force. Chaired by Mr John Ramsay. ³
1990	Aug 1990 - Nov 1991	2	Tas	Review of sexual assault services (Southern Region)	<i>Report of the Sexual Assault Services Working Group (Southern Region) (November 1991)</i>	Examined the need for and provision of sexual assault services in the southern health region of Tasmania. Chaired by Ms Kate Warner.
1992	Oct 1992 - Dec 1993	3	WA	The Duty of Care Inquiry	<i>Report to the Acting Director General (Mr R Fisher) of the Department for Community Development. The Duty of Care Inquiry (December 1993)</i>	Considered how the Western Australian Department for Community Development had handled the cases of two children who were sexually abused whilst in foster care. Conducted by the Western Australian Case Review Board. Chaired by Mrs V Cearns.
1994	May 1994 - Aug 1997	4	NSW	Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service	<i>Royal Commission into the NSW Police Service Final Report (Volume IV & V: The Paedophile Inquiry) (1997)</i>	Considered the extent of corruption in the New South Wales Police Force, the activities of organised paedophile networks in New South Wales and the adequacy of procedures for protecting at-risk minors and for responding to alleged sex offences against minors. Conducted by The Hon. Justice JRT Wood.
	June 1994 - June 1996	5	Vic	Performance audit of the provision of child protection services in Victoria	<i>Protecting Victoria's Children: The role of the Department of Human Services (No. 43) (June 1996)</i>	Considered the Victorian child protection system. Focused on the roles of the Department of Human Services and Victoria Police and the adequacy of placement arrangements and the impact of the introduction of mandatory reporting. Conducted by Victorian Auditor-General, C.A. Baragwanath.
	Oct 1994 - May 1995	6	Vic	Inquiry into sexual offences against children and adults	<i>Combatting Child Sexual Assault. An Integrated Model. First Report (May 1995)</i>	Considered causes of an increase in sexual assault levels in Victoria and measures to reduce those levels. The second part of the inquiry considered offences against adults and is not shown. Conducted by the Parliamentary Crime Prevention Committee. Chaired by The Hon. Ken Smith MLC.

² Hyperlinks have been provided for reports that are electronically available. In some cases the link provides direct access to the report and for others to the host website.

³ Position descriptions and honorifics are as they appear in the text of the report.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
1995	May 1995 - May 1997	8	Cwlth	National inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families	<i>Bringing them Home (1997)</i>	Considered separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families and services required by persons affected by separation. Conducted by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission (HREOC). Led by HREOC President, Sir Ronald Wilson, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, Mick Dodson.
	Aug 1995 - Nov 1997	9	Cwlth	Inquiry into children and the legal process	<i>Seen and heard: priority for children in the legal process (ALRC 84) (1997)</i>	Considered the involvement of children in legal processes and measures to address problems with such involvement. Conducted by the Australian Law Reform Commission and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission.
	Oct 1995 - June 1998	10	Tas	Sexual assault and rape in Tasmania	<i>Report of the Task Force on Sexual Assault and Rape in Tasmania (1998)</i>	Considered the effectiveness of state-wide whole-of-system responses to incidents of sexual assault and rape taking account of particular regional needs and responses which can be attributed to demographic and infrastructural differences. Conducted by the Tasmanian Government Sexual Assault and Rape Task Force. Chaired by Elizabeth Little.
1996	Mar 1996 - Mar 1997	11	NSW	Inquiry into the quality and standard of care at the Hall for Children	<i>Suffer the Children: the Hall for Children Report (March 1997)</i>	Considered services provided at the Hall for Children, a non-government residential care service for disabled persons aged 4-31 with high support needs. Conducted by the Commissioner for Community Services, Roger West.
	May 1996 - Sept 1996	12	NSW	Inquiry into the recruitment, screening and appointment practices of the Department of Community Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Non-Government Services	<i>Who Cares? Protecting People in Residential Care. A report on recruitment, screening and appointment practices (September 1996)</i>	Considered employment practices of government and non-government agencies providing care for children and how such practices can minimise risks to children. Agencies included the Department of Community Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice and Non-Government Services that were funded through the Department of Community Services, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Aging and Disability Department. Conducted by the Commissioner for Community Services, Roger West.
	June 1996 - May 1997	13	Cwlth	Commonwealth Paedophile Inquiry	<i>Management Response to Allegations of Paedophile Activity Within the Foreign Affairs Portfolio (May 1997)</i>	Considered organisational responses to, and measures to encourage reporting of, allegations of paedophile activity within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, AusAid and AusTrade. Conducted by Pamela O'Neil.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
1996	July 1996 - Jan 1998	14	NSW	Inquiry into care and treatment of residents at Cram House	<i>Report of the Inquiry into Care and Treatment of Residents at Cram House (January 1998)</i>	Considered services provided at Cram House, a residential care service of the Illawarra Society for Crippled Children. This service was intended to provide care for children under 16 years of age with severe disabilities. Conducted by the Commissioner for Community Services, Roger West.
	July 1997 - July 1998	15	Cwlth	Inquiry into the welfare of former British child migrants	<i>The Welfare of Former British Child Migrants: Third Report (1998)</i>	Considered child migration programmes under which British children were transported to Commonwealth countries. Focused on child migration to Australia and New Zealand and current needs of former child migrants. Conducted by the British House of Commons' Health Committee. Chaired by Mr David Hinchliffe
1998	Aug 1998 - Nov 2000	16	Qld	Inquiry into child sex offending in Queensland - Project Axis	<i>Child Sexual Abuse in Queensland: The Nature and Extent (June 2000)</i> <i>Child Sexual Abuse in Queensland: Responses to the Problem (November 2000)</i>	Considered child sexual offending and child sexual abuse in Queensland. Did not consider child sexual abuse in indigenous or ethnic communities or of intellectually impaired children. Conducted by the Queensland Crime Commission and the Queensland Police Commission. Led by T.F. Carmody SC.
	Aug 1998 - May 1999	17	Qld	Commission of inquiry into abuse of children in Queensland institutions	<i>Report of the Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions (1999)</i>	Considered abuse, mistreatment and neglect of children by government and non-government institutions and detention centres in Queensland which provide, or had at some time provided, residential care for children. Chaired by Leneen Forde AC.
	Sept 1998 - Apr 1999	18	Qld	Review of the Queensland Children's Commissioner and Children's Services Appeals Tribunals Act 1996	<i>Report and Recommendations. Review of the Queensland Children's Commissioner and Children's Services Appeals Tribunals Act 1996 (April 1999)</i>	Considered the <i>Children's Commissioner and Children's Services Appeals Tribunals Act 1996</i> (Qld) and recommended changes to the role of the Commissioner and Tribunal. Led by John Briton.
1999	Feb 1999 - May 2000	19	NSW	Investigation into the handling of child abuse allegations against employees	<i>Handling of Child Abuse Allegations against Employees (May 2000)</i>	Considered the New South Wales Department of Education and Training's procedures for responding to allegations of child abuse made against staff. Focused on the handling of three cases involving staff alleged to have sexually abused children. Conducted by New South Wales Acting Ombudsman, Chris Wheeler.
	Mar 1999 - Dec 1999	20	NT	Inquiry into the laws relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault in the Northern Territory	<i>Report on the Laws Relating to the Investigation and Prosecution of Sexual Assault in the Northern Territory (1999)</i>	Considered laws relating to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault in the Northern Territory. Focused on laws relating to the protection of vulnerable witnesses. Conducted by the Law Reform Committee of the Northern Territory. Chaired by The Hon. Austin Asche AC QC.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2000	June 2000 - Aug 2001	21	Cwlth	Inquiry into child migration	<i>Lost Innocents: Righting the Record (2001)</i>	Considered abuse and neglect in Australian residential care institutions of children who were brought to Australia under approved child migration schemes. Conducted by the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs. Chaired by Senator The Hon. Rosemary Crowley.
	Nov 2000 - Feb 2001	22	Cwlth	Inquiry into immigration detention procedures	<i>Report of Inquiry into Immigration Detention Procedures (2001)</i>	Considered processes in place for identifying, dealing with and following up allegations and suspicions of child abuse in immigration detention centres and the manner in which those processes had been followed. Conducted by Philip Flood AO.
2001	Apr 2001 - July 2004	23	Vic	Sexual offences Inquiry	<i>Sexual Offences. Final Report (July 2004)</i> <i>Sexual Assault Reform Strategy. Final Evaluation Report (January 2011)</i>	Considered whether the Victorian criminal justice system is sufficiently responsive to the needs of complainants in sexual offence cases. Considered both adult and child complainants. Conducted by the Victorian Law Reform Commission. Chaired by Professor Marcia Neave. The evaluation report, conducted by Success Works, considered whether the Sexual Assault Reform Strategy, developed in response to recommendations of the Inquiry, had improved the criminal justice system.
	Oct 2001 - May 2005	24	NSW	Review of the Child Protection Register	<i>Report of the Review of the Child Protection Register (May 2005)</i>	Considered the operation and effectiveness of the <i>Child Protection (Offenders Registration) Act 2000</i> (NSW). Conducted by New South Wales Ombudsman, Bruce Barbour.
	Dec 2001 - Nov 2002	25	NSW	Inquiry into child sexual assault prosecutions	<i>Report on Child Sexual Assault Prosecutions (No. 22) (November 2002)</i>	Considered New South Wales criminal and civil justice system responses to child sexual assault and alternative models for dealing with child sexual assault within the New South Wales justice system. Conducted by the New South Wales Parliamentary Standing Committee on Law and Justice. Chaired by The Hon. Ron Dyer MLC.
2002	Jan 2002 - July 2002	26	WA	Inquiry into response by government agencies to complaints of family violence and child abuse in Aboriginal communities	<i>Putting the picture together (2002)</i>	Considered government agency responses to evidence and complaints of family violence and child abuse in Aboriginal communities in Western Australia. Chaired by Mrs Sue Gordon AM.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry	Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description	
2002	Feb 2002 - Nov 2004	27	Cwlth	Investigation of a complaint by a young person (under the age of 18) of an incident involving unacceptable behaviour at a Navy training establishment in mid-1996	<i>Report into the investigation of a complaint by a young person (under the age of 18) of an incident involving unacceptable behaviour at a Navy training establishment in mid-1996 (2004)</i>	Considered how the Royal Australian Navy handled an allegation that a woman was sexually assaulted at a training establishment in 1996. Conducted by the Commonwealth Ombudsman, Professor John McMillan.
	Mar 2002 - Mar 2003	28	SA	Review of child protection in South Australia	<i>Our best investment (March 2003)</i>	Considered the South Australian child protection system including the roles of the police and the Department of Human Services and processes in schools, workplaces, immigration detention centres and courts. Chaired by Robyn Layton QC.
	Apr 2002 - Aug 2003	29	ACT	Inquiry into the rights, interests and well-being of children and young people	<i>Report on the rights, interests and well-being of children and young people (No. 3) (August 2003)</i>	Considered the rights, interests and well-being of children and young people. Focused on the care and protection system, awareness of legal rights and participation in law and policy formation. Conducted by the Australian Capital Territory Parliamentary Standing Committee on Community Services and Social Equity. Chaired by Mr John Hargreaves MLA.
	Apr 2002 - Dec 2002	30	NSW	Inquiry into child protection services	<i>Care and Support: Final Report on Child Protection Services (No. 29) (December 2002)</i>	Considered the New South Wales child protection system. Focused on the role of the Department of Community Services. Conducted by the New South Wales Parliamentary Standing Committee on Social Issues. Chaired by Jan Burnswoods MLC.
	Apr 2002 - July 2002	31	WA	Review of the effectiveness of mandatory reporting of suspected child abuse	<i>Mandatory Reporting of Child Abuse: Evidence and Options (July 2002)</i>	Considered the effectiveness of the Western Australian mandatory reporting system and suggests alternatives. Led by Dr Marie Harries and Associate Professor Mike Clare.
	Aug 2002 - May 2003	32	SA	Inquiry into immunity from prosecution for certain sexual offences	<i>Report of the Joint Committee on Immunity from Prosecution for Certain Sexual Offences (28 May 2003)</i>	At the time of the Inquiry sexual crime committed before 1 December 1982 in South Australia could not be prosecuted, as they were subject to a three-year statutory time bar that existed from 1952 to 1985. The Joint Select Committee examined whether this statutory immunity should be removed. Conducted by the Parliamentary Select Committee. Chaired by The Hon. G.E. Gago MLC.
	Sept 2002 - June 2003	33	Qld	Inquiry into how sexual offences are handled by the Queensland criminal justice system	<i>Seeking Justice (2003)</i>	Considered some aspects of how sexual offences are handled by the Queensland criminal justice system. Focused on decision-making processes of the police and prosecutors, and on publication of the names of alleged offenders. Conducted by the Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission. Chaired by Brendan Butler SC.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry	Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2003	Mar 2003 - Mar 2005	Cwlth	Inquiry into children in institutional care	<i>Forgotten Australians. A report on Australians who experienced institutional or out-of-home care as children (August 2004)</i> <i>Protecting vulnerable children: a national challenge (March 2005)</i>	Considered abuse and neglect of children by government and non-government institutions which provide, or had at some time provided, care or education to children. Conducted by the Senate Standing Committee on Community Affairs. Chaired initially by Senator Steve Hutchins and then by Senator Jan McLucas.
	July 2003 - Sept 2003	Tas	Examination of the complaints process for abuse of children in care	<i>Complaints Process for Abuse of Children in Care (Part 2): Memorandum of Advice to Minister of Health and Human Services (September 2003)</i>	Considered the investigation of allegations of abuse of children in care, the selection of carers and formal processes for receiving complaints regarding children who allege abuse in care. Conducted by the Tasmanian Commissioner for Children, Patmalar Ambikapathy.
	July 2003 - Sept 2003	Tas	Examination of the rights of children with disabilities and services for them	<i>Rights of Children with Disabilities and Services for Them: Memorandum of Advice to Minister of Health and Human Services (September 2003)</i>	Considered the current situation with respect to the rights of children with disabilities where there were allegations and disclosures of abuse and how far services provided are adequate in meeting legislative principles. Conducted by the Tasmanian Commissioner for Children, Patmalar Ambikapathy.
	July 2003 - Oct 2005	Cwlth	Own motion investigation into the Australian Defence Force: management of service personnel under the age of 18 years	<i>Management of service personnel under the age of 18 years (No. 04/2005) (October 2005)</i>	Considered processes for management of permanent Defence Force personnel under 18, including processes to manage risks of sexual abuse. Conducted by the Commonwealth and Defence Force Ombudsman, Professor John McMillan.
	July 2003 - June 2006	Tas	Review of claims of abuse from adults in state care as children	<i>Review of Claims of Abuse from Adults in State Care as Children (November 2004)</i> <i>Who is listening to the children now? The Commissioner for Children's Response to Recommendations 8 and 9 of the Tasmanian Ombudsman's Report: "Listen to the Children, Review of Claims of Abuse from Adults in State Care as Children" (October 2006)</i>	Considered individual claims by adults that they were abused as children in state care in Tasmania and made recommendations for individual reparation, not including ex-gratia payments. Conducted in two phases by the Tasmanian Ombudsman (5 people had this role during the review). Considered services for children in out of home care and recent allegations of abuse in care. Conducted in response to recommendations of a report of the Ombudsman Review of Claims of Abuse from Adults in State Care as Children (2004). Conducted by the Commissioner for Children, Tasmania.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2003	July 2003 - Jan 2004	39	Qld	Inquiry into abuse of children in foster care	<i>Protecting children (January 2004)</i>	Considered the abuse of children in the Queensland foster care system and measures to prevent such abuse. Conducted by the Queensland Crime and Misconduct Commission. Chaired by Brendan Butler SC.
	Aug 2003 - Aug 2006	40	WA	Investigation into allegations concerning the treatment of children and young people in residential care	<i>Report on Allegations Concerning the Treatment of Children and Young People in Residential Care (30 August 2006)</i>	Considered allegations that the Western Australian Department for Community Development failed to address institutionalised practices amongst residential care facility staff resulting in consistent abuse of residents. Conducted by Western Australian Ombudsman, Deidre O'Donnell.
	Nov 2003 - Feb 2004	41	Tas	Examination of pre employment checks and use of criminal intelligence	<i>Proposal for Legislation on Pre Employment Checks and use of Criminal Intelligence: Memorandum of Advice to Minister of Health and Human Services (February 2004)</i>	Considered the need for legislative reform for pre employment checks for those who seek paid or unpaid work with children. Conducted by the Tasmanian Commissioner for Children, Patmalar Ambikapathy.
2004	Jan 2004 - July 2004	42	ACT	Review of the safety of children in care in the ACT and of ACT child protection management	<i>The Territory as Parent (May 2004)</i> <i>The Territory's Children (July 2004)</i>	Considered the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) child protection system. Focused on the role of the Department of Education, Youth and Family Services. The Territory as Parent was conducted by the Commissioner for Public Administration, Cheryl Vardon. The following Audit and Care Review was conducted by an independent reviewer, Ms Gwenn Murray.
	July 2004 - Feb 2006	43	NSW	Inquiry into child sexual assault in Aboriginal communities	<i>Breaking the Silence: Creating the Future (2006)</i>	Considered child sexual assault in Aboriginal communities in New South Wales. Focused on government responses. Also considered non-government and community responses. Conducted by the Aboriginal Child Sexual Assault Taskforce. Chaired by Marcia Ella-Duncan.
	July 2004 - Dec 2005	44	Cwlth, NSW, Vic	Inquiry into Uniform Evidence Law	<i>Uniform Evidence Law Report (ALRC 102: NSWLRC 112) (December 2005)</i>	Considered the operation of Uniform Evidence Laws, including aspects that relate to the handling of children's evidence in sexual abuse cases. Conducted jointly by the Australian, New South Wales and Victorian Law Reform Commissions. Chaired by Professor Marcia Neave.
	Oct 2004 - Mar 2006	45	Vic	Own motion investigation into improving responses to allegations involving sexual assault	<i>Improving responses to allegations involving sexual assault (March 2006)</i>	Considered how Victorian government agencies, including the police and the Departments of Justice, Human Services and Education and Training protect against and respond to allegations of sexual assault of children and adults. Conducted by Victorian Ombudsman, G E Brouwer.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2004	Dec 2004 - Mar 2008	46	SA	Children in State Care Commission of Inquiry	<i>Report of the Children in State Care Commission of Inquiry. Allegations of Sexual Abuse and Death from Criminal Conduct (March 2008)</i>	Considered sexual abuse of children while in state care in South Australia, including abuse of children placed in non-state institutions. Conducted by The Hon. EP Mullighan QC.
	Sept 2005 - Dec 2005	47	WA	Quality assurance and review of substantiated allegations of abuse in care	<i>A duty of care to children and young people in Western Australia (December 2005)</i>	Considered 59 substantiated allegations of abuse of children in the care of the Western Australian Department for Community Development. Conducted by Gwenn Murray.
2006	Mar 2006 - Oct 2006	48	Tas	Examination of the Child Protection Service in Tasmania	<i>Report on Child Protection Services in Tasmania (October 2006)</i>	Considered the Tasmanian child protection system. Focused on the Department of Health and Human Services and development of a service delivery model. Conducted by the Tasmanian Commissioner for Children, David Fanning, and Tasmanian Deputy Secretary (Human Services), Alison Jacob.
	May 2006 - Nov 2006	49	NSW	Review of the New South Wales Joint Investigative Response Team (JIRT)	<i>NSW Joint Investigative Response Team (JIRT) Review (November 2006)</i>	Considered how to improve systems for joint investigations of serious child abuse cases in New South Wales. Conducted by New South Wales Health, the New South Wales Department of Community Services and the New South Wales Police.
	June 2006 - Nov 2008	50	NSW	Special Commission of Inquiry into child protection services in NSW	<i>Report of the Special Commission of Inquiry into Child Protection Services in NSW. Executive Summary and Recommendations (November 2008)</i>	Considered the New South Wales child protection system, including operation of the police, courts and Department of Community Services and the contribution of other departments including NSW Health, the Department of Education and Training, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care. Conducted by The Hon. James Wood AO QC.
	Aug 2006 - Apr 2007	51	NT	Board of Inquiry into the protection of Aboriginal children from sexual abuse	<i>Ampe Akelyernemane Meke Mekarle "Little Children are Sacred" (2007)</i> <i>Review of Vulnerable Witness Legislation Report (June 2011)</i>	Considered sexual abuse of Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory. Focused on prevention of abuse. Co-chaired by Rex Wild QC and Patricia Anderson. The review considered the Northern Territory's response to recommendation 30 (court procedures for vulnerable witnesses) of the Northern Territory Board of Inquiry. Conducted by the Northern Territory Department of Justice.
	Aug 2006 - Jan 2007	52	WA	Review of the Department for Community Development	<i>Report of the Review of the Department for Community Development (January 2007)</i>	Considered the Western Australian child protection system. Focused on the Department for Community Development and the need for structural reform. Conducted by Prudence Ford.

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Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2006	Oct 2006 - Apr 2008	53	WA	Inquiry into the prosecution of assaults and sexual offences	<i>Report of the Inquiry into the Prosecution of Assaults and Sexual Offences (No. 6) (10 April 2008)</i>	Considered how the Western Australian criminal justice system handles sexual offence cases. Conducted by the Western Australian Legislative Assembly Community Development and Justice Standing Committee. Chaired by Mr A.P. O’Gorman MLA.
	June 2007 - Apr 2008	54	SA	Children on Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands Commission of Inquiry	<i>Children on Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara (APY) Lands Commission of Inquiry: A Report into Sexual Abuse (2008)</i>	Considered sexual abuse of children while resident on the Anangu Pitjantjatjara Yankunytjatjara Lands in South Australia. Conducted by The Hon. EP Mullighan QC.
2008	Sept 2008 - Nov 2010	55	NT	Investigation of the operation of the Chaplaincy Services within five government rural schools of the Northern Territory	<i>Investigation report on the operation of the Chaplaincy Services within five government rural schools of the Northern Territory (2010)</i>	Considered complaints about Chaplaincy Services provided to five government rural schools, including complaints that chaplains were providing accommodation to a paedophile. Conducted by Northern Territory Ombudsman, Carolyn Richards.
	Sept 2008 - June 2009	56	Cwlth	Inquiry and report into the implementation of the recommendations in <i>Lost Innocents: Righting the Record</i> (Ref: 21) and <i>Forgotten Australians</i> (Ref: 34)	<i>Lost Innocents and Forgotten Australians Revisited (June 2009)</i>	Considered implementation of the recommendations of previous Senate Committee inquiries into child migration (2001) and children in institutional care (2005). Conducted by the Senate Community Affairs References Committee. Chaired initially by Senator Claire Moore and then by Senator Rachel Siewert.
2009	Apr 2009 - Nov 2009	57	Vic	Own motion investigation into the Department of Human Services Child Protection Program	<i>Own motion investigation into the Department of Human Services Child Protection Program (November 2009)</i>	Considered the Victorian child protection system. Focused on the Department of Human Services processes and interaction between the Department of Human Services and the Children’s Court. Conducted by the Victorian Ombudsman, G E Brouwer.
	June 2009 - June 2010	58	NSW	Investigation into Community Services’ handling of victims’ compensation claims for children and young people under the parental responsibility of the Minister for Community Services	<i>The need to better support children and young people in statutory care who have been victims of crime (June 2010)</i>	Considered Department of Community Services’ processes for identifying children in care who are eligible to claim victims’ compensation and for processing their claims. Conducted by the New South Wales Ombudsman, Bruce Barbour.

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Period of inquiry	Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description	
2009	July 2009 - Oct 2010	59	Cwlth, NSW	Inquiry into family violence	<i>Family Violence - A National Legal Response (ALRC 114: NSWLRC 128) (October 2010)</i>	Considered the interaction between family violence and child protection laws and the impact of inconsistent interpretation and application of laws in family violence sexual assault cases. Conducted jointly by the Australian and New South Wales Law Reform Commissions. Chaired by The Hon. James Wood AO.
	Sept 2009 - June 2011	60	NT	Partial investigation of the Child Protection Authority	<i>A Life Long Shadow (June 2011)</i>	Considered the Northern Territory child protection system. Focused on responses to reports of abuse. Conducted by the Northern Territory Ombudsman, Carolyn Richards.
	Nov 2009 - May 2010	61	Vic	Own motion investigation into Victoria's out of home care system	<i>Own motion investigation into Child Protection – out of home care (May 2010)</i>	Considered the Victorian out of home care system and the level of care and protection being provided to children within it. Conducted by the Victorian Ombudsman, G E Brouwer.
	Nov 2009 - Dec 2012	62	NSW	Audit of the <i>Interagency Plan To Tackle Child Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Communities</i>	<i>Responding to Child Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Communities (December 2012)</i>	Considered implementation of the <i>Interagency Plan To Tackle Child Sexual Assault in Aboriginal Communities</i> . The plan was developed in response to recommendations of the Aboriginal Child Sexual Assault Taskforce (2006). Conducted by the New South Wales Ombudsman, Bruce Barbour.
	Dec 2009 - Oct 2010	63	NT	Board of Inquiry into the Child Protection System in the Northern Territory	<i>Growing them strong, together (2010)</i>	Considered the Northern Territory child protection system. Focused on the role of the Northern Territory Families and Children. Co-chaired by Professor Muriel Bamblett AO, Dr Howard Bath and Dr Rob Roseby.
2010	Apr 2010 - Dec 2010	64	NSW	Investigation into probity checking standards for funded organisations in the health and human services sectors	<i>Improving probity standards for funded organisations (December 2010)</i>	Considered probity checking practices across the health and human services sectors. Focused on processes used to assess the integrity and character of prospective and existing employees, committee members and volunteers. Conducted by the New South Wales Ombudsman, Bruce Barbour.
	Apr 2010 - July 2011	65	Cwlth	Inquiry into a national disability long-term care and support scheme	<i>Disability Care and Support (No. 54) (31 July 2011)</i>	Considered a proposed national disability long-term care and support scheme. Led to the National Disability Insurance Scheme. Conducted by the Productivity Commission, presiding Commissioner Patricia Scott.
	May 2010 - Feb 2011	66	Vic	Investigation into the failure of agencies to manage registered sex offenders	<i>Whistleblowers Protection Act 2001. Investigation into the failure of agencies to manage registered sex offenders (February 2011)</i>	Considered a whistleblower disclosure concerning failure of the Victorian Police to inform the Department of Human Services about a registered sex offender who had contact with children. Conducted by Victorian Ombudsman, G E Brouwer.

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Period of inquiry	Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2010	May 2010 - July 2010	Tas	Inquiry into the circumstances of a 12 year old child under guardianship of the Secretary	<i>Inquiry into the circumstances of a 12 year old child under Guardianship of the Secretary. Final Report (July 2010)</i>	Considered circumstances surrounding the prostitution of a 12 year old girl whilst she was under the Guardianship of the Secretary and placed in the care of her mother. Conducted by the Tasmanian Commissioner for Children, Mr Paul Mason.
	June 2010 - Sept 2011	Tas	Performance audit of out-of-home care services	<i>Children in out-of-home care (No. 25) (September 2011)</i>	Considered the effectiveness of out-of-home care services as an element of the Tasmanian child protection system. Conducted by the Tasmanian Auditor-General, H M Blake.
	Oct 2010 - Dec 2011	Tas	Inquiry into child protection issues	<i>Select Committee on Child Protection. Final Report (No. 44) (2011)</i>	Considered the Tasmanian child protection system. Focused on the role of the Department of Health and Human Services. Also briefly considered the justice system. Conducted by a Parliamentary Select Committee. Chaired by Mr O'Halloran.
2011	Jan 2011 - Jan 2012	Vic	Protecting Victoria's vulnerable children Inquiry	<i>Report of the Protecting Victoria's Vulnerable Children Inquiry (January 2012)</i>	Considered the Victorian child protection system, including child abuse prevention strategies and programs, the statutory child protection system, provision of out-of-home care, and court processes. Conducted by The Hon. Philip Cummins, Emeritus Professor Dorothy Scott OAM and Mr Bill Scales AO.
	Feb 2011 - June 2011	Cwlth	Review of the immigration detention facilities at Villawood	<i>2011 Immigration detention at Villawood (2011)</i>	Considered conditions at the Villawood Detention Centre, including conditions for children and processes for referral of child welfare and protection concerns. Conducted by the Australian Human Rights Commission.
	Apr 2011 - Dec 2011	Vic	Sex offenders registration Inquiry	<i>Sex offenders registration. Final report (December 2011)</i>	Considered the registration of sex offenders under Victorian legislation and the management and use of information about registered offenders by law enforcement and child protection agencies. Conducted by the Victorian Law Reform Commission. Chaired by Professor Neil Rees.
	May 2011 - Ongoing	Cwlth	Review into the treatment of women in the Australian Defence Force Academy and the Australian Defence Force	<i>Report on the Review into the Treatment of Women in the Australian Defence Force Academy (October 2011)</i> <i>Report on the Review into the Treatment of Women in the Australian Defence Force (2012)</i>	Is considering the treatment of women in the Australian Defence Force, with a particular focus on the Australian Defence Force Academy. The review is being conducted by a panel led by Sex Discrimination Commissioner, Elizabeth Broderick.

Table 1 Description of reports directly relevant to the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (cont'd)

Period of inquiry		Ref #	Jurisdiction	Name of body	Relevant report/s ²	Description
2011	June 2011 - Apr 2012	73	Cwlth	Review of allegations of sexual and other abuse in the Australian Defence Force	<i>Report of the Review of allegations of sexual and other abuse in Defence: Facing the problems of the past. Volume 1: General findings and recommendations (October 2011)</i>	Considered allegations of abuse in Defence. Made an initial assessment as to whether allegations were appropriately managed and put forward recommendations on how to address systemic issues. Conducted by Dr Gary A Rumble, Ms Melanie McKean and Professor Dennis Pearce AO: report prepared by DLA Piper. The Defence Abuse Response Taskforce, led by The Hon. Len Roberts-Smith RFD, QC was established to assess and respond to individual cases of abuse in Defence, occurring before 11 April 2011. Cases included those identified in the DLA Piper Review. The next report of the Taskforce is expected in May 2014.
	Nov 2011 - Aug 2012	74	WA	Special inquiry into the response of government agencies and officials to allegations of sexual abuse	<i>St Andrew's Hostel Katanning: How the system and society failed our children (2012)</i>	Considered the appropriateness of the responses of public officials to allegations of sexual abuse at St Andrew's Hostel, Katanning and St Christopher's Hostel, Northam. Conducted by The Hon. Peter Blaxell.
2012	Apr 2012 - Nov 2013 (estimate)	75	Vic	Inquiry into the handling of child abuse by religious and other organisations	<i>Betrayal of Trust, Inquiry into the handling of child abuse by religious and other government organisations (2013) - Volume 1</i> <i>Volume 2</i>	Considered the processes by which religious and other non-government organisations responded to allegations of child abuse by persons within their organisations. Conducted by the Family and Community development Committee, a Joint Investigatory Committee of the Victorian Parliament. Chaired by Ms Georgie Crozier MLC.
	July 2012 - June 2013	76	Qld	Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry	<i>Taking Responsibility: A Roadmap for Queensland Child Protection (June 2013)</i>	Considered the Queensland child protection system. Focused on why children enter state care, needs of children in state care and responses to allegations of sexual abuse at youth detention centres. Conducted by The Hon. Tim Carmody SC.
	July 2012 - Jan 2013	77	NSW	Review of the prevention of abuse and safeguarding mechanisms in Ageing, Disability and Home Care	<i>Prevention of abuse and safeguarding mechanisms in Ageing, Disability and Home Care (21 January 2013)</i>	Considered the capacity of the Department of Ageing, Disability and Home Care to prevent, identify and respond to allegations of abuse and neglect and how that capacity could be improved. Prepared for Family & Community Services by independent consultant KPMG.
	Nov 2012 - June 2013	78	SA	Independent Education Inquiry	<i>Report of Independent Education Inquiry (2013)</i>	Considered the handling of sexual abuse cases in South Australian schools. Focused on an incident at one school and on management of allegations of sexual misconduct by adult employees. Conducted by Bruce DeBelle AO QC.
	Nov 2012 - Feb 2014 (estimate)	79	NSW	Special Commission of Inquiry into matters relating to the police investigation of certain child sexual abuse allegations in the Catholic Diocese of Maitland-Newcastle	Report pending	Is considering matters relating to the police investigation of alleged child sexual abuse involving Fathers Denis McAlinden and James Fletcher. Being conducted by Margaret Cunneen SC.