



ACYP Annual Report



Office of the
Advocate for Children
and Young People

acyp.

2017

reference

Office Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People
Report Annual Report 2017
Date October 2017
Cover image Rizwan Mughal, Submitted as part of Real NSW Competition

contact us

Phone 02 9248 0970
Email acyp@acyp.nsw.gov.au
Website www.acyp.nsw.gov.au

Street and mail address

NSW Advocate for Children and Young People
Ground Floor, 219-241 Cleveland Street, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
The Advocate for Children and Young People is under the FACS ABN 80 597 369 676

connect with us



Twitter
twitter.com/acypNSW



Facebook
facebook.com/acypNSW



Instagram
instagram.com/acypNSW



YouTube
youtube.com/c/acypNSW

We wish to pay our respects to Aboriginal elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role of Aboriginal people and culture within the NSW community. ACYP advises Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander readers this report may contain images of people who may have passed away.



Advocate for Children
and Young People

The Hon John Ajaka MLC
President
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

The Hon Shelly Hancock MP
Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

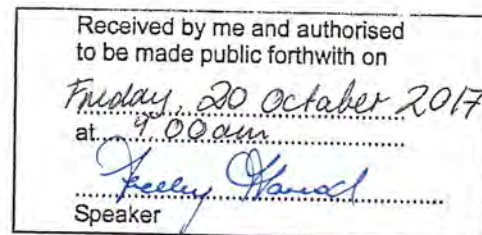
In accordance with section 32 of the *Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014* (the Act) I am pleased to present the Advocate's Annual Report for 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

The report includes: a description of the Advocate's activities during the year in relation to each of the Advocate's functions; an evaluation of the response of relevant authorities to the recommendations of the Advocate; and any recommendations for changes in the laws of the State, or for administrative action, that the Advocate considers should be made as a result of the exercise of the Advocate's functions.

As provided by section 32 of the Act, I ask that you now make this report publicly available at the determined time.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Johnson
Advocate for Children and Young People
20 October 2017



The Hon John Ajaka MLC
President
Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

The Hon Shelly Hancock MP
Speaker
Legislative Assembly
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

In accordance with section 32 of the *Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014* (the Act) I am pleased to present the Advocate's Annual Report for 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017.

The report includes: a description of the Advocate's activities during the year in relation to each of the Advocate's functions; an evaluation of the response of relevant authorities to the recommendations of the Advocate; and any recommendations for changes in the laws of the State, or for administrative action, that the Advocate considers should be made as a result of the exercise of the Advocate's functions.

As provided by section 32 of the Act, I ask that you now make this report publicly available at the determined time.

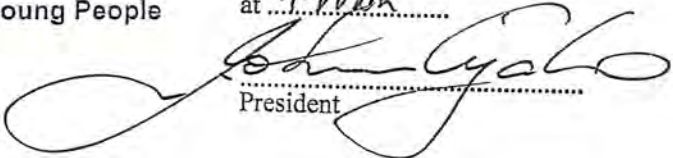
Yours sincerely


Andrew Johnson
Advocate for Children and Young People
20 October 2017

Received by me and authorised
to be made public forthwith on

Friday 20 October 2017

at 9.00am


President

contents

Advocate's Foreword	6	NSW Youth Week	25
About the Office	7	Homelessness – ACYP Consultation Report	25
Year in Review	8	ATYP Workshop with young people who have experienced homelessness	26
Strategic Plan for Children and Young People	8	Participation Training and Resources	27
Background	8	Training	27
About the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People	8	Online Resources	27
The Strategic Plan for children and Young People launch event	9	Promote the provision of information and advice to assist children and young people	28
Young Thinking Seminar Series	10	ACYP website	28
Brain Science	10	ENewsletter	28
Child Rights and Child Rights Programming	10	Making recommendations on legislation, reports, policies, practices, procedures and services affecting children and young people	29
Promoting the participation of children and young people in the decisions that affect their lives	11	Conduct, promote and monitor research into issues affecting children and young people	30
Consulting with children and young people	11	Research projects	30
Key targeted consultations	11	The economic cost of underinvestment in children and young people in NSW	30
Speak for Yourself	12	Improving Wellbeing through student participation at school	31
Citizen Jury	13	Deprivation and exclusion among young people	31
Ideation	15	Conduct special inquiries under Part 5 into issues affecting children and young people	31
Schools Spectacular	15	Committees and Advisory Groups	32
Pools	15	Engaging with stakeholders and children and young people	34
Attitudinal surveys	16	Office structure and administration	34
General attitudinal polling	16	Staffing	34
Bullying polling	17	Principal officers	34
Violence against children polling	17	Publications	35
ACYP APP	18	Sponsorships	35
C.Y.P.I	19	Office opening	36
Real NSW	20	How children and young people contributed to the design of the new ACYP office	37
Internship Program	21	Appendices	38
Work Experience Program	21	Appendix 1 – list of meetings and speaking engagements attended by the Advocate for Children and Young People	38
NSW Youth Advisory Council	21	Appendix 2 - Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009	42
Recruitment for the 2017 YAC	22		
Secretariat support for the YAC	22		
NSW Children's Week	23		
Seen and Heard	23		
Biggest Recess	24		

advocate's foreword

Andrew Johnson

**Advocate for
Children and Young
People**



It is a pleasure to present the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People's (ACYP) Annual Report for 2016-2017.

The reporting year began with the official launch of the first three-year whole of government Strategic Plan for Children and Young People.

More than 4,000 children and young people from across NSW engaged in consultations to inform the themes and directions of the Plan and NSW Government departments and agencies have been ready to adopt the framework that emerged from these consultations, reflecting support from all departments for the Plan.

On the day the Plan was launched 150 young people from across NSW gathered at Sydney Opera House to work together to develop a Charter of Participation for young people participating in decision making processes.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the Hon. John Ajaka, MLC, for his support as Minister responsible for Youth throughout the development and launch of the Plan and for his work including the voices of children and young people in decision making processes.

In the reporting year we welcomed the Hon. Ray Williams MP in his role as Minister responsible for Youth and very much look forward to continuing to work together to improve the lives of children and young people in NSW.

Throughout the reporting year children and young people participated in the work of the office through their engagement in consultations, surveys, training, the Real NSW photo competition, events such as a Citizen Jury, IDEATION 2017-Create your Campaign, our work experience and internship programs and the NSW Youth Advisory Council.

The consultations with children and young people undertaken throughout the year would not have been possible without the support and goodwill of the organisations who work directly with children and young people in their daily lives.

This year we have been fortunate to have young people from diverse backgrounds and life experiences as the members of the NSW Youth Advisory Council. The Council's advice to the Minister responsible for Youth, the Hon. Ray Williams MP, to me, and to other agencies has been invaluable. This advice spanned a wide range of issues that affect children and young people in NSW.

Throughout the year the Office has also continued to provide advice on a wide range of NSW Government reports, papers and submissions, that impact on the lives of children and young people, we also made submissions and gave evidence to a number of Parliamentary and other inquiries.

I would like to thank the Minister responsible for Youth, the Hon. Ray Williams MLC for his strong support during the year, and the Members of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People for their assistance and advice.

I would also like to thank the staff of ACYP for their continued commitment to making NSW a better place for children and young people, the many organisations that support and work with us, and finally and most importantly to the children and young people who have so willingly engaged with us throughout the year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A Johnson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Andrew Johnson
Advocate for Children and Young People

about the office

Governance and Functions

The Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People is established under the *Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014* (the Act). The Advocate is an independent statutory appointment oversighted by the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People.

The Office opened on 9 January 2015.

The functions of the Advocate are:

- a)** to advocate for and promote the safety, welfare and well-being of children and young people aged 0-24 years,
- b)** to promote the participation of children and young people in the making of decisions that affect their lives and to encourage government and non-government agencies to seek the participation of children and young people appropriate to their age and maturity,
- c)** to conduct special inquiries into issues affecting children and young people,
- d)** to make recommendations to government and non-government agencies on legislation, reports, policies, practices, procedures and services affecting children and young people,
- e)** to conduct, promote and monitor research into issues affecting children and young people,
- f)** to promote the provision of information and advice to assist children and young people,
- g)** to prepare, in consultation with the Minister, a three year Strategic Plan for Children and Young People in the State.

The Act also establishes the NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC) of which the Advocate is an ex-officio member.

The Advocate is also responsible for providing secretariat support to the YAC.

In undertaking these functions the Advocate is to focus on systemic issues affecting children and young people and to give priority to the interests of vulnerable and disadvantaged children and young people.

The Act requires the Advocate to prepare an annual report to Parliament on the Advocate's activities during that year in relation to each of the Advocate's functions.



year in review:

1 July 2016 – 30 June 2017

Strategic Plan for Children and Young People in NSW

Background

The Plan is the first three-year whole of Government plan in NSW for all children and young people aged 0-24 years.

Throughout the development of the Plan in 2015/16, ACYP consulted with more than 4,000 children and young people from across NSW to inform the themes and directions of the Plan. The Advocate heard direct feedback from more than 2,000 children and young people through face to face consultations.

About the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People

The Plan provides a set of agreed common objectives and indicators against which NSW Government policies and services for children and young people can be aligned to lead the way for better outcomes for children and young people.

The Plan outlines six guiding principles that will inform its implementation, they are: Innovation; Localisation; Collaboration; Prevention; Transitions; and Addressing Disadvantage.

The Plan is organised under six themes which, through consultations, were informed by children and young people from across NSW. The themes of the Plan are:



Safe



Connect



Respect



Opportunity



Wellbeing



Voice

Under each theme is a set of measurable indicators with a total of 30 indicators to monitor progress on the Plan.

The Advocate will prepare progress reports mid-way through the Plan and at the end of the Plan's implementation period which will include an assessment of progress against indicators, any new initiatives or investments that have occurred during the life of the Plan that contribute to achieving the Plan's objectives, and recommendations for policy or service reforms in the next three-year strategic plan. These reports will be provided to the NSW Government and the NSW Parliament.

The Plan began with children and young people and their continuing engagement and feedback will be central to monitoring and evaluating the Plan.

The Strategic Plan for Children and Young People is available on the ACYP website along with a short animated video narrated by children and young people explaining the goal and themes of the Plan.



The Strategic Plan for Children and Young People – Launch Event

The NSW Strategic Plan for Children and Young People 2016-2019 was formally launched by the Minister responsible for Youth, the Hon. John Ajaka MLC, at the Sydney Opera House on 26 July 2016.

The launch event incorporated a showcase of the breadth of talent of children and young people in NSW.

Attendees had an opportunity to see a selection of artworks created by school students through the ARTEXPRESS and Operation Art programs.

The event was opened by Kareel Phillips who conducted a Welcome to Country in Gadigal language.

Throughout the launch attendees enjoyed live performances by:

- children from the Yurungai Learning Centre, an after school centre for young Aboriginal children
- a group of young people from the School Spectacular program run by the Art Unit of the Department of Education
- 22 year-old singer-songwriter Ramona Marsters from Kempsey
- 2015 XFactor winner, 20 year-old Cyrus Villanueva. Cyrus was fresh out of high school when he first auditioned for XFactor. His debut single 'Stone' reached number two in the Australian charts.



Young Thinking Seminar Series

ACYP developed a Young Thinking Seminar Series to assist in the Monitoring, Evaluating and Learning of the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People.

The Young Thinking series brings together policy makers, thought leaders and civil society to focus on issues of importance to children and young people and to share knowledge and innovations under the six themes of the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People.

The following two Young Thinking seminars were held at the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People:

Brain Science

The first seminar in the Young Thinking Seminar Series focussed on research and developments in the area of Brain Science.

The following speakers shared their knowledge and expertise on brain science:

- His Honour Judge Peter Johnstone, President of the Children's Court of NSW (opening address)
- Associate Professor Elisabeth Murphy, Senior Clinical Advisor, Child and Family Health, NSW Health
- Dr Michael Brydon, Chief Executive, The Sydney Children's Hospitals Network
- Dr Jacqueline Small, Developmental Paediatrician

- Suzette Joachim, Department of Education

Child Rights and Child Rights Programming

The second instalment in the Young Thinking Seminar Series looked at the principles of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and how they can be a useful lens to plan, implement, and monitor programs.

The seminar brought together speakers who each have national and international experience in working towards ensuring that children's rights are realised.

The following speakers shared their knowledge and expertise on child rights and child rights programming:

- Tony Stuart, CEO of UNICEF Australia (opening address)
- Matthew Keeley, Director of the National Children's and Youth Law Centre
- Sarah Stevenson, Global Partnership to End Violence Against Children
- Andrew Johnson, Advocate for Children and Young People

Videos of the presentations from the Young Thinking Seminar Series are also available online at www.acyp.nsw.gov.au



Promoting the participation of children and young people in the decisions that affect their lives

A key function of ACYP is to undertake activities to promote the participation of children and young people in the decisions that affect them.

This function is carried out through a range of activities to support the participation of children and young people in decision making, these activities include undertaking face to face consultations with children and young people on issues that are important to them, conducting attitudinal polling, organising participatory events for children and young people and creating programs and competitions to increase children and young people's engagement in the work of ACYP.

Consulting with children and young people

The Advocate consulted with thousands of children and young people throughout the reporting period. Children and young people from all regions of NSW have an opportunity to participate in consultations as the Advocate frequently travels to regional areas to hear feedback from children and young people.

ACYP employs several methodologies to consult with children and young people across NSW. These methodologies include face to face consultations, the ACYP Pools program, surveys and organising events for children and young people.

In the reporting period the Advocate conducted consultations at schools, community groups, services, sporting events, children and young people events and juvenile justice facilities.

Key targeted face to face consultations:

- children and young people participated in consultations relating to their community
- children and young people participated in consultations relating to homelessness
- children and young people participated in consultations and surveys relating to bullying
- children and young people participated in consultations and surveys relating to violence
- children and young people participated in surveys about healthy eating and physical activity
- children and young people participated in general attitudinal surveys
- children and young people participated in consultations with ACYP at Schools Spectacular
- children and young people participated in consultations with ACYP at PCYC's Nations of Origin
- children and young people participated in *Speak for Yourself* and worked together to create a Charter of Rights for their participation in decision making processes
- children and young people participated in a Citizen's Jury on the availability of sugary drinks at school and at sporting events
- children and young people participated in Ideation 2017 – *Create Your Campaign*, where they worked together to lay the foundations of a campaign to increase inclusion in NSW



Speak for Yourself

On the day of the launch of the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People the Advocate and the NSW Youth Advisory Council brought together 150 young people from across NSW to participate in a one day event at Sydney Opera House called Speak for Yourself.

Young people with rich experience in many different kinds of youth advisory groups - in schools, local councils, sports groups, PCYCs, Girl Guides, out of home care, arts bodies and many more - shared their ideas about how to support and enable meaningful participation of children and young people in decision making.

Children and young people up to the age of 24 years travelled from all parts of the state - including Tweed Heads, Wagga, Dubbo, Albury, Broken Hill, the Blue Mountains, the Central Coast and across Sydney - to participate in this one day event.

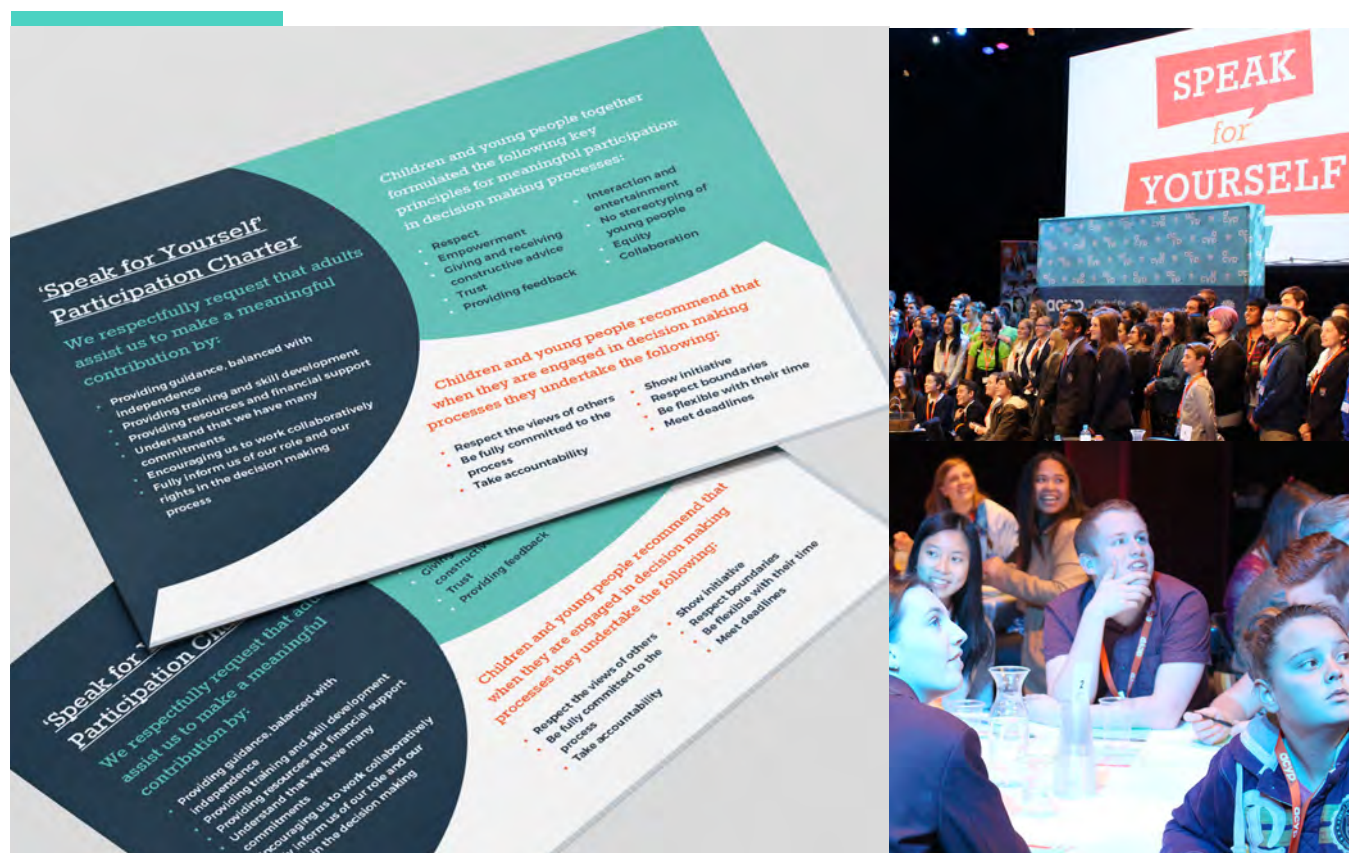
The day commenced with a Welcome to Country by Uncle Chikka Madden followed by an outline of the day from members of the NSW Youth Advisory Council and the Advocate for Children and Young People. The then

Minister responsible for Youth, the Hon. John Ajaka MLC addressed attendees and then participated in a questions and answers session with members of the NSW Youth Advisory Council.

Participants then saw case studies in participation presented by Rockdale Youth Council, the Museum of Contemporary Art Youth Advisory Committee, Coonamble High School SRC, AbSec and Create Foundation.

Throughout the afternoon children and young people worked on laying the foundations for the development of a Charter of Rights for children and young people when participating in decisions that affect them. Children and young people also gave feedback on how to support their participation and engagement in decision making.

The Charter was sent to children and young people for their feedback before finalisation, this Charter is an important part of ACYP's participation resources to support organisations in engaging with children and young people.



Citizen Jury

Close to 150 school students from 40 schools took part in a Citizen's Jury to decide whether sugary drinks should be banned from schools and sporting events. The verdict: 59% said yes and 41% voted no.

The Children's Week event, was held at the Mint in Sydney's CBD and brought together close to 150 students from all over NSW. Students from four Sydney schools were at the Mint and students from a further 36 schools across regional NSW participated through web casting.

The participating regions were Illawarra Shoalhaven, the Central Coast, Mid North Coast, Hunter New England, Western NSW, Far West NSW, and Murrumbidgee.

The event opened with a Welcome to Country by Uncle Chika Madden followed by an introduction from the Advocate.

Participants were presented with factual evidence from three experts, Dr Kyra Sim from Childhood Obesity Prevention and Management, Mr Geoff Parker from the Australian Beverage Council and Alexandra Jones, Research Associate, Food Policy Division, The George Institute for Global Health.

Participants were then given time to deliberate on the evidence presented to them, when they reached a conclusion, each group submitted their verdict online to the Advocate for Children and Young People.

You can view a highlights video of the Citizen Jury event on the ACYP website.



Ideation

Multicultural NSW and ACYP partnered to create one of the biggest Youth Week events in 2017 – IDEATION – *Create Your Campaign*.

Through consultations, children and young people have told the Advocate for Children and Young People that they want to be part of the solution to increasing inclusion in NSW. Children and young people requested a youth-led campaign to increase inclusion and a sense of belonging for all children and young people in NSW.

This one-day event took place on 7 April at the State Library of NSW. At IDEATION, more than 100 young people from across NSW came together to share their views on how to improve inclusion in NSW.

IDEATION 2017 commenced with a Welcome to Country by Uncle Allen Madden, followed by the event's official opening speech by the Hon. Ray Williams MP, Minister responsible for Youth.

Mr Hakan Harman, CEO of Multicultural NSW also addressed participants and gave an insight into the diversity of young people living in NSW today.

Wydian Albury, a reporter for Multicultural NSW's The Point magazine and Declan Drake, Chair of the 2017 NSW Youth Advisory Council, acted as MCs for the event.

The Advocate for Children and Young People spoke with participants about the key elements of campaign development, statistics relating to inclusion among young people and factors affecting inclusion in NSW.

The participants also had an opportunity to listen to a panel of young people who spoke about their experiences of inclusion; panel members included

Stephanie Kurlow, Brendan Pearce, Apajok Biar, Isaiah Dawe, and Rainbow.

Following a short break, participants then heard from a panel of people who were experienced in running campaigns. Panel members included:

- Subeta Vimalarajah, who spoke about her experience of running a campaign to remove GST from feminine hygiene products
- Katey Grusovin, who spoke about her experiences developing the world-renowned UNICEF campaign, 'make the invisible visible'
- Nathan Basha, who played a key role in developing the 'Don't dis my ability campaign'
- Julian Melhuish, from Melhuish & Co. Julian has worked in advertising and design for more than three decades and has won many awards throughout his career. Julian focussed on highlighting both successful and unsuccessful campaigns to participants
- Samantha Yorke, who works for Google

After lunch, participants worked in groups throughout the afternoon to set the themes and foundations of a government-run campaign to improve inclusion throughout NSW. All feedback given by participants was collated and presented back to them for review before the close of the event.

Find out more about IDEATION by visiting www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au/ideation-2017



Schools Spectacular

The Department of Education invited ACYP to have a tent in the new 'Wellbeing Zone' at the 2016 Schools Spectacular event at Sydney Olympic Park.

At the ACYP tent hundreds of children and young people took advantage of the opportunity to engage with the office and participate in having their voice heard by decision makers. Participants could participate in all four activities or one or two of their choosing.

At the ACYP tent children and young people had the opportunity to:

- take part in a video interview answering questions about their big dream, who is supporting them along the way and what the government or the community could do to help them achieve their dream.
- participate in a survey about their digital and social media habits.
- take a photo and add a quote to the ACYP App.
- take a photo with their friends and get a print-out to take home.
- those who just wanted to relax had an opportunity to do so on the bean bags in the 'Chill-out Zone'.

Congratulations to the 2016 Schools Spectacular team and to all participating performers for putting on an incredible show. More than 5,700 performers took part in the 2016 Schools Spectacular which achieved Guinness World Record status for the Largest Amateur Variety Act.



Survey Pools

In order to ensure the voices and opinions of children and young people are being included in decision and policy making processes, ACYP joined forces with the Department of Education to create *Pools*.

Survey Pools presents an opportunity to take an in-depth look into the views of children and young people throughout NSW on important issues that affect them.

The purpose of pooling is to:

- provide a mechanism for the participation of children and young people in policy decisions
- enable the Advocate and NSW Government departments to involve a broad range of children and young people in policy decisions
- extend the experience of participation to a large group of children and young people, including those that may not readily participate through other mechanisms.

One thousand children and young people were recruited through NSW schools to participate in surveys relating to important issues affecting children and young people today.

The first survey, focussing on healthy eating and physical activity was rolled out in the reporting period across 33 schools. Each school dedicated one class of students to complete the voluntary ten-question survey.

The results of the pilot survey have been collated and provided to decision makers.

Attitudinal surveys

ACYP commissions Galaxy Research to conduct quantitative polling to compliment much of the qualitative research collected by ACYP directly from children and young people across the state.

Surveys in the reporting year were conducted with children and young people, between the ages of 12 and 24, on important issues that affect them. This information is shared with a range of government departments as a way of informing them about children and young people as beneficiaries and users of their services. By sharing this information with key decision makers, information from children and young people helps to inform the development of new policies and practices.

General attitudinal polling

In February 2017, ACYP conducted a general attitudinal survey of children and young people. The topics of this survey included attitudes on digital and social media usage, housing, rights, employment prospects and their outlook on Australia and its future.

The following results from the February 2017 general attitudinal survey were released as part of the ACYP 2017 Youth Week campaign:

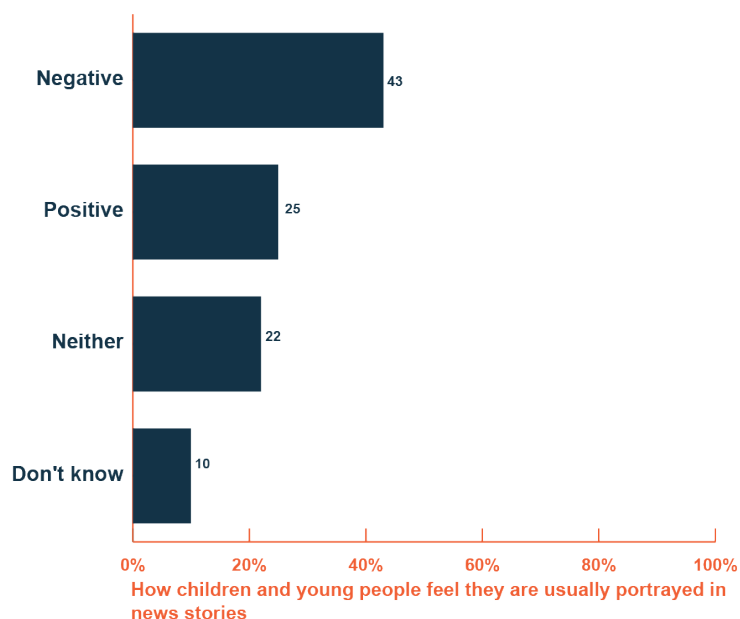
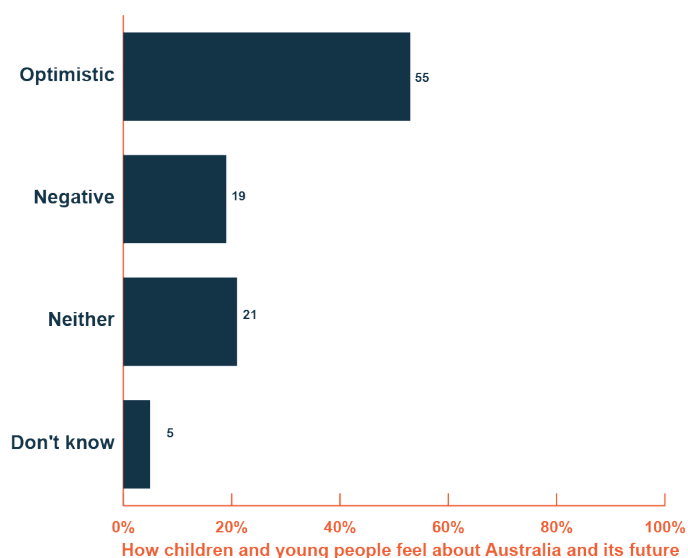
Polling revealed that:

- Children and young people are largely optimistic. **53% are generally optimistic about Australia and its future and 40% are generally more optimistic than they were six months ago.**
- Children and young people are also hopeful of finding a good job. **70% are positive about their future employment prospects.**

- They strongly support Aboriginal rights. **73% supported greater recognition of the rights of Aboriginal people with only 5% opposed.**
- While a significant proportion believe that Australia fosters inclusion, they are clear that more needs to be done to raise awareness about the importance of inclusion in Australia.

However, polling result also highlighted that children and young people still have their doubts and concerns:

- Only half are confident they'll be able to own their own home one day with **33% saying they were not confident of becoming home owners in the future.**
- Today's children and young people are also likely to stay at home well into their 20s. **Only 31% expected to leave home by the age of 20, 33% between the ages of 21-24 and 36% either at 25 years or older or not at all.**
- Children and young people are less optimistic about global affairs. **They were evenly split (38% optimistic; 37% pessimistic; 19% ambivalent) about the world and its future.**
- When asked about the top issues facing children and young people today, their top response was **time spent on social media, technology and limited-face-to-face contact.**
- Children and young people don't like how the media portrays them. **43% said they were primarily portrayed negatively in news stories with only 25% saying young people were portrayed positively.**



Bullying polling

ACYP worked with the Department of Education to learn more about children and young people's attitudes and experiences of bullying. In order to get a comprehensive understanding of bullying ACYP employed two consultation methodologies including face to face consultations with children and young people across NSW and a general attitudinal survey among 1,000 12-24 year olds in NSW relating to bullying.

Children and young people were clear about how, where and when bullying happens and gave insightful ideas on prevention strategies to stop bullying and support solutions to help those who have been affected by bullying.

This information will be used to assist the Department of Education in their review of bullying materials available to schools.

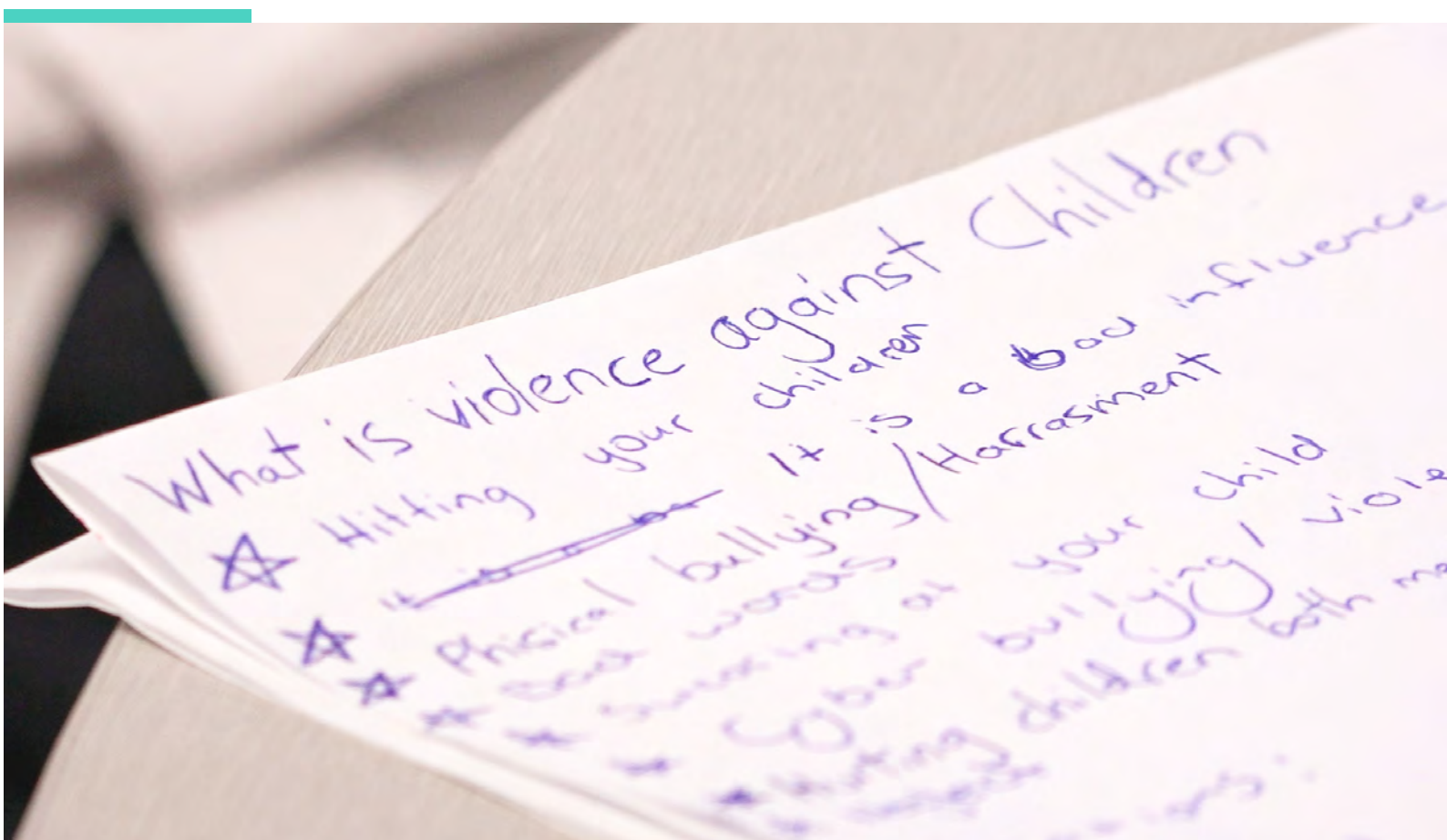
The results of the bullying survey and on-going in-depth face to face consultations will be released in the coming months.

Violence against children polling

In June 2017, ACYP conducted general attitudinal polling among 1,000 NSW adults aged 18 years and over to find out about social attitudes relating to violence against children.

A general attitudinal survey was also conducted among 1,000 12-24 year olds was also conducted in June 2017 which contained questions relating to violence against children along with questions on other issues affecting children and young people in NSW for example privacy, transport, attitudes on same sex marriage and school councils.

The results of both surveys have contributed to policy discussion and development within government.



ACYP App

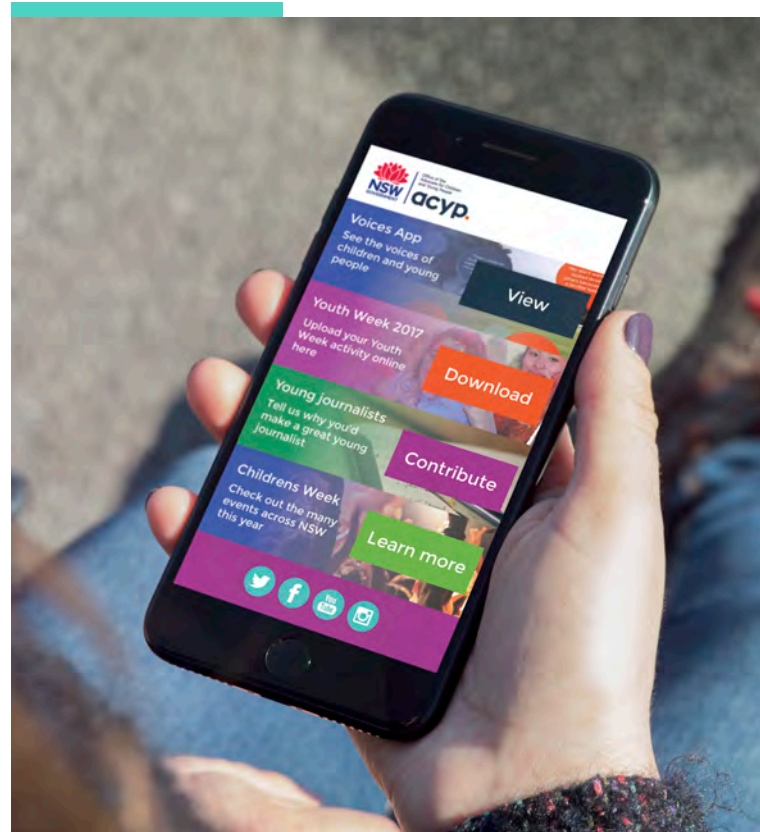
The Advocate for Children and Young People introduced a world-first new App utilising Augmented Reality (AR) technology to bring the voices of children and young people into any room, at anytime, anywhere in the state.

The App was showcased for the first time at an ACYP Children's Week event in October 2016.

Many organisations are already committed to hearing the voices of children and young people and including their voices in decisions that affect them, the ACYP App offers another way of engaging the voices of children and young people in NSW.

ACYP receives regular requests from organisations seeking assistance in consulting with children and young people, this App is an innovative way of using emerging technology to provide even more opportunities for children and young people's voices to be included in decisions that affect them.

The App can be downloaded for free from the App Store or GooglePlay by searching for ACYP.



Children and Young People Inspectors (CYPI)

Under the three-year whole of government Strategic Plan for Children and Young People, the NSW Government committed to developing a program of children and young people as quality assessors.

The C.Y.P.I program will train children and young people to assess how services engage with and meet the needs of children and young people. This program is open to all government agencies, non-government organisations and corporations who want to learn more about meaningful engagement with children and young people.

Benefits:

- C.Y.P.I will provide organisations with individualised recommendations and feedback about their services from children and young people. This is a unique opportunity for these organisations to respond to the needs of their clients and improve outcomes for children and young people
- Participating in the C.Y.P.I program demonstrates a commitment to ensuring that children and young people are safe, connected, respected, have opportunities to thrive, are well and their voices are taken into account
- Children and young people are empowered to make a positive contribution to their community.

Children and young people are invited to register their interest in participating in the C.Y.P.I online through the ACYP website.



Real NSW photo competition



The Real NSW competition was developed by the Advocate with children and young people who said that they did not identify with images portraying children and young people on websites, in magazines and in general.

Real NSW offered children and young people an opportunity to show how they should be portrayed by submitting photos of themselves in everyday situations.

The Advocate announced the winners of the REAL NSW Photo Competition at a Children's Week event held in the Jubilee Room of Parliament House on Thursday 27 October 2016.

The photo competition was judged by the Advocate, Mr Andrew Johnson, Australian Photography Magazine Editor, Mr Mike O'Connor, and members of the NSW Youth Advisory Council.

At the awards event, category winners were presented their awards and their winning photos displayed in Parliament House.

The **Advocate** presented an award to the winner of the 0–10 year old category. **Kiara McShane** from the Taree area won with a photo showing her helping her father after pouring concrete for a new shed.

President of the Children's Court of NSW, His Honour Judge Peter Johnstone presented an award to the 11-17 year old category winner. **Oliver Risi** from Wollongong won with a photo of him sitting at Towradgi ocean pool.

Editor of Australian Photography, Mike O'Connor presented an award to the 18-24 year old category winner. **Simone Isaacs** from Frenchs Forest won with a self-portrait. The budding photographer said taking photos helps her to express her emotions.

Entries of the Real NSW competition are being used by ACYP on many different platforms to ensure that children and young people can identify with and relate to the images we use to represent them.



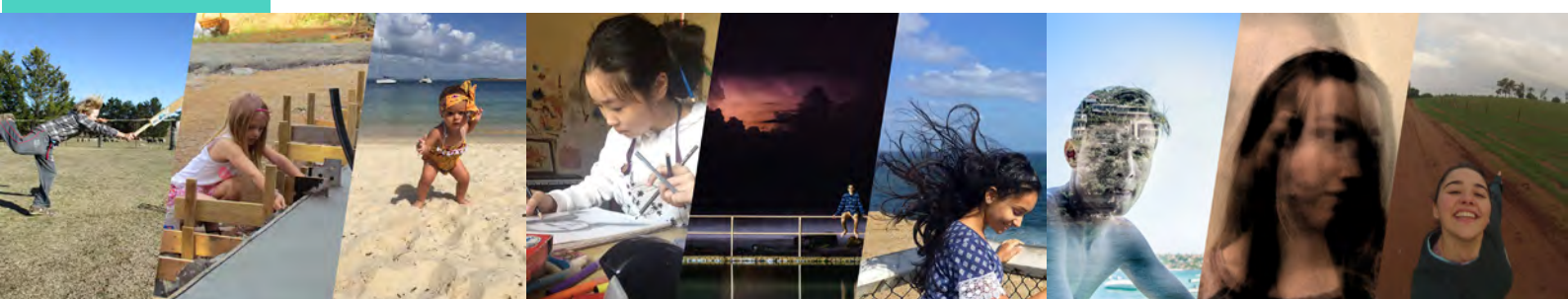
Kiara McShane
0–10 year old category winner



Oliver Risi
11-17 year old category winner



Simone Isaacs
18-24 year old category winner



Internships Program

The Advocate offers internship opportunities to young people under the age of 24 as one way of ensuring that young people are involved in the daily work of the Office and have an opportunity to participate in decision making processes.

This internship program allows a young person to get broad experience of working in a NSW State Government office. This gives them exposure to all teams in the Office including policy, media and communications, digital communications, and participation and research.

The intern also has an opportunity to work closely with and receive mentoring from the Advocate and to participate in, and inform, the work of the Office.

Work Experience Program

In its second year, students from Coonamble High School and Merrylands High School participated in the ACYP Work Experience Program in the reporting year.

The program offers Year 10 students a five day placement in which they receive advocacy training and get to work on their own advocacy project. They also rotate through the different units in the Office (Participation, Policy and Research, Media and Communications) and receive training and mentoring from the Advocate.

This program is open to all Year 10 students from across NSW.

NSW Youth Advisory Council (YAC)

The YAC is another way that children and young people can have a direct say on the work of NSW Government.

The twelve member YAC is recruited annually. Council members sit on the Council for one calendar year and provide advice to the Minister responsible for Youth, and the Advocate for Children and Young People.

The functions of the YAC are under the Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014 are:

- to advise the Minister and the Advocate on the planning, development, integration and implementation of government policies and programs concerning young persons,
- to consult with young persons, community groups and government agencies on issues and policies concerning young persons,
- to monitor and evaluate legislation and government policies and programs concerning young persons and to recommend changes if required,
- to conduct forums, approved by the Minister, on issues of interest to young persons,
- to collect, analyse and provide the Minister and the Advocate with information on issues and policies concerning young persons.



Recruitment for the 2017 YAC

ACYP conducted the recruitment process for the 2017 YAC. Over six hundred children and young people applied to sit on the 2017 YAC, a 100% increase on applications in comparison to the previous year.

The application phase was heavily promoted through advertising in metropolitan newspapers and a selection of regional newspapers and culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) publications. Promotion also took place through the ACYP newsletter and social media accounts.

The recruitment of the 2017 YAC received strong support from stakeholders such as the Department of Education and many NGOs who promoted nominations through their networks.

These strategies ensured that a great number of children and young people across NSW had the opportunity to apply for the YAC.

At the close of applications the Advocate and members of the ACYP office shortlisted applicants who were invited to a one day recruitment event at NSW Parliament House in Sydney's CBD.

At the recruitment event, the Advocate conducted advocacy training and attendees took part in a citizen jury relating to volunteering. Participants worked in groups and presented their final findings to the Advocate and the Director of the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People.

Following the recruitment event the Advocate presented recommendations to the Minister responsible for Youth. Recommended Council members were then presented to Cabinet who gave approval in early 2017.

Secretariat support for the YAC

ACYP provides the secretariat support for the YAC and also provides training to YAC members on policy processes and government relations.

From 30 June 2016 to 1 July 2017, ACYP organised and provided support for nine YAC meetings.

ACYP also prepares briefs for the YAC to assist them with their work.



NSW Children's Week 2016

Children's Week is marked annually on the third week of October and is an opportunity to celebrate a child's right to enjoy childhood.

The Advocate was invited to be the Ambassador for NSW Children's Week in 2016 by the NSW Children's Week Committee.

ACYP supported NSW Children's Week in a variety of ways including developing and hosting a new NSW Children's Week website with increased functionality, supporting the call for NSW Children's Week award nominations, producing videos of the NSW Children's Week award winners along with communications and media relations support.

ACYP conducted a Citizen's Jury during Children's Week where children and young people throughout NSW heard from experts and voted on whether or not sugary drinks should be banned from schools and sporting events.

To mark Children's Week and encourage organisations to engage with children and young people ACYP held a Voice event at NSW Parliament House. Voice is one of the six themes of the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People.

At this event the Advocate for Children and Young People introduced the ACYP App, the Seen and Heard video and the winners of the Real NSW photography competition were announced.

Seen and Heard

As part of 2016 Children's Week the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People, Andrew Johnson, launched the Seen and Heard video.

The Advocate for Children and Young People consulted with more than 4,000 children and young people from across NSW to inform the themes and directions of the first three-year whole of government Strategic Plan for Children and Young People in NSW.

One of the common themes throughout the consultations included children and young people talking about not having a voice in decision making.

"A good society values the opinions of young people, even if they are inexperienced."

Female, 11-17 years

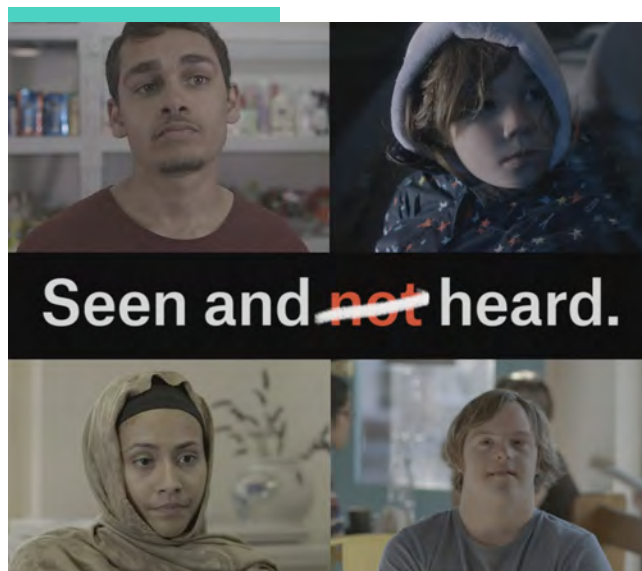
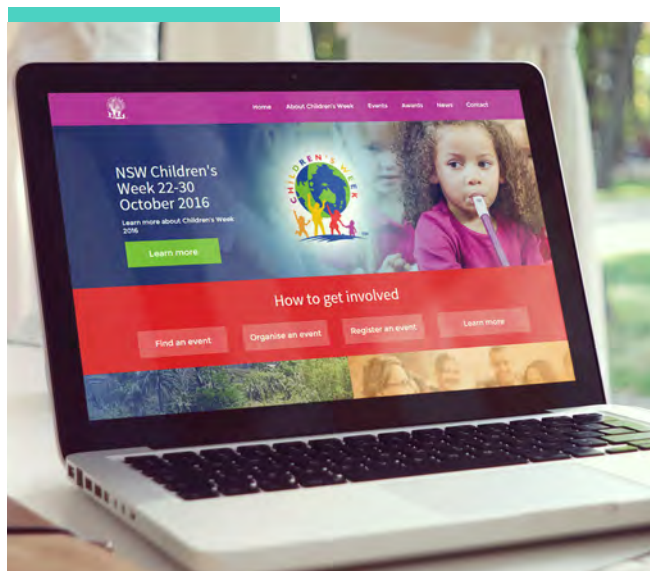
"Adults to treat children with respect, all children should have the right of opinion; their opinion should be taken with respect and seriousness."

Male, 11-17 years

The Advocate for Children and Young People heard feedback directly from approximately 2,000 children and young people and heard the lived experiences of children and young people whose voice was not heard at an important point of their life.

Examples of these lived experiences have been collated and turned onto a short video depicting several scenes of when a child or young person's opinion/voice is not listened to and then examples of how their voice can be taken into consideration in the same situation.

The Seen and Heard video can be viewed at www.acyp.nsw.gov.au/seen-and-heard



2016 Biggest Recess Campaign

Working with the Premier's Implementation Unit, ACYP developed a campaign about adults being a healthy role-modeling to the children and young people in their lives.

The campaign was officially launched on 20 October and the Biggest Recess was held on 28 October as a Children's Week initiative.

ACYP with the involvement of the Department of Premier and Cabinet and NSW Health, launched the inaugural Biggest Recess campaign in 2016.

It is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the children of today grow up healthy and well, so they can live full and active lives through a balance of exercise and healthy eating. We all play a part in influencing the behaviour and habits of the children in our lives.

It is often difficult to communicate messages about healthy eating and exercise. The Biggest Recess is a light-hearted and interactive event that centres on role-modelling for adults, parents and guardians to promote healthy behaviours to the children in their lives.

This is an aligned effort towards the Premier's Priority to reduce overweight and obesity rates of children.

To participate, people were invited to hold a Biggest Recess in their place of work on 28 October and register their involvement at www.biggestrecess.nsw.gov.au. The website also had lots of healthy recipes and activity suggestions to provide inspiration to participants.



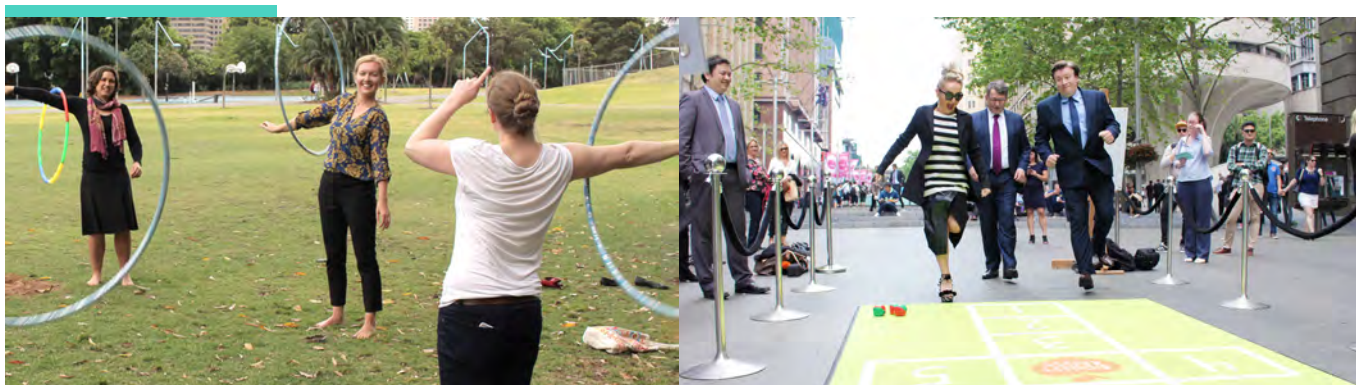
Launch event

The inaugural Biggest Recess campaign was launched in Martin Place on Thursday 20 October by Glenn King, Deputy Secretary of the Premier's Implementation Unit, Andrew Johnson, Advocate for Children and Young People and TV personality Melissa Hoyer.

At the Martin Place event, passers-by were invited to participate in a game of Biggest Recess hopscotch and pick a healthy snack bag from the Biggest Recess tree. Postcards were also given out encouraging people to organise their own Biggest Recess.

Highlights of the 2016 Biggest Recess Campaign

- More than 6,000 contacts were sent information and invited to participate in the Biggest Recess
- Ambassadors for the campaign included TV personality Melissa Hoyer, Glenn King and the Advocate for Children and Young People
- More than 456,000 audience impressions were achieved through the Biggest Recess social media campaign
- Close to 300,000 people watched a 50 second Biggest Recess story on Sunrise on the morning of 28 October
- An additional estimated one million audience impressions were achieved with the story featuring on the Yahoo7 website
- Koori radio station ran a live interview with the Advocate focussing on Biggest Recess
- A blog post by Biggest Recess Ambassador Melissa Hoyer achieved a further 1,900 audience impressions
- The Biggest Recess website went live on 1 October and in only one month had approximately 12,000 visitors



NSW Youth Week 2017

ACYP supported NSW Youth Week in 2017 by developing a new website and producing a promotional video.

The new website was developed with greater security, reliability, scalability and an integrated client-relationship-manager, with a focus on ensuring the content appeals to young people of NSW, based on their feedback and input. A new, easy to use, online events administration system has also been developed as an accompanying website so that councils across the state are able to upload their events.

The new website has a strong landing page that funnels users to key content and an Events page that instantly filters for the user to save time and increase engagement. It has been developed from the ground-up to be mobile-responsive so that children and young people have a positive experience when using the website on their smartphones.

A promotional video with footage from councils across the state was widely promoted across social media platforms as part of the Youth Week digital promotion strategy. The video includes footage provided from councils of their 2016 events and includes some attention-grabbing motion-graphics to encourage participation.

ACYP worked together with Multicultural NSW to bring together 100 children and young people from across NSW to participate in Ideation 2017 – Create Your Campaign. At this event participants heard from other young people about their experiences of inclusion in NSW and they heard from a panel of campaigning experts before working together to lay the foundations of a campaign to increase inclusion in NSW.

You can visit the new Youth Week website at www.youthweek.nsw.gov.au

Homelessness – ACYP's Consultation Report

As part of NSW Youth Week 2017 the Advocate for Children and Young People released a consultation report about what children and young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness have to say. The report was released on 5 April in line with Youth Homelessness Matters Day.

The Advocate undertook four consultations with 60 children and young people (30 male and 30 female) from four regions of NSW to discuss their experience of homelessness. The report details key themes and recommendations from these young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

They also had some practical suggestions about what was needed to reduce youth homelessness. These included providing more youth-specific, violence-related services; increasing awareness of services by promoting them through social media, outdoor advertising, commercial radio and TV; improving access to services after hours and on weekends and offering more opportunities for homeless young people to learn how to drive.

In the consultations, children and young people spoke about their aspirations for 'finishing school', 'getting my licence', 'getting a good job', 'saving some money' and 'being able to rent an apartment'. When asked what is working well, children and young people spoke favourably of support workers who 'stuck their neck out', 'bent the rules' and went above and beyond their basic responsibilities. When asked about what wasn't working well, they spoke about not having enough to eat and skipping meals.

Violence was one of the major themes raised in the consultations as a key factor in becoming homeless. Children and young people feel greater recognition is needed in relation to the violence and abuse they have experienced and that greater respect and support is needed to overcome the trauma endured.

The report is available at www.acyp.nsw.gov.au

As a follow-on to this report the Advocate conducted a workshop with young people who are experiencing or have experienced homelessness in response to a recommendation of the Consultation Report – What children and young people experiencing homelessness have to say. One of the recommendations, as set out by young people experiencing homelessness requested a state-wide youth-led campaign to raise community awareness of youth homelessness and its impacts on young lives.



At this workshop, which took place in Youth Week, participants worked with the Advocate to develop an awareness campaign about youth homelessness. This included providing information to support vulnerable young people accessing information about services earlier.

ACYP would like to thank all of the service providers who worked ensured that the voices of children and young people experiencing or at risk of homelessness were included in this report.

ATYP Workshop with young people who have experienced homelessness

As part of Youth Week 2017, ACYP worked with youth services throughout NSW to invite young people experiencing or who have experienced homelessness to participate in a day of work shops at the ACYP offices.

In April, 38 young people took part in a workshop with the Australian Theatre of Young People (ATYP). Participants took part in creative exercises and shared their experiences of homelessness. ATYP will use this information anonymously to inform a play about the experience of youth homelessness in NSW. ACYP also ran a consultation on hoe best to get information to children and young people but particularly children and young people who may be experiencing homelessness.

As a follow-up to this workshop, ATYP and ACYP worked with more children and young people across NSW to develop the music that will be part of the final theatre production.

The theatre production will be launched as part of NSW Children's Week in October 2017.



participation training and resources

ACYP provides training, mentoring and on-line resources to children and young people and to organisations seeking to engage children and young people in decision making.

Training

ACYP provided training to children and young people on understanding the policy process and government relations. Training sessions were held with the YAC, those who applied for the YAC, and with children and young people in regional NSW.

The Advocate provided tailored face to face training with several organisations throughout the reporting year on engaging with children and young people, including with the sports and arts sectors.



Online Resources

The ACYP website hosts a rich source of information and tools to assist organisations in engaging children and young people in decision making. Resources and information can be found on the ACYP website. These resources include guides and information on the following areas:

- Understanding and Supporting Children and Young People's Participation
- Ethical considerations
- Consent
- Participatory rights
- Checklist for planning participation
- Evaluation
- How children and young people benefit through participation
- How organisations benefit through children and young people's participation
- Top ten tips for children and young people's participation
- Video cases studies:
 - Coonamble High School
 - Touched by Olivia Foundation
 - Uniting Care Burnside
 - YMCA Youth Parliament
 - The Bright Minds Project
 - Top Blokes Foundation
 - Wake-Up – Change starts with you
- ACYP also publishes videos of all ACYP events to highlight methods of participation in practice

promote the provision of information and advice to assist children and young people

ACYP website

The ACYP website is continuously updated to reflect ACYP initiatives. In the reporting year improvements were made to enhance the user experience. This included developing new modules for the Engage and The plan sections of the website.

In response to feedback from children and young people the current key initiatives are featured at the top of the home page to allow for easy access for site users.

The website features three key navigation areas:

1. Engage

In this section users will find ten ways to participate with the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People.

2. The Plan

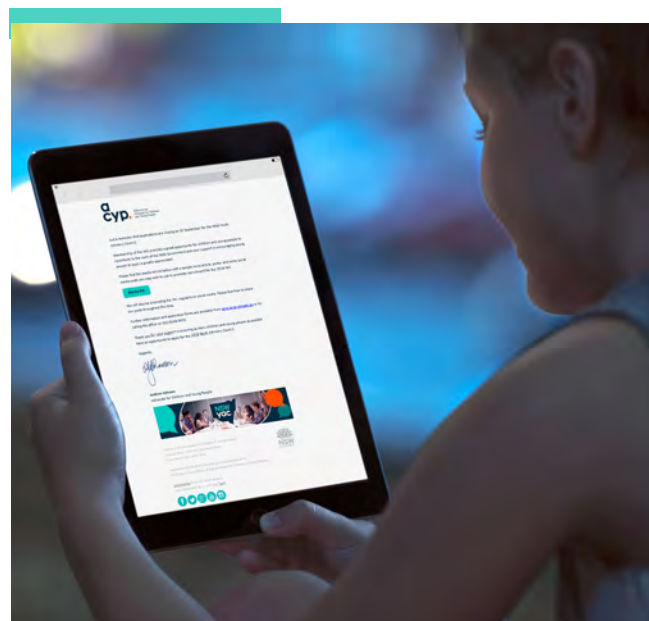
Information and updates on the development of the three-year whole-of-government Strategic Plan can be located in this section.

3. Info

Contains a diverse range of information including publications and useful links.

ENewsletter

ACYP regularly updates a list of subscribers on the work of the Office via an electronic newsletter and bulletins.



making recommendations on legislation, reports, policies, practices, procedures and services affecting children and young people

ACYP prepares reports, papers and submissions relating to children and young people in NSW, including submissions to Cabinet.

In the reporting year ACYP made submissions to the following inquiries:

- Inquiry into Child Protection
- Inquiry into Childhood overweight and obesity
- Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation Consultation
- The sharing of intimate images without consent
- Young Offenders Regulation Public Consultation
- National Children's Commissioner's 2017 Inquiry into young parents
- The Australian Human Rights Commission's consultation paper on OPCAT in Australia (submitted confidentially)
- Regional and Remote Early Childhood Education Strategy consultation
- Inquiry into education for students with disability and special needs
- Inquiry into justice for everyday problems (submitted confidentially)

ACYP also contributed to the NSW Government's response to the:

- Civil Penalties Regime for the Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images
- Inquiry into driver education
- Inquiry into Driver Education, Training and Road Safety



conduct, promote and monitor research into issues affecting children and young people

ACYP is involved in a number of research initiatives. These include surveys and focus groups aimed at understanding the attitudes, thoughts and experiences of children and young people in contemporary NSW that are described elsewhere in this report. It also includes the development of infographics aimed at presenting a wide range of statistical information relating to children and young people in a clear and dynamic way.

The Office is also involved in a number of longer term research projects which are outlined below.

Research projects

The economic cost of underinvestment in children and young people in NSW

ACYP commissioned Deloitte Access Economics to conduct research on the potential benefit NSW could receive if we could improve the outcomes of children and young people. This research consisted of a desktop comparison of the current outcomes of children and young people in NSW and better outcomes that have occurred elsewhere. Using these comparisons, the research estimated the economic value of the improvement that could potentially occur in NSW if a way to achieve these outcomes was developed.

The examination in this report focused on six areas. These areas include education, unemployment, mental health and suicide, obesity, domestic violence and child abuse, and crime. The report examines a number of cost components including health expenditure, lost productivity, crime and justice system costs, economic inefficiencies, burden of disease costs and other costs.



Improving Wellbeing through student participation at school

This ARC Linkage Grant Program is investigating the extent to which student participation in school decision making is linked to young people's social and emotional wellbeing.

The project is in its final stages, due to be completed by the end of 2017.

The team are now focussing on dissemination in applied and academic domains. This includes disseminating the reports from each phase, short summaries of findings for schools, a Good Practice Guide for schools on Participation – which includes the Student Participation Scale (SPS) with instructions, professional development resources for schools, and final reporting for ethics committees and the ARC. Journal articles are currently being drafted for submission to peer-reviewed journals.

Deprivation and Exclusion among Young People

This ARC Linkage Grant Program titled, Deprivation and Exclusion among Young People, aims to better understand the different ways that young people experience poverty and other forms of social disadvantage. Young people were asked about the items they have, and – if they don't have certain items – whether or not they would like to have them. It will also ask young people about their overall well-being and life satisfaction, including asking about some basic information about themselves, their family and friends, their neighbourhood and social networks. The information will be used to develop indicators of deprivation and exclusion that are relevant to children and young people.

Conduct special inquiries under Part 5 into issues affecting children and young people

No inquiries were conducted in the reporting period.



committees and advisory groups

The Advocate or ACYP delegates hold membership or provide council to a number of government and non government entities, some of which are listed below.

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People

Under the Advocate for Children and Young People Act 2014, one of the core functions of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People is to monitor and review the exercise by the Advocate of the Advocate's functions.

The members of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young People are:

- Chair, Ms Melanie Gibbons (Lib, LA Member)
- Deputy Chair, Mr Damien Tudehope (Lib, LA Member)
- The Hon. Catherine Cusack (Lib, LC Member)
- The Hon. Greg Donnelly (ALP, LC Member)
- The Hon. Paul Green (CDP, LC Member)
- Ms Jodie Harrison (ALP, LA Member)
- Mr Michael Johnsen (Nat, LA Member)

Australian Children's Commissioners and Guardians

The Australian Children's Commissioners and Guardians (ACCG) comprises national, state and territory children and young people commissioners, guardians and advocates. The ACCG aims to promote and protect the safety, wellbeing and rights of children and young people in Australia.

Child Death Review Team (CDRT)

The NSW Child Death Review Team (CDRT) reviews the deaths of children in NSW. The purpose of the CDRT is to prevent and reduce child deaths. The groups comprises senior health experts and children's advocates.

Child Safe Organisations Steering Committee

This project had an end date of 30 June 2017, but the committee's role was to develop child safe resources for agencies and carers/parents in light of the transition to NDIS.

Domestic Violence Advisory Group

A group of NSW NGO's and peak agencies working to reduce domestic violence and young people experiencing homelessness.

Healthy Eating Active Living Senior Officers Group (HEALSOG)

A cross governmental group working to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people in NSW.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee

The Committee advises Juvenile Justice NSW on evidence-based interventions, programs and services to support and rehabilitate children and young people who are involved in the juvenile justice system.

Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation 2016 Review Working Group

Until the beginning of this year, ACYP sat on this working group, which was tasked with reviewing the regulation, but the group seems to have been informally disbanded.



Law Society of NSW – Children’s Legal Issues Committee

The Law Society’s committees are established as a source of expert advice and assistance to the Council, the Society and the profession.

Youth Justice Coalition

The YJC is a network of youth workers, children’s lawyers, academics and policy workers who promote the rights of children and young people in NSW and across Australia.

NCOSS Children Young People and Families Alliance

This is an information sharing interest group that evolved from the Steering Group for NCOSS’s 1 in 7 (children in poverty) campaign.

NESA’s Board Endorsed Alternative Education Panel

The Panel reviews applications for Alternative Education Programs for young people.

NSW Family Matters Collective

The NSW Family Matters Collective represents a group of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal organisations that recognise the need to do more to protect the rights of Aboriginal children and families, empowering communities and driving more effective approaches to achieve better outcomes for Aboriginal children, their families and communities

Social Innovation Council

The Social Innovation Council is a strategic partnership between the NSW Government and the Forum of Non-Government Agencies. It aims to accelerate innovation in the way human services are designed, delivered and measured, and to improve human services outcomes.

Steering Committee for the Joint Protocol to reduce the contact of young people in residential out-of-home care with the criminal justice system

ACYP convenes the Youth Working Group of the committee. The role of the working group is to engage with young people in residential care affected by the joint protocol.

Technology and Wellbeing Roundtable

The roundtable is an alliance of about thirty organisations from the corporate, not-for-profit, government and academic sectors with an investment in better understanding young people’s everyday technology practice and promoting the positive potential of technology use for young people’s mental health and wellbeing.

Youth Health Advisory Group

The Youth Health and Wellbeing Advisory Group (the Advisory Group) provides strategic and independent advice to the Health and Social Policy Branch on the development, prioritisation and implementation of evidence based youth health policies and programs. It provides advice to the Child and Family Health Advisory Council as requested.

engaging with stakeholders and children and young people

The Advocate regularly holds and attends meetings to establish and deepen working relationships with the many government, non-government and civil society organisations who help protect and promote the rights and interests of children and young people.

The Advocate also conducts face to face consultations with children and young people across NSW on the issue that affect them.

A full list of meetings and speaking engagements attended by the Advocate for Children and Young People throughout the reporting period is available at Appendix.

Responses of authorities to recommendations made by the Advocate

No recommendations were made in the reporting period.

Advocate's recommendations for changes in the laws of the State, or for administrative action

No recommendations were made in the reporting period.

office structure and administration

During the reporting period the Office relocated from a temporary location at 219-241 Cleveland Street, Strawberry Hills, NSW 2012, to the permanent office in the same building

The office undertook substantial work to ensure a smooth transition to new finance, human resources and ICT systems and to new premises while maintaining its support for the Advocate's statutory functions.

Staffing

The Advocate is an independent statutory appointment supported by a small team of staff within FACS.

The Advocate's budget is part of the FACS operating budget and is reported as part of that department's Annual Report.

As at 30 June, there were 18 staff employed full and part-time.

Principal Officers

As at 30 June, our senior management team was:

Andrew Johnson, BA LLB MSW
Advocate for Children and Young People

Mr Michael Shaw, B.Communications, PGCertSS
Director

Publications

Publications by the Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People released throughout the reporting year:

- The Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
- Consultation Report – What Children and Young People Experiencing Homelessness Have to Say

Sponsorships

ACYP supported two organisations in 2016-2017 via sponsorship.

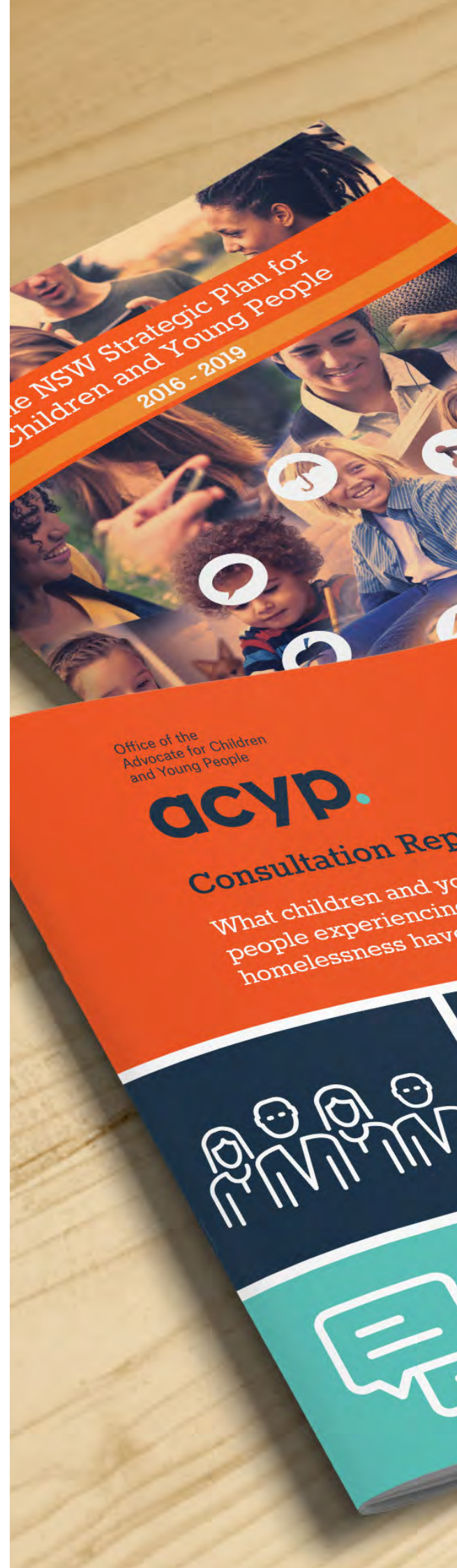
Operation Art

Operation Art is an initiative of the Children's Hospital at Westmead in association with the New South Wales Department of Education and supported by ANSTO (Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation).

This project showcases artworks created by students across the state that contribute to the total healing environment at the hospital.

NSW Police Legacy – Child Safety Handbook

ACYP supported the production of the Child Safety Handbook by placing a small colour ad in the printed book.



New office opening

After spending some time in a temporary office space, ACYP moved into new premises at Ground Floor, 219-241 Cleveland Street, Strawberry Hills. The office was officially opened by His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley ACDSC (Ret'd) Governor of NSW on Tuesday 28 February 2017.

The opening event began with a traditional Welcome to Country by Mr Chicka Madden followed by a Smoking Ceremony by Mr Max Eulo and Mr Rhett Burraston.

The Chair of the 2016 NSW YAC, Ms Brenella Abdel-Rheim and 2016 YAC member Mr Sam Beatson acted as the MCs for the event.

The Advocate for Children and Young People, Mr Andrew Johnson presented a video of the ACYP brand and office design and explained the involvement of children and young people in both processes.

The Minister responsible for Youth the Hon. Ray Williams MP spoke about the significance of the NSW Government's commitment to improving the lives of children and young people in NSW.

At the opening event the Advocate introduced the 2017 NSW YAC members to highlight that they have commenced their term in providing advice to the Minister and the Advocate on issues affecting children and young people in NSW.

This was followed by a moving version of Archie Roach's 'Took them Away' performed by Sebastian Kelly-Toiva from Schools Spectacular.

After the performance, the Advocate spoke about the importance of ensuring that children and young people's rights are fully realised and they are respected, safe, connected, have opportunities and their voices are heard.

His Excellency General The Honourable David Hurley ACDSC (Ret'd) officially opened the office and spoke to guests about the importance of empowering children and young people and providing opportunities for them to contribute to decision making processes.





How children and young people contributed to the design of the new ACYP office

Occupying a new office presented the unique opportunity to ensure that the voices of children and young people were reflected in its layout and design. When consulted, children and young people were forthcoming with their ideas on how the space could be presented to ensure the final affect is a space that is welcoming and reflective of children and young people. Some of the suggestions children and young people made included:

- Images of children and young people throughout the office
- Chill-out areas with synthetic grass and deck chairs
- Flexible meeting and break-out areas
- Inclusion of ACYP brand colours in the décor

How the voices of children and young people are reflected in the design of the office

- The ACYP reception features a synthetic grassed area with deck chairs which children and young people believe creates an entry that feels welcoming. It also features a screen with photos and footage of children and young people engaging with ACYP
- 18 of the blinds at the ACYP office feature photos of children and young people who participated in consultations to set the themes and directions of the first Strategic Plan for Children and Young People along with the winning photos from the ACYP REAL NSW photo competition
- Artworks created by children and young people for the Commission of Children and Young People are prominently displayed throughout the office as a historical reminder of the great work achieved by the Commission to improve the lives of children and young people in NSW
- One wall of the ACYP conference room features the faces of children and young people made up of the ACYP letters
- The ACYP brand colours are featured throughout the office on doors, floors and on furniture
- The ACYP conference room has a flexible floor plan allowing for small and large meetings and also allowing the space to open up to the kitchen for functions
- Breakout areas in the office feature fake grass and deck chairs, these areas can be utilised as casual meeting areas or as chill-out zones



appendices

Appendix 1: List of meetings and speaking engagements attended by the Advocate for Children and Young People

July

- 1 Glenn King and Gaberial Carrigan, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Jessica Dalton, PIU
- 4 Paul Daniell, DPC
- 5 Catherine Clemens, Commissioner for Children and Young People, Tasmania
- 6 South-West Sydney Local Health District Health Improvement Plan for Children, Young People and Families launch
The Hon. John Ajaka MLC, Minister responsible for Youth
- 7 Joint Protocol OOHC Resi Steering Committee meeting
Karen Bevan, CEO PlayGroup NSW
- 8 Australian Institute of Family Studies Conference
- 11 Child Death Review Team Planning Day
Medeline Gill and Catherine Espoito, Department of Family and Community Services, Research to Practice Seminar
- 12 Australian Research Council – Student Voice meeting
Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
- 13 PCYC Nations of Origin consultations
- 14 Lenine Bourke, Australian Council Youth Arts Summit
Professor Chris Rissel, NSW Health
- 18 Meeting with Sydney Morning Herald Journalist about Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
Social Innovation Council meeting
- 19 Lucy Thompson, NSW Health
- 20 Secretaries Board Meeting – Senior Leadership Forum
- 21 Public Service Commissioner
Research to Practice Seminar
Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Katie Acheson, Youth Action
- 25 Paul Gray, ABSEC
- 26 Speak for Yourself event
Launch of the three-year whole of government Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
- 27 Judging Panel for Transport NSW
- 28 NAIDOC celebrations, Dorchester ETU and Reiby Juvenile Justice Centre.
Charlotte Hilder, Arts Centre, Melbourne
- 29 Youth Arts Summit, Australian Council for Milson Island, speaking engagement
- Services, meeting relating to North Wyong Service delivery
Jo Lawrence, Department of Family and Community Services and Tom Tehoe, meeting regarding homelessness strategy development
- 8 Dawn Routledge, Innovation, IDG planning day
- 10 Sam Skinner, Halogen Australia
- 12 Journeys to Permanency through Open Adoption Practice launch
Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, Digital Government Division, planning day
Danielle Schmid, Youth Empowerment Program
- 14 NSW Youth Advisory Council meeting
- 15 Minister Brad Hazzard, MP
- 16 Margaret Mulcahy, Principle, Coonamble High School
Michael Brydon, Sydney Children's Hospital, meeting regarding the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
- 17 Staff recruitment interviews
- 18 Minister Ajaka, Advisory Group meeting
- 19 Tom West, Sydney Interactive
- 22 Peter Kaye, CEO Duke of Edinburgh's International Awards
- 23 The Hon. Paul Green, MLC
Simone Czech, FACS
- 24 Jodie Harrison MP
- 25 Joint Protocol Steering Committee
- 26 Andrew Jackson, Department of Premier and Cabinet, meeting relating to implementation of the Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
Gary Barnes, ESRD
- 29 Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Mike O'Connor, Editor, Australian Photography Magazine, Real NSW photo competition judging
Tony Eades, Brand Manager, Clare McKenrick, NSW Health
- 30 Jason Ardler, Aboriginal Affairs
Allan Booth, Department of Education, Learning Systems
Prof. Chris Rissel, NSW Health
Simon Banks
- 31 Monica Vardabasso, Department of Transport
Hakan Harman, Multicultural NSW

August

- 1 Jessica Dalton, Department of Premier and Cabinet and Treasury.
Meeting to discuss Strategic Plan for Children and Young People
- 2 Department of Education, Student Leaders Forum: Wellbeing in Schools. Speaking engagement
Introductory meeting with Parramatta City Council
- 3 Lisa Townshead, Create, NSW State Co-ordinator
Daniel Potter, Shopfront, CEO.
- 4 NRL – participation workshop
Janet Vickers, Department of Family and Community

September

- 1 Karyn Zwi, Sydney Children Hospital Network, Community Child Health and Collaboration
Lindsey Walker and Vicki Condon, Raise Foundation
- 2 Children's Court Magistrates Conference – Speaking engagement
NSW Health Senior Executive Forum – Speaking engagement
The Hon. John Ajaka MLC, Minister responsible for Youth
- 5 Michael Coutts-Trotter, Secretary, Department of Family and Community Services
- 6 Michael Brealey, Arts NSW

- 7 South West Sydney Student Voice Alliance – Speaking engagement
Tim Ireland, NSW Family Matters, Jurisdictional Group PPR, Biggest Recess promotional strategy proposal
- 8 Jono Nicholas, ReachOut
Claire Robbs, CEO, Life Without Barriers
- 9 NAPCAN, Play Your Part Awards – Advocate presented award
Staff recruitment interviews
- 13 Australian Research Council, Student Voice
Social Innovation Council – workshop with Dr Michael McAfee on Outcomes Measurement
- 14 Tim Ireland, Absec
Sarah Hopkins and Jane Powels, JustReinvest NSW
Jessica Dalton
- 15 Katie Atchison, Youth Action
Kerry Turner, NSW Sports and Rec
- 16 Staff recruitment interview
- 19 Staff recruitment interviews
Paul Daniell, Department of Premier and Cabinet

October

- 6 Helen Rogers, Department of Family and community Services
- 7 The Hon. Victor Dominello, MP
Hakan Harman and Megan Lancaster, Multicultural NSW
- 11 Monica Wolf, NSW Ombudsman
Claerwen Little, Uniting
Tracy Howe, NCOSS
Helen Rogers, Department of Family and Community Services
Michael Olds
- 12 Natasha Lushwitz, Justice and Community Safety
Kerryn Boyland, NSW Children's Guardian
Steve Kinmond, Deputy Ombudsman, Community Services Division
Prof. Chris Rissell, NSW Health
Liana Buchanan, Children's Commission, Victoria
- 13 Jonathan Nicholas, ReachOut
Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner
- 14 Tim O'Connor, Department of Family and Community Services
Trevor Bale, Housing NSW
- 18 PARC
Karen Bevan, PlayGroup NSW
Megan Perry, State Library
- 19 Subcommittee of Steering Committee on Joint Protocol to Reduce Contact of Young People in Residential Out of-Home Care - "Including Young People Working Group"
Jacqui Reed and Lisa Townshend, CREATE
- 20 Biggest Recess launch
ACWA AGM – speaking engagement
- 21 NSW Children's Week opening – speaking event
- 24 Citizen's Jury – Children's Week event
- 26 Helen Rogers, Multicultural NSW
Simone Czech, Department of Family and Community Services
- 27 ACYP Children's Week event at NSW Parliament House
Social Innovation Council meeting
- 28 Tabling of 2016 Annual Report
Biggest Recess
The Hon. John Ajaka MLC, Minister responsible for Youth

November

- 1 Steve Kinmond and Julianna Demetrius, NSW Ombudsman
Consultation with children and young people
- 2 Tom West, Sydney Interactive
Joint Protocol to Reduce Contact of Young People in Residential Out-of-Home Care
- 3 Regional Youth Support Services
Consultation with children and young people
- 7 Jodie McNair and Doug Faircolth, Verso
- 8 Recruitment interviews
Fraser Corfield
- 10 Consultation with children and young people
- 11 NSW Youth Advisory Council recruitment event
- 14 Southern Youth and Family Services
Consultation with children and young people
- 15 Student Voice, ARC
Consultation with children and young people
- 17 Jonathan Nicholas, ReachOut
Family matters
- 18 Consultation with children and young people
- 22 Angela Kempsey and Georgia Jenkins, Service NSW
- 23 Mary-Ann O'Loughlin, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Minister Ajaka
- 24 Consultation with children and young people
- 25 Protecting Australia's Children conference – speaking engagement
Schools Spectacular
- 26 Schools Spectacular
- 28 Paul McKnight, Strategy and Policy, Department of Justice
- 29 Kim McLoughry, Regional Youth Support Services
Minister Pru Goward
- 30 Chris Bennett, Department of Transport
Megan Mitchell, National Children's Commissioner

December

- 1 Andrea Lachs and Emma Heller, QFCC Assistant Commissioner
Kerry Mumford, Juvenile Justice
Social Innovation Council
NSW Youth Work Awards – speaking engagement
- 5 Dawn Routledge, Department of Finance, Services and Innovation
- 7 NRL Youth Summit – speaking engagement
Senior Leadership Forum
- 9 Fraser Corfield, Australian Theatre of Young People
Michael Rolf, Museums and Galleries
- 12 Child Death Review Team
Andrew Kos and Tom Kehoe, Department of Family and Community Services
- 13 Rhiannon Cook, Children, Young People and Families Alliance
- 14 Tanya Owen and Brett Petersen, Parramatta Council
Staff Planning Day
- 15 Kellie Blakemore, Department of Justice
Minister Elliott
- 16 Bridgette Van Leuven and Jamie Dawson, Opera House
Jenni Hutchin and Louisa McKay, YMCA
Tracy Mackey, Department of Education
Jenni Hutchins and Louisa McKay, YMCA
- 19 Technical Advisory Steering Committee

- 20 Dr Sarah Dalton, Agency for Clinical Innovation
Karen Bevan, PlayGroup NSW
NSW Children's Week committee
- 21 Melanie Hawyes, Department of Justice
Megan Perry and Pauline Fitzgerald, State Library

January

- 10 Dawn Routledge, Elizabeth Owens and Thea Knill,
Department of Finance, Services and Innovation
- 11 Jaymes Boland-Rudder, NRL
- 12 Alison Frame, Department of Planning
Catherine Yeomans, James Toomey and Ben Carblis,
Mission Australia
- 13 Megan Lancaster and Talia Stump, Multicultural NSW
- 16 Tracy Howe, Mel Fernandez and Laura Maclean, NCOSS
Rhiannon Cook, Department of Planning
Tish Bruce, NSW Health
- 17 Lisa Hart and Louisa McKay, YMCA
Jenny Buckland, Australian Children's Television
Foundation
- 18 Policy and Government Relations training
- 20 Dr Vinita Deodhar, Roland
Technical Advisory Steering Committee
Stephanie Salter, Greater Western Commission
The Hon. John Ajaka MLC, Minister responsible for Youth
- 23 Department of Family and Community Services
Simone Czech, Department of Family and Community
Services
- 24 Rosemary Davis, Arts and Sports Ubutatives
Peter Saunders, Linkage project on Material
Deprivation and Social Exclusion among Young People
in NSW
- 25 Julianna Demetrius, NSW Ombudsman
AnnMarie Lumsden, Megan Lee and Gaby Carney,
Law Society of NSW
- 31 Tim Ireland and Paul Gray, Absec
Robert Guaran, Sydney Children's Hospital Network
Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Jill Clavert, First Commissioner for Children and Young
People in NSW

February

- 1 Dominic Teakle, PCYC
Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Social Innovation Council
- 2 Joint Protocol Steering Committee
- 3 Tish Bruce, NSW Health, Health and Social Policy
Branch
- 6 Brendan Thomas, NSW Justice
- 7 Sydney CBD WHS Forum
- 10 Fiona Davis, AMA
- 13 Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee
- 14 Anthony Deceglia, Daily Telegraph
Michael Brealey, Arts NSW
Colin Petit, Commissioner for Children and Young
People, WA
Julie Inman-Grant, E-Safety Commissioner and Andree
Wright, Acting E-Safety Commissioner
- 15 Playgroup NSW, Playbaby launch Youth Working
Group – Elizabeth West, NSW OOHC Outcomes,
Katrina Wong, Legal Aid and Gemma Phillips, Office of
the Children's Guardian
- 16 NSW Children's Week Committee
Gary Barney, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Family and Domestic Violence Working Group
- 17 Katie Acheson, Youth Action
Declan Drake, Chair, NSW Youth Advisory Council

- 18 NSW Youth Advisory Council
- 19 NSW Youth Advisory Council
- 21 Katie Maskiell, Social Ventures Australia
- 22 Hunter-Newcastle Regional Leadership Executive
Consultations
NRL Youth Ambassador Unite Workshop
- 23 James Mctavish, Cross Border Commissioner
Sue Gillett, Family Matters
Elizabeth Tydd, Information Commissioner Roxane
Marcelle-Shaw, Young People and Open Data
- 24 Matthew O'Meara, UNSW
- 27 Youth Week, Youth Forum
- 28 Catharine Simmons, PARC
Peter Saunders, ARC Linkage project on Material
Deprivation and Social Exclusion among Young
People in NSW
ACYP office opening

March

- 1 NRL Youth Ambassador Unite Workshop
Social Innovation Council
- 2 Central Coast Leadership Executive Regional
Consultations
Young People and Families Alliance meeting
- 7 Dr Pamela Garrett and Lisa Ryan, Sydney Local Health
District
- 9 Jill Calvert, First Commissioner for Children and Young
People in NSW
- 13 Jess Dalton, Youth Homelessness Premiers Priority
Workshop
Michael Coutts Trotter, Department of Family and
Community Services
- 14 Dominic Teakle, PCYC
Andrew McCallum, Wendy Foote and Linda Watson,
ACWA
- 15 Julie Blackhall, Aboriginal Affairs
Central West and Orana Regional Leadership Executive
Meeting
- 16 David de Carvalho, NESA
Regional Executive Leadership meeting – Broken Hill
- 17 Tamworth regional consultations
- 18 Rotary District Conference – speaking engagement
- 20 Dr Eddie Jackson, Liverpool City Council
Matthew Keeley, NCYLC
Megan Lancaster, Multicultural NSW
Michelle Parker and Ben Cario, YFoundations
- 21 Youth Justice Coalitiation
- 22 ACYP Young Thinking Series, Brain Science Roundtable
Katey Grusovin, Film-maker
- 23 Riverina Murray-Wagga Wagga Regional Consultations
with children and young people
- 24 Our Local, Technical Advisory Group
Verity Lomax, Spark Strategy
Fraser Corfield, Australian Theatre for Young People
(ATYP)
- 27 David Conway, Rumbalara
Tony Pietropiccolo, Centrecare
- 30 Michelle Conner, Royal Commission
PCYC
Tony Stuart and Nicole Breeze, UNICEF

April

- 3 Parliamentary Joint Committee on Children and Young
People, public hearing
- 4 Consultation on safety, Royal Commission

- 5 Youth Homelessness Matters Day launch – speaking engagement
 - 6 Jil Calvert, First Commissioner for Children and Young People in NSW
 - 7 Ideation event
 - 10 Paige Burton, UN Representative
Georgina Beattie, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Fiona Dewar, Deputy Premier's Office
 - 11 UNICEF, staff leadership forum, speaking engagement
Child Safe eLearning launch
Richard Cheney, Western NSW Local Health District
 - 12 ACWA Restoration Workshop – speaking engagement
Jodie Griffiths Cook, Public Advocate and Children and Young People Commissioner
Social Innovation Council
 - 19 Reynato Reodica, Caterina Robertson and Marianne Carahailos, Department of Education
Louisa McKay, YMCA
 - 20 Prof. Peter Shergold and Erin Flynn, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Prof. Ann Brassil and Jodie Duggan, Family Planning NSW
David deCarvalho, NESA
Wendy Foote, ACWA
 - 21 David Scrimgeour, NSW Police
Colleen Gwynne, Northern Territory Children's Commissioner
Jason Ardler, Aboriginal Affaris
Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Alison Frame, Planning NSW
Louisa McKay, YMCA
 - 24 The Hon. Ray Williams MP
Lucy Turnbull, Greater Sydney Commission
Megan Lancaster, Multicultural NSW
 - 26 The Hon. Sarah Mitchell MP
Simone Czech, Department of Family and Community Service
 - 27 Macquarie University, Faculty of Human Science – speaking engagement
 - 28 Barnardos, Mother of the Year presentation
Fraser Corfield, ATYP
- May**
- 1 HEAL Premier's Priority Senior Officers Group meeting
 - 2 Roundtable consultation on National Statement of Principles for Child Safe Organisations
 - 3 Making Delivery Irreversible workshop, Leigh Sandles
 - 4 Megan Lancaster, Multicultural NSW
Fraser Corfield, ATYP
Deputy Commissioner Jeff Loy, NSW Police
 - 5 Julie Inman Grant, Australian eSafety Commissioner
 - 6 NSW Treasury – speaking engagement
 - 9 Dr Catharine Simmins and Anne Graham, Sothern Cross University
Rodd Best, Life Without Barriers
Juvenile Justice Behavioural Management Review consultation
 - 10 Julie Cooper, Kids and Families
Reynato Reodica, and Marianne Carahailos, Department of Education
Alison Morgan, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 - 11 Danielle Smalley, Meredith Jones and Juliet Suich, Greater Sydney Commission
Tim Horton, Architects
Tony Stuart and Nicole Breeze, UNICEF
 - 12 Interagency Group on Aboriginal driver licencing
 - 15 YFoundations ReCharge conference – speaking engagement
Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee
- 17 Leticia Whelan, NSW Health
Katie Acheson, Youth Action
Social Innovation Council
 - 18 Western NSW Local Health District, Health and Innovation Symposium –speaking engagement
Consultations with children and young people
 - 19 Western NSW Local Health District Leaders – consultation
 - 21 NSW Youth Advisory Council
 - 22 Our Local Steering Committee
Kelli Cato, NESA
 - 23 ACCG meeting
NCOSS children, young people and families alliance meeting
 - 24 ACCG meeting
 - 26 Deputy Commissioner Jeff Loy, NSW Police
Katey Grusovin, Film-maker
 - 29 Social Innovation Council – planning day
Commissioner Mike Fuller, NSW Police Commissioner
 - 30 ACYP Young Thinking Series, Child Rights Programming Seminar
Helen Lunn and Ben Carblis, Mission Australia
 - 31 Heidi Stratford, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Andrew Pridham and Andrew Ireland, Sydney Swans
- June**
- 1 Consultations with children and young people
Steve Kinmond, NSW Ombudsman
PCYC, State Conference – speaking engagement
 - 5 Consultations with children and young people
Robyn Bale, Department of Education
Danielle Smalley, Juliet Suich and Meredith Jones, Greater Sydney Commission
 - 6 Alyssa Martin, DFSI
Alison McGaffin, Tamworth Regional Council
 - 7 Julie Hourigan Ruse, NSW Fams
 - 8 Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
Bernie Meyerson, IBM
Fiona Rafter, NSW Justice
Jill Heinrich, NESA
 - 9 Glenn King, Department of Premier and Cabinet
 - 13 The Hon. Ray Williams MP
Kate Connors, Acting Deputy Secretary, NSW Justice
 - 14 Laura Scott, Maddy McClure and Armine Nalbandian, Premier's Office
Young Parent's Roundtable
Danielle Allen, Western Sydney Local Health District
 - 15 Mark Scott, Secretary, Department of Education
Jennifer Tierney, UNICEF
 - 16 Advisory Group on Violence Against Children
 - 19 Michael Rose
 - 20 3Bridges Organisation Conference – speaking engagement
Consultations with children and young people
 - 22 Joanne Lau, SNAICC
 - 23 Inquiry into education for students with disability
Matt Michael, The Monkeys Advertising Agency
Jacqui Reed and Ruth Daniels, CREATE
 - 26 Michael Coutts Trotter, Department of Family and Community Services
Joint Protocol Steering Committee
 - 28 Worlds Biggest Mental Health Lesson
 - 29 Dr Tony Stojkovski, Head of PDHPE
 - 30 Jenna Palumbo, Department of Premier and Cabinet

Appendix 2: Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009

Under Section 7 of the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 (GIPA), agencies must review their programs for the release of government information to identify the kinds of information that can be made publicly available. This review must be undertaken at least once every 12 months.

ACYP received no requests under the GIPA Act during 2014-15.

Table A: Number of applications by type of applicant and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information readily available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Media	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of Parliament	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Private Sector business	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Not-for-profit organisations or community groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (application by legal representative)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Members of the public (other)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Table B: Number of application by type of application and outcome

	Access granted in full	Access granted in part	Access refused in full	Information not held	Information already available	Refuse to deal with application	Refuse to confirm/deny whether information is held	Application withdrawn
Personal information applications*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications (other than personal information applications)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Access applications that are partly other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*A personal information application is an access application to personal information (as defined in clause 4 of Schedule 4 to the Act) about the applicant (the applicant being an individual)

Table C: Invalid applications

Reason for invalidity	Number of applications
Application does not comply with formal requirements (section 41 of the Act)	0
Application is for excluded information of the agency (Section 43 of the Act)	0
Application contravenes restraint order (section 110 of the Act)	0
Total number of invalid applications received	0
Invalid applications that subsequently became valid applications	0

Table D: Conclusive presumption of overriding public interest against disclosure – matters listed in Schedule 1 of the Act

	Number of times consideration used*
Overriding secrecy laws	0
Cabinet information	0
Executive Council information	0
Contempt	0
Legal professional privilege	0
Excluded information	0
Documents affecting law enforcement and public safety	0
Transport safety	0
Adoption	0
Care and protections of children	0
Ministerial code of conduct	0
Aboriginal and environmental heritage	0

Table F: Timelines

	Number of applications
Decided within the statutory timeframe (20 days plus any extensions)	0
Decided after 35 days (by agreement with applicant)	0
Not decided within time (deemed refusal)	0
Total	0

Table G: Number of applications reviewed under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Decision varied	Decision upheld	Total
Internal review	0	0	0
Review by Information Commissioner*	0	0	0
Internal review following recommendation under section 93 of the Act	0	0	0
Review by Administration Decisions Tribunal	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0

*The Information Commissioner does not have the authority to vary decisions, but can make recommendations to the original decision maker. The data in this case indicates that a recommendation to vary or uphold the original decision has been made.

Table H: Applications for review under Part 5 of the Act (by type of applicant)

	Number of applications for review
Applications by access applicants	0
Applications by persons to whom information the subject of access application relates (see section 54 of the Act)	0

Table I: Applications transferred to other agencies under Division 2 of part 4 of the Act (by type or transfer)

	Number of applications for review
Agency-initiated transfers	0
Applicant-initiated transfers	0

© 2017 State of New South Wales

You may copy, distribute, display, download and otherwise freely deal with this work for any purpose, provided that you attribute the NSW Advocate for Children and Young People as the owner. However, you must obtain permission if you wish to (a) charge others for access to the work (other than at cost), (b) include the work in advertising or a product for sale, (c) modify the work or (d) publish the work to a website.

This report is available on our website: www.acyp.nsw.gov.au

This report was produced in-house by ACYP staff.



Office of the
Advocate for Children
and Young People

acyp.

Office of the Advocate for Children and Young People

Ground Floor, 219-241 Cleveland Street, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012 | 02 9248 0970 | www.acyp.nsw.gov.au