

Meeting of the Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Taskforce

26 November 2020

COMMUNIQUE

The Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Taskforce (the Taskforce) held its last meeting of the year on Thursday 26 November 2020. Members took the opportunity to reflect on its work of 2020 and the priority areas of work that has been identified by the Taskforce. The Taskforce acknowledges that there is more to do in this space and members are looking forward to continuing with its *Listening Tour* across Queensland throughout next year.

Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Taskforce workplan

The first two years of operation for the Taskforce were reflected on by members, who acknowledged the impact that COVID-19 has had on its work. Members have continuously expressed the need for engagement and community awareness raising of institutional child abuse and its impacts.

The Taskforce hope to continue with its *Listening Tour* across Queensland throughout 2021, and hear from people with lived experience of institutional child abuse, their supports and service providers, to assist the Taskforce to continue to provide advice to the new Minister for Children and Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs on the implementation of the recommendations of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission).

Ongoing interest in the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Criminal Justice recommendations

Members have been pleased to hear from various areas within the Department of Justice and Attorney-General (DJAG) throughout the year, on the services and supports that people with lived experience can access. Members agreed that the justice system of Queensland in a criminal and civil environment is large and complex and can be challenging for people with lived experience to navigate.

Additionally, members have been pleased to hear of the progress made by DJAG in progressing the implementation of the Royal Commission recommendations and the updates provided to the Taskforce throughout the year. Members of the Taskforce look forward to hearing of further updates in 2021.

National Redress Scheme

A new series of videos developed by the Queensland Government, on the National Redress Scheme are now available online. Members were provided with a viewing of the two short videos, including one that is specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

The videos can be viewed online at: <https://www.qld.gov.au/community/getting-support-health-social-issue/support-victims-abuse/national-redress-scheme/resources>

Members are also awaiting the final report on the second anniversary review of the Scheme, due to be released in early 2021.

Getting in touch with the Taskforce

To find out how to contact the Truth, Healing and Reconciliation Taskforce please visit www.csyw.qld.gov.au/thr-taskforce