



Commissioner begins regional engagement with visit to Townsville

Today, the Commissioner began the first in a series of public engagement visits around Queensland.

His first destination is the important regional centre of Townsville, where there is a significant demand for child safety services. Over two days, the Commissioner will visit a number of key agencies and organisations to commence discussions about the circumstances that lead to children and young people being placed in care; what supports and assistance they receive while they are in care, in addition to what supports and assistance they receive to help them successfully transition out of care. The Commissioner is looking forward to engaging with the Townsville community over the course of the inquiry about these and related issues.

This visit is the first of many on-the-ground engagements in regional and remote communities across Queensland. The Commissioner is determined that the Commission be an inquiry for the whole of Queensland, and one that ensures that all persons involved in, or impacted by, the child protection system are given the opportunity to be heard and to fully and freely voice their concerns. This includes front line workers and, whenever possible, the children and young people themselves.

The focus of the Commission is to gain a deep understanding of all aspects of the child protection system as it is presently framed and operates, to understand the areas where there are difficulties or concerns and to examine practical ways by which the system may be improved for the benefit of the children and young people concerned and for the community as a whole.

Further information about the Inquiry is available at: www.childsafetyinquiry.qld.gov.au

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For media enquiries, please contact media@childsafetyinquiry.qld.gov.au