



COMMISSION FOR CHILDREN
AND YOUNG PEOPLE

CCYPD/22/10292

Department of Health
via email: suicide.prevention@health.vic.gov.au

Dear [REDACTED]

The Victorian suicide prevention and response strategy

The Commission for Children and Young People (the Commission) is pleased to provide the enclosed submission to inform the Victorian suicide prevention and response strategy (the strategy).

The Commission is an independent statutory body that promotes improvement in policies and practices affecting the safety, wellbeing and rights of Victorian children and young people. Our statutory functions include:

- providing independent oversight of Victoria's child protection, out-of-home care and youth justice systems, including monitoring reports of serious incidents such as self-harm and attempted suicide in out-of-home care and youth justice custody
- conducting inquiries into services provided to children or young people who have died and were involved with Child Protection in the 12 months before their death
- conducting individual, group and systemic inquiries into services provided to children and young people, such as our 2019 *Lost, not forgotten* inquiry and 2020 *Keep caring* inquiry.¹

The Commission strongly supports the Discussion Paper's proposal to identify children and young people as a priority group for the strategy.² The Commission also welcomes the commitment to co-producing the strategy with people with lived experience, including young people, and with Aboriginal communities and community-controlled organisations, and commitment to supporting self-determined prevention and responses.³

If you would like to discuss our submission, please contact [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Liana Buchanan'.

Liana Buchanan
Principal Commissioner

06/09/2022

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Meena Singh'.

Meena Singh
**Commissioner for Aboriginal
Children and Young People**

02/09/2022

¹ Noted in the *Suicide prevention and response strategy: Discussion Paper* (2022), p. 19.

² *Suicide prevention and response strategy: Discussion Paper* (2022) p. 25.

³ *Suicide prevention and response strategy: Discussion Paper* (2022) pp. 6, 22, 24, 29.