## **Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry to hold first hearing**

11 July 2012

The Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry will hold its first directions hearing at 10am on Tuesday 17 July 2012.

The Queensland Child Protection Commissioner, the Hon Tim Carmody SC, will make opening remarks concerning the Inquiry. The hearing will also receive opening submissions from counsel assisting the Inquiry, Kathryn McMillan SC and Michael Copley SC.

When: 10am, Tuesday 17 July 2012

Where: Court 17

Level 4, Brisbane Magistrates Court

363 George Street, Brisbane

No evidence will be heard on this date. Any applications for leave to appear will be decided and a date set for public hearings to commence.

Procedural directions and rulings about the conduct of the Inquiry will also be made.

Parties substantially and directly interested in the subject matter of the terms of reference and intending to appear or seek leave to appear should contact:

Phone: 1300 505 903

Email: info@childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au

Anyone with relevant information or views about the matters being inquired into is invited to make a submission. While submissions will be accepted via email and post the preferred and most secure method is using the online form available on the website. For more information about making a submission please go to <a href="https://www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/submissions">www.childprotectioninquiry.qld.gov.au/submissions</a>.

**Media note**: Commissioner Carmody will permit a pool camera to film opening remarks and submissions from counsel assisting for television broadcast, as well as still cameras. Please contact the Media Manager on 3405 9783 to discuss arrangements. A dedicated media room will be provided adjacent to Court 17.

## About the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry

The Commission of Inquiry was established on 1 July 2012, to review Queensland's child protection system.

The inquiry has been established to review progress of outcomes related to the <u>Commission of Inquiry into Abuse of Children in Queensland Institutions</u> (the Forde Inquiry) and the <u>Crime and Misconduct Commission Inquiry</u> to chart a new road map for child protection for the next decade.

In accordance with its terms of reference, the Commission will inquire and report on a range of topics including:

- the implementation of recommendations by the Forde Inquiry and the Crime and Misconduct Commission reports into child abuse
- whether the current use of available resources across the child protection system is adequate and whether resources could be used more efficiently
- the current Queensland government response to children and families in the child protection system
- the transition of children through, and exiting the child protection system
- the effectiveness of monitoring, investigation, oversight and complaint mechanisms and ways to improve the oversight of and public confidence in the child protection system
- the adequacy of any government response and action taken by government to allegations of child sexual abuse in youth detention centres
- any reforms to ensure that Queensland's child protection system achieves the best possible outcomes to protect children and support families
- strategies to reduce the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in the child protection system, and
- legislative reforms.

## **ENDS**

Media Contact: 3405 9783 or 3405 9785

http://www.childprotectioninguiry.gld.gov.au/

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