

Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

Update on the Government of South Australia's response to the 'Criminal Justice Report'

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (the Royal Commission) tabled the 'Criminal Justice Report' in federal Parliament on 14 August 2017. The report made 85 recommendations that fall within the responsibility of various Government of South Australia agencies.

The 'Criminal Justice Report' contains recommendations in relation to the criminal justice system's response to child sexual abuse, including institutional child sexual abuse. The recommendations aim to reform the criminal justice system to ensure the following objectives are met:

- the system operates in the interests of seeking justice for society, including the person who makes the complaint and the accused
- criminal justice responses are available for victims and survivors
- victims and survivors are supported in seeking criminal justice responses.

On 15 December 2017, the previous Government of South Australia published its initial response to the 'Criminal Justice Report'.

Implementation of the 'Criminal Justice Report' recommendations

58 of the Royal Commission's recommendations in the 'Criminal Justice Report' are either already in place or underway, ongoing or have been directed to non-government entities.

Only one recommendation, recommendation 6(b), is not supported in part. The part that is not supported recommends that former prisoners should not be required to report child sexual abuse at a police station. The part of the recommendation that relates to channels for reporting child sexual abuse from prison has already been implemented.

A further 26 recommendations are being considered, including those that require further legislative reform. The Government of South Australia will consult with criminal justice stakeholders if legislative reform is considered necessary to achieve the objectives underlying the outstanding recommendations.

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