The Stakeholder Advisory Group comprises members of peak bodies, non-government agencies, academics and government members. Its function is to provide the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services with high quality, well considered strategic advice and recommendations on matters related to the Queensland Government’s child and family reform agenda.

The first meeting of the group for 2016 took place on 19 May following a revision of the membership of the group and Terms of Reference. The key priority for 2016 agreed to by members is on reducing the over-representation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families in the child protection system and lending sector support to the development of the Queensland action plan for vulnerable Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children and families.

The action plan is a key new deliverable announced in the publication Supporting Families Changing Futures, which provides stakeholders with important information on the progress made so far in implementing the child and family reforms.

The recently released publication sets out the key priorities and actions for the 10-year reform agenda for the next two years and includes actions that further strengthen our focus on prevention and early intervention, tackling domestic and family violence, and providing more cohesive services for vulnerable children and families.

In 2015, members of the Stakeholder Advisory Group provided significant input and advice on the development of this publication and the accompanying two-year implementation schedule.

**New members** of the group in 2016 are:

- Ms Gabrielle Borggaard, General Manager, Ipswich Domestic Violence Action Centre
- Ms Raelene Ward, Lecturer, Indigenous Nursing, School of Nursing and Midwifery, University of Southern Queensland
- Professor Clare Tilbury, Chair of Child Protection Research, School of Human Services and Social Work, Griffith University
- Dr Deirdre Thompson, Director, Bravehearts Inc.
- Mr Etienne Roux, General Manager, ACCESS Community Services
- Mr Eddie Cubillo, Manager, Human and Social Services Integration, Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council (QAIHC)
- Ms Tamara Freeman, CEO, Queensland Indigenous Family Violence Legal Service (Cairns)

**Continuing members** are:

- Mr Bryan Smith, Executive Director, Foster Care Queensland
- Mr Lucas Moore, Queensland State Coordinator, CREATE Foundation
- Mr Mark Henley, Chief Executive, Queensland Council of Social Services
- Mr David Swain, Chief Operation Officer of Churches of Christ in Queensland
- Mr Lindsay Wegener, CEO, PeakCare Queensland Inc
- Ms Natalie Lewis, CEO, Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Child Protection Peak Ltd
- Ms Karyn Walsh, Coordinator, Micah Projects (Family Inclusion Network)
- Chair: Mr Michael Hogan, Director-General, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
- Deputy Chair: Ms Cathy Taylor, Deputy Director-General, Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
- Ms Andrea Lauchs, Assistant Commissioner, Queensland Family and Child Commission (Observer)

Next meeting:

The next meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Group is tentatively scheduled for early July 2016.