

Forced Adoptions Implementation Working Group

Statement of Purpose

The Forced Adoptions Implementation Working Group (the Implementation Working Group) will perform a key advisory role to the Government on the implementation of the Government's response to the recommendations in the Senate Community Affairs References Committee report, *Commonwealth Contribution to Former Forced Adoption Policies and Practices, February 2012*, (the Inquiry report). The Australian Government (the Government) has proposed a range of service responses for those affected by forced adoption policies and practices.

Roles:

- Provide independent advice to Government as the response to the Inquiry Report is implemented;
- Communicate clearly with Government and Ministers about issues and progress;
- Be a conduit for the views of broader stakeholders and people affected by Forced Adoptions;
- Advocate proactively for key issues for Forced Adoptions stakeholders; and
- Promote the importance of the response to the Inquiry Report and assist with community awareness and education about Forced Adoptions.

Principles for the operation of the Implementation Working Group:

- Work in the spirit of cooperation to provide advice on a way forward;
- Perform their role impartially and in good faith;
- Not allow the pursuit of their private interests to interfere with the conduct of this group;
- Be frank and honest and deal with other members in an appropriate manner;
- Adhere to the confidentiality guidelines;
- Adhere to the media protocols, including taking care with social media communications; and
- Provide a communique to the public following each meeting, to be posted on the Forced Adoptions page of the Department of Social Services website.