



Establishing the National Centre for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

2019 Budget

The Australian Government will aim to improve outcomes for survivors of child sexual abuse with the establishment of the National Centre for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse.

What was announced in the 2019 Budget?

The Government has committed \$25.5 million (to 2024-25) towards the establishment of the National Centre for the Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse (the National Centre).

The National Centre aims to prevent child sexual abuse, reducing the associated stigma, and raise awareness and understanding of the impacts of child sexual abuse.

It will provide a national, strategic focus to research and improve the capacity of services to respond to survivors, reduce offender recidivism and help to prevent future child sexual abuse.

Key facts

• The establishment of the National Centre was a recommendation of the Royal

Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse (Recommendation 9.9).

- The Government will work with the sector to co-design the National Centre.
- The National Centre will improve outcomes for survivors by:
 - raising practitioner, parent, organisational and community awareness and promoting destignatising messages
 - increasing practitioners' knowledge and competence in responding to child and adult survivors by identifying best practice and building the evidence base on what works
 - informing the development of better primary prevention, secondary support and tertiary intervention service models through research and evaluation
 - increasing practitioner, parent, organisational and community knowledge and competence in preventing and responding to child sexual abuse, and
 - building the capability of organisations to treat perpetrators, including children, who display inappropriate or harmful sexual behaviours.

- The National Centre's governance will be independent of the Government.
- The National Centre will partner with survivors in all its work, valuing their knowledge and experience.

The state and territory governments have been asked to work as partners in this important venture.

More information

For more information about this measure and other Department of Social Services' Budget measures, visit the <u>Department of Social Services</u> website (<u>dss.gov.au</u>).

For information about the 2019 Budget, visit the <u>Australian Government budget</u> website (<u>budget.gov.au</u>).