

Obj File Ref: A4471380

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe
Senate Community Affairs References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Radcliffe

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder

Thank you for providing the opportunity to make a submission to the Inquiry into Effective approaches to prevention, diagnosis and support for Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder.

The NSW Office of the Children's Guardian (the OCG) is an independent statutory authority in NSW. We promote and regulate the quality of child safe organisations, services and people. This includes the accreditation of statutory out-of-home care (OOHC) providers in NSW.

The OCG does not hold statistics on the number of children in OOHC with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). Anecdotally, however, we have been informed that the prevalence of FASD in OOHC is high. We would support additional measures to improve awareness and understanding of the nature and impact of FASD, particularly in indigenous communities, as well as best practice approaches to support children with FASD.

We hope this information assists with the development of your recommendations.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact Vanessa Viaggio, Policy Manager,

Yours sincerely

Janet Schorer PSM
Children's Guardian

31 October 2019

