



GIRL GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
QUEENSLAND

15th November 2018

Mr Peter Russo MP
Chair, Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee
Parliament House
George Street
Brisbane QLD 4000
Email: lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Russo MP,

Re: Civil Liability (Institutional Child Abuse) Amendment Bill 2018

Girl Guides Queensland (GGQ) is pleased to take the opportunity to respond to the invitation to make a submission to the inquiry.

Girl Guides Australia (GGA) is the peak organisation for girls and young women in Australia. Girl Guides Queensland (GGQ) is a member and is the largest youth organisation for girls and young women in Queensland with almost 5000 youth Members and 1000 volunteer Leaders and adult Members. We provide a non-formal educational program designed to create leaders of tomorrow by building on strengths and personal skills development.

At this stage Girl Guides Australia has not signed up to be a part of the redress scheme because there have been no cases, or potential cases, come to light that report any form of institutional child sexual abuse.

This decision will be kept under review and if Girl Guides Australia does become aware of any potential matter we will look to joining the scheme before the opt in period closes.

We note the Bill extends the range of abuse to be covered in Queensland to all forms of child abuse (not just sexual) and commend the initiative for keeping children safer. Additionally, we note the Bill is not consistent with what is being implemented in other jurisdictions.



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Our mission is to empower girls and young women to grow into confident, self-respecting, responsible community members.
Girl Guides Queensland is committed to creating safe and friendly environments for children and young people.



Girl Guides Australia and all its member states, attends to its child safety obligations with critical priority. Whilst we have not had any incidents reported to date, we remain vigilant to our commitment to operating a child friendly, child safe organisation.

Girl Guides Australia are undertaking a full review and upgrade of our operational procedures and practices to ensure they meet the new National Principles for Child Safe Organisations that have flowed from the recommendations of the Royal Commission. The recommendations of this review will be implemented nationally.

I note the committee is holding a public briefing and await confirmation of this date in February 2019.

If there are any queries regarding this submission, please contact me on [REDACTED] or by email [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'K' followed by a long, horizontal, slightly wavy line extending to the right.

Ms Kim Harrington
State Executive Officer