Implementation Monitor Annual Report 2025–26

An Easy Read Guide

Child safety reform monitoring and oversight



Child Safety Reform
Implementation Monitor
TASMANIA

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Support



The Office of the Implementation Monitor understands the report may be upsetting to read.

You are not alone.

Remember, support is available.



External services are available for those who need support.

You can find them here:
oim.tas.gov.au/get-support

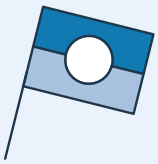
You can also call:



Lifeline (24 hours) 13 11 14
13 YARN 13 92 76
Beyond Blue 1300 224 636
Victims of Crime Service 1300 300 238
Sexual Assault Support Service (24 hours) 1800 697 877
Laurel House Northern Tasmania (03) 6334 2740
Laurel House North West Tasmania (03) 6431 9711
Blue Knot Foundation 1300 657 380
Child Abuse Prevention Service 1800 688 009
Strong Families, Safe Kids 1800 000 123
1800RESPECT 1800 737 732
Suicide Call Back Service 1300 659 467
Kids Helpline 1800 551 800
Relationships Australia Tasmania 1300 364 277

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Acknowledgements



We respectfully acknowledge the Tasmanian Aboriginal people as the traditional owners and continuing custodians of this island and pay our respects to Elders past and present.



We acknowledge the trauma that continues to affect people with lived experience of child abuse. We commit to learning from past wrongs to protect the rights of children and young people, now and for future generations.

About this guide

About this guide

This guide is written by the Office of the Child Safety Reform Implementation Monitor in Tasmania.

It is written in an easy to read way.



When you see the word **OIM** it means the Office of the Implementation Monitor.

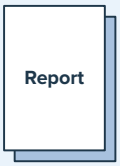


The guide uses pictures to help explain the words.



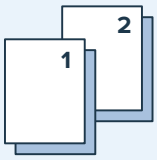
If you are unsure, you can ask someone you know to help you read this guide.

You may want to have a family member or a friend with you for support.



This guide is about the Implementation Monitor's Annual Report 2025–26.

The Annual Report structure



The Annual Report has 2 documents.



The first document is the main **Annual Report**.

It tells you about the OIM's work this year.



The second document is the **Companion Document**.

It has more detailed information, tables and data.



You can find both documents on the OIM website.

www.oim.tas.gov.au

About the Implementation Monitor

Who is the Implementation Monitor?

The Implementation Monitor is Robert Benjamin.

Robert served as a Commissioner on the Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings.

Robert also served as a Family Court Judge.

Robert has a long history of taking care of children through the law and wants to make sure their voices are heard.



The role of the Implementation Monitor



The Implementation Monitor is **independent**.

This means the Monitor is separate from the Government.

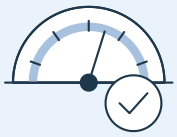


It is a **statutory role**. This means the role was set up by a law.

The law is the *Child Safety Reform Implementation Monitor Act 2024*.



The Monitor checks and reports on how the Tasmanian Government is making the changes recommended by inquiries and reviews about child safety.



The Monitor also checks whether the changes are working.



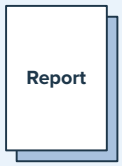
The OIM supports the Monitor to do this work.

The OIM is the Monitor and a small team of staff.

The OIM's work includes:



Monitoring how government agencies act on recommendations.



Looking at information from government agencies.



Checking progress in an independent way.



Listening to children, young people, victim-survivors and other people.



Reporting to Parliament about progress and issues.



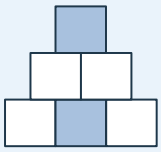
Keeping the community informed.

Our approach

2025–26: Building the foundations

2025–26 was an important year. The OIM set up how it will do its work.

During the year, the OIM:



Set up how it will **monitor** and **evaluate** the reforms.

Monitor means to track what is happening. Evaluate means to check what difference it makes.



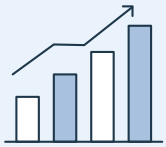
Made the **Implementation Framework** and started using it.

The Framework is a plan that guides the OIM's work.



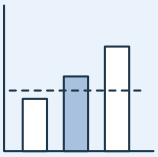
Made ways to collect and check **evidence**.

Evidence is information that shows what has been done.



Checked the progress of recommendations.

During the year, the OIM also:



Set a **baseline**.

A baseline is a starting point. It helps us compare progress in future reports.



Kept building relationships with children and young people, victim-survivors, Aboriginal people and organisations, government agencies, community organisations and other people.



Made its **Strategic Plan** for 2026–29.

This is the OIM's plan for the next 3 years.

Our principles

Principles are the ideas that guide how the OIM works.



Children's safety comes first.

We put the safety and wellbeing of children and young people at the centre of every decision.



We listen safely and respectfully.

We make it safe for people to share their views.
We explain how their views helped shape our work.



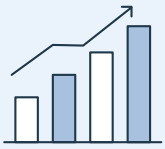
We make up our own mind and explain why.

We make our own decisions.
We explain what we decided and why.



We work respectfully with others.

We work together with organisations to help keep children and young people safe.



We look for real change.

We check if changes are making a real difference for children and young people.



We ask only for what we need.

We ask for enough information to make a fair decision. We do not ask for more than we need.



We use fair and reliable ways to check progress.

We ask clear questions.
We use the best information we have.



We make information clear and trustworthy.

We use plain language so everyone can understand our work.



We keep checking.

Our work does not always end when a change is complete. If something is not working, we look at it again.

Engagement

How we listen and work with people



Listening to people is an important part of the OIM's work.

The OIM uses different ways to listen and work with people.

These include:



Meetings



One-on-one conversations



Roundtables and forums



Stakeholder reference groups



Site visits



Public submissions



Surveys and evaluations



Written correspondence



Community and sector events

How we work with people:



The OIM uses different ways depending on why we are talking with people and who is involved.



The OIM wants working with people to be safe, respectful, accessible and meaningful.



Where it makes sense, the OIM works through groups that already exist.



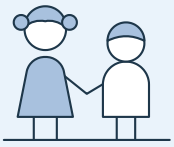
This helps people take part safely.

It also means people are not asked the same things too many times.

What did the OIM hear from stakeholders?

Stakeholders are people and groups who are part of, or affected by, child safety reform.

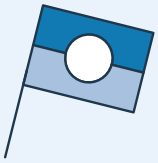
During 2025–26, the OIM talked with:



Children and young people



Victim-survivors and people with lived experience



Aboriginal people and organisations



Community organisations



Peak bodies



Government agencies



Oversight bodies



Members of Parliament



Other people working in child safety



People shared their experiences, ideas and concerns about child safety reform.

Feedback from people helps the OIM to:



Understand what is happening in practice.



Find issues and new concerns.



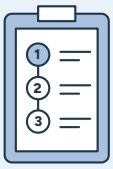
Decide what areas may need more attention.



Understand the experiences of people affected by the reforms.



Test the information the Government gives us.



Plan our future monitoring and evaluation.

During the year, people told us that:



They want clear and open information about how the reforms are going.



They value the chance to talk with the OIM and share their views.



Children, young people and victim-survivors need to be heard.

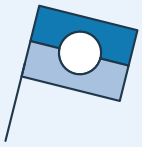
Their views and experiences should help shape reform and monitoring.



Reforms need to lead to real improvements for children and young people.



The Monitor's independent role is important. It helps keep the Government open and accountable.



For changes to last, it is important that Aboriginal people lead decisions, make choices about their own future and have their culture respected.



There are concerns about having enough staff and resources to do the work.

How we engaged with people

In 2025–26, the OIM engaged with people in many ways.



49

Times we engaged with community groups, Aboriginal leaders, advocates, children's groups and victim-survivors



125+

Times we engaged with government agencies



11

Site visits



35

Times we engaged with oversight bodies



25

Meetings with members of Parliament



2

Public committee appearances



5

Interviews and public speaking events



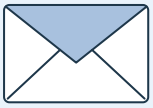
17

News articles on our website



6

Media releases, opinion pieces and statements



2

Newsletters



61

Facebook posts



60

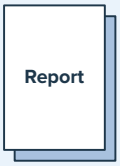
LinkedIn posts

Monitoring implementation progress

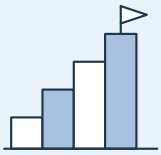
How the OIM checks progress



The OIM checks how government agencies are acting on recommendations.



Agencies tell the OIM about their progress and the work they have done.



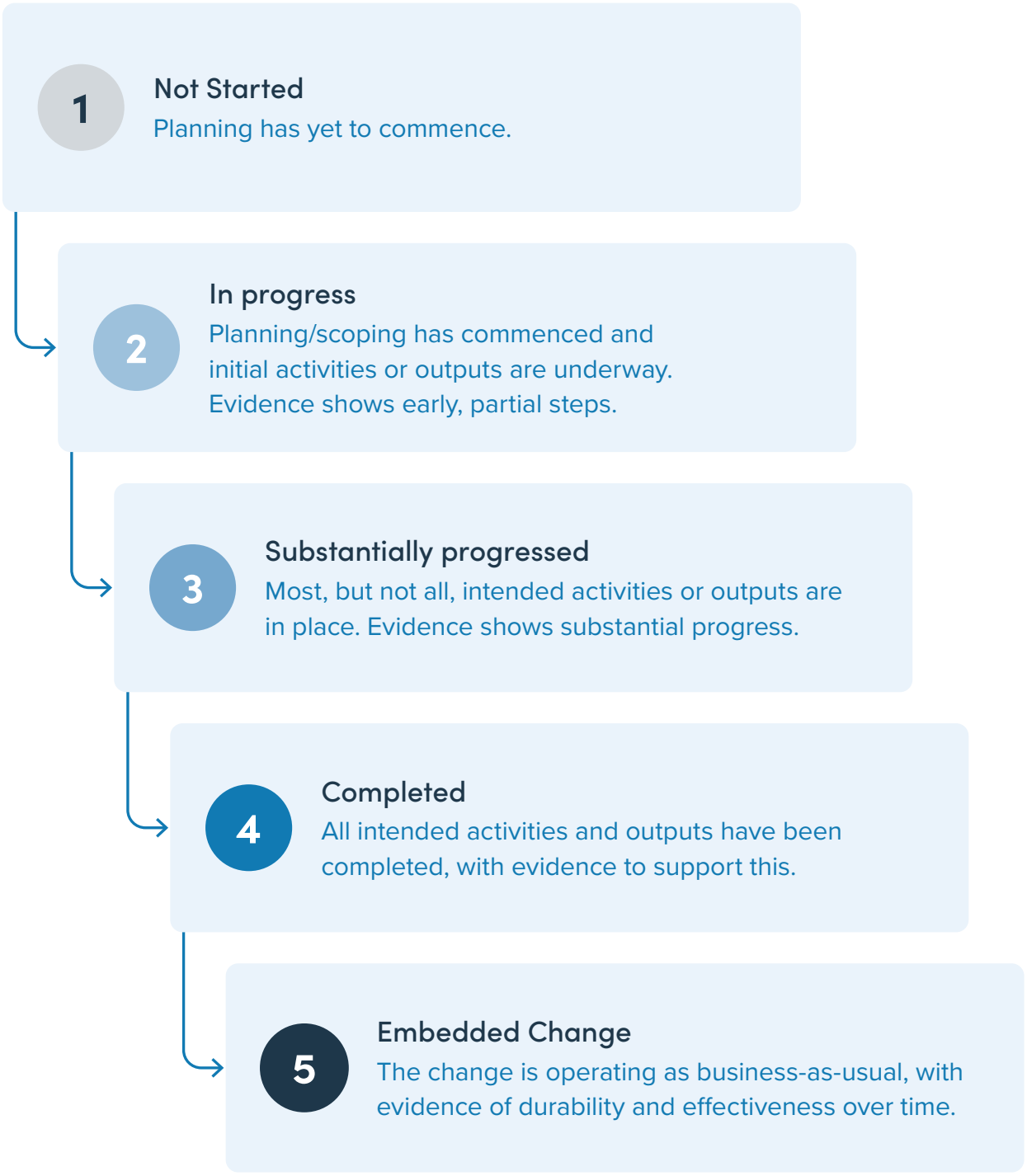
Agencies use the OIM's **status ladder** to show where each recommendation is up to.



The OIM then carefully checks the information and evidence from agencies.

This is called an **appraisal**.

The status ladder has 5 steps. It shows how far each recommendation has come.



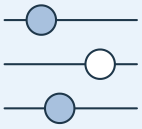
After checking the evidence, the OIM may:



Agree with the status the agency gave.



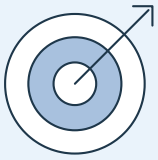
Ask the agency for more information.



Change the status if the evidence shows something different.



The OIM uses the **Implementation Framework** to guide this work.



The OIM also uses **indicators** and **measures** to check progress.

These are signs that show if things are changing.

What recommendations did the OIM look at?

In 2025–26, the OIM **appraised 276 recommendations**.
They came from 5 inquiries and reviews.



Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings

191



Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

58



Independent Inquiry into the Department of Education's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

20



Independent Child Safe Governance Review of the Launceston General Hospital and Human Resources

2*



Weiss Independent Review into Paul Reynolds

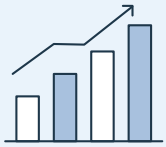
5

Total **276**

* The OIM will check 90 more recommendations from the Child Safe Governance Review in late 2026.

Findings and impact

Overall Observations



Overall, the OIM found there has been **significant progress** in child safety reforms.

This means a lot of work has been done.



But there is still a lot of work to do.

The reforms need to be fully put in place and lead to lasting change.



The OIM will look more at whether reforms are part of everyday work.

It will also look at whether reforms are making children and young people safer and better off.

Of the 276 recommendations the OIM appraised:

Less than 1%
Not started

23%
In progress

21%
Substantially progressed

33%
Completed

7%
Embedded change

17%
Closed



Closed means a recommendation has been replaced, is no longer needed, or was covered by another recommendation.

Commission of Inquiry

The Commission of Inquiry into the Tasmanian Government's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in Institutional Settings



The Commission of Inquiry made 191 recommendations about child safety in Tasmanian Government institutions.

The OIM found that of the 191 recommendations:

1 had not started	Less than 1%
56 were in progress	29%
53 were substantially progressed	28%
78 were completed	40%
3 were embedded change	2%

This means **70%** of these recommendations were Substantially progressed, Completed or Embedded change.

Progress was different across the areas the Commission of Inquiry



Health services

19 of 21 recommendations were Completed.



Education

6 of 16 recommendations were Completed.

8 were Substantially progressed.



Out of home care system

18 of 38 recommendations were In progress.

13 were Substantially progressed.



Youth justice

16 of 39 recommendations were Substantially progressed.

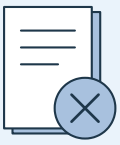
13 were In progress.

Royal Commission

The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse



The **OIM appraised 58 recommendations** from the Royal Commission.



46 recommendations (79%) were Closed.

This is because some recommendations from the Commission of Inquiry already covered the same thing.

Of the remaining recommendations:

4 were in progress		7%
4 were substantially progressed		7%
4 were completed		7%



Some changes need governments across Australia to work together.

These include sharing information, Working with Children Checks and national child safety data.

Education Inquiry

The Independent Inquiry into the Department of Education's Responses to Child Sexual Abuse



The Education Inquiry made 20 recommendations that the OIM monitors.

The OIM found that of the 20 recommendations:

5 were completed		25%
14 were embedded change		70%
1 was closed		5%

This means **95%** of these recommendations were Completed or Embedded change.



The OIM found that significant changes have been made to **strengthen safeguarding** in Tasmanian Government schools.

Child Safe Governance Review

The Independent Child Safe Governance Review of the Launceston General Hospital and Human Resources



The Child Safe Governance Review made 92 recommendations.



This year, the **OIM appraised 2 recommendations** that were In progress last time.

Both are now Completed.



These 2 recommendations were about:

- better ways to manage complaints and incidents
- stronger oversight of the organisation
- better reporting and escalation of concerns
- finding risks and chances to learn.



The other 90 recommendations were reported as complete before.

The OIM will appraise them in late 2026.

Weiss Review

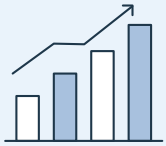
The Weiss Independent Review into Paul Reynolds



The Weiss Review made 5 recommendations.

The OIM found that of the 5 recommendations:

3 were in progress		60%
2 were completed		40%



During the year, there was progress in:

- community engagement
- support for people who have experienced sexual harm
- work to strengthen accountability.

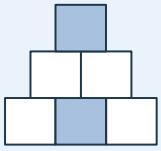


Work is still happening on a Tasmanian **restorative engagement and redress** framework, and other reforms.

This is about helping people who were harmed to be heard and have the harm recognised.

Looking ahead

Future focus



The OIM has built a strong foundation for its monitoring and evaluation work.



Even when a recommendation is complete, we will keep checking that the changes are working.



Real and lasting change takes time.

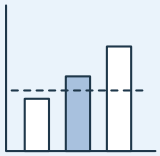


We will focus more on checking that reforms are working and making a real difference to children and young people.

Over the coming years, the OIM will:



Keep monitoring progress.



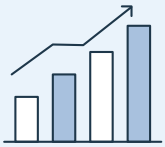
Build on the baseline set this year.



Keep listening to children, young people and people with lived experience.



Make and use its **Stakeholder Engagement Strategy**. This is a plan for how the OIM will listen to and work with people.



Collect more information to understand changes over time.



Find new risks and areas that need more attention.

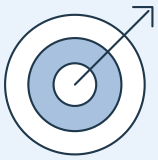
The OIM will look more closely at whether reforms are:



Working in practice.



Becoming part of everyday systems and services.



Improving outcomes.



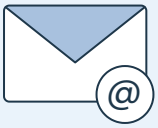
Making children and young people safer.

Feedback



We welcome your feedback about the Annual Report and this Easy Read guide.

We also welcome your ideas to improve future Annual Reports.



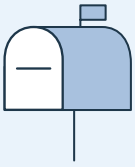
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