



Pru Goward

Minister for Family and Community Services

Minister for Social Housing

Minister for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

MEDIA RELEASE

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CONSULTATION LAUNCHED TO SHAPE A BETTER CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM IN NSW

A discussion paper on the child protection system released today examines how adoptions and Children's Court proceedings could be streamlined to ensure more children are quickly given permanency and a safe and loving home for life.

In the paper the Government outlines proposed amendments to the *Children and Young Persons (Care and Protection) Act 1998* (NSW) and the *Adoption Act 2000* (NSW).

Minister for Family and Community Services Pru Goward said the amendments were being considered to build on reform that is already underway and strengthen legislation that promotes permanency through preservation, restoration and open adoption.

"Some of the proposals outlined in this paper will challenge the way we have been doing things in NSW," Ms Goward said.

"We want an adoption and child protection system that firmly places the child at the centre of everything we do.

"I hope the proposals will generate thoughtful discussion about reform that is so critically important, the safety and wellbeing of our most vulnerable children."

The NSW Government has already begun enacting major in child protection, with the introduction of *Their Futures Matter*, landmark legislation in 2014 which focuses on client outcomes based on the needs of children and families.

The public is invited to read the discussion paper at and provide comments on the legislative reform proposals via <https://www.nsw.gov.au/improving-nsw/have-your-say/shaping-a-better-child-protection-system/>

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