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MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW TO RESPOND TO CHILD ABUSE ROYAL COMMISSION

The NSW Government will respond formally to the recommendations of the final report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse in June 2018.

NSW has already made significant progress on earlier recommendations and in December established a cross-agency taskforce to carefully review the commission's final report.

Attorney General Mark Speakman said NSW aims to honour the commission's recommendation that all governments formally respond to its final report within six months.

"Survivors and their families deserve nothing less than swift, considered action. We are deeply committed to getting this right and will work closely with our State and Federal counterparts on national recommendations," Mr Speakman said.

NSW continues to make progress on the recommendations of earlier Royal Commission reports, namely *Redress and Civil Litigation*, *Criminal Justice* and *Working with Children Checks*.

Mr Speakman said, "NSW remains committed to a single national redress scheme as the best way to ensure consistent, accessible justice for survivors of institutional child sexual abuse, regardless of where the abuse occurred."

Minister for Family and Community Services Pru Goward said NSW has led the way in responding to key issues raised in prior Royal Commission reports

"That leadership has put us in a strong position to respond to the final report's recommendations within the timeframe requested by the Royal Commission.

The NSW Government's June response will build on its track-record of significant improvements to the child protection system.

"NSW has introduced comprehensive reforms to improve the lives of children and young people in out-of-home care - no child should suffer abuse and the NSW Government will continue to work so that children and young people in NSW are protected from harm," Ms Goward said.

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