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CREATE welcomes Queensland Auditor General Report recommendations to improve management of information about children and young people in care

CREATE welcomes the report and supports the recommendations to improve data collection systems to enable information sharing with approved service providers to better support children and young people in care but says there is also need for the reporting of outcomes.

CREATE believes making information sharing easier, with the right protections, can only make things better for young people.

Queensland Auditor General, Andrew Greaves recently released the *Managing Child Safety Information* Report which concluded the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services “has yet to get the balance right between security and availability of child safety data.”

The audit assessed the management of child safety information practices ahead of government changes to be implemented following the Carmody Report. The Auditor General’s Report found that while the department’s systems were secure they did not allow information to be shared easily and alternative practices were creating problems.

The report says better data management systems within the department and across non-government service providers will reduce inconsistencies, duplication of information, and allow improved information sharing that will help ensure everyone is up-to-date.

CREATE supports the report recommendations for better access to information with good protections to ensure information security and consistency. CREATE says changes need to happen and that it’s very important outcomes are recorded.

Additionally CREATE believes there needs to be more focus on developing *nationally* consistent data in line with the National Framework for Protecting Australian’s Children 2009-2020 and the national standards for out-of-home care.

For a copy of the report go to:

<https://www.qao.qld.gov.au/files/file/Reports%20and%20publications/Reports%20to%20Parliament%202014-15/RtP17Securityofsensitiveinformation.pdf>