

31 October 2018

Ms Josine Wynberg
Director, Legal Policy
Department of the Attorney-General and Justice
GPO Box 1722
DARWIN NT 0801

E: Policy.AGD@nt.gov.au

creating a better life
for children and young
people in care

Dear Ms Wynberg,

Options Paper: Options for the implementation in the Northern Territory of the civil litigation reforms recommended by the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse

CREATE Foundation welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Department of the Attorney-General and Justice on the current Options Paper. CREATE acts as key advocate for the more than 48 000 children and young people with an out-of-home care experience and draws the attention to the need for individual and systemic responses to improve their life outcomes.

CREATE's mission is to create a better life for children and young people in care. To do this we:

- **Connect** children and young people to each other, CREATE and their community to
- **Empower** children and young people to build self-confidence, self-esteem, and skills that enable them to have a voice and be heard to
- **Change** the care system, in consultation with children and young people, through advocacy to improve policies, practices and services, and increase community awareness.

CREATE has previously submitted a response to the *Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse Consultation Paper: Redress and Civil Litigation* whereby we detailed our views towards identifying a proper defendant and approaches to accessing civil litigation. These remain largely unchanged. CREATE acknowledges the difficulties in pursuing civil litigation in relation to abuse while in care and maintains the view that vulnerable children and young people should be entitled to civil litigation if they have been abused while in care. More importantly however, legislative changes should ensure not only the accessibility of civil litigation mechanisms, but that children and young people are adequately supported to access the schemes developed.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jacqui Reed".

Jacqui Reed
Chief Executive Officer
CREATE Foundation