



OFFICE OF THE OFFICIAL SECRETARY
TO THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

Annual Child Safety Statement 2025

The Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General (the Office) is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young individuals. This statement, in accordance with Requirement 4 of the Commonwealth Child Safety Framework, provides a succinct overview of how the Office upholds the guidelines outlined in the Framework. This approach is informed by the insights derived from our annual assessment of child safety risks.

Our operational activities predominately involve limited direct interaction with children. Through rigorous risk assessment, the Office has concluded that our established policies and procedures appropriately address potential risks associated with such interactions, thereby rendering them appropriate and effective. Consequently, we assess the Office's child-related risks to be Medium.

Notwithstanding the medium-risk outcome from our annual child safety risk assessment, our commitment to the enhancement and implementation of the Framework remains steadfast. The Office has a suite of safety policies and protocols that cover essential elements of the Framework.

In roles where there is a likelihood of interaction with a child, incumbents are required to undergo a Working with Children Check, and training is available to all staff to ensure they understand their obligations and responsibilities under the Framework and relevant legislation. Our work health and safety obligations are a priority including through the application of an active Tree Management Plan.

The Office's dedication to child safety is not only evident in its commitments but also in the governance structures established to uphold these commitments. Our policies, in conjunction with effective reporting mechanisms, contribute to fostering a secure environment for all children.

We are committed to sustained improvement and continually striving to ensure comprehensive protection from all potential harm.

This statement sets out the Office's clear commitment to child safety standards. It underscores our ongoing pursuit of implementing a culture that is inherently child safe, thereby reflecting our intent to safeguard children through the use of sound operational practices.

Gerard Martin PSM

Official Secretary to the Governor- General