



# WA Forced Adoption Reference Group

## Communique Meeting 2 – 29 August 2025

The second meeting of the WA Forced Adoption Reference Group (Reference Group) was held on 29 August 2025.

Reference Group members provided final feedback and approval of the Terms of Reference. Members also discussed their Working Together Agreement which outlines their values and principles of working together as well as the supports they require to ensure the practical, psychological and emotional wellbeing of all members.

The Reference Group discussed the rights of all adopted people to know that they are adopted, and the impact on people who discover their adoption as adults. Members also discussed issues in relation to seeking access to records and information and provided feedback on some resources being developed by the Department of Communities to provide information about genealogy services and the role of the Post Adoption Services team.

The Hon. Jessica Stojkovski MLA, Minister for Child Protection (the Minister) attended the meeting and listened as members shared their aspirations and insights on strengthening services and responses to people who have experience of forced adoption.

Members discussed with the Minister the Government Response to Report 66 – Broken Bonds, Fractured Lives: Report on the Inquiry into Past Forced Adoption in Western Australia and the redress scheme recommendations that were found by the Government to require further consideration. The Minister advised that policy work on the redress recommendations has been undertaken by the Department of Justice and has been provided to Government for their consideration.

Members also raised with the Minister the importance of improving services and mental health support for people with experience of forced adoption and the rights of adopted people to their information and records.

The Minister advised members a report is being prepared on the progress of the implementation of the Government Response.

The next meeting of the Reference Group is scheduled for November 2025.