



WA Forced Adoption Reference Group

Communique Meeting 3 – 14 November 2025

The third meeting of the WA Forced Adoption Reference Group (Reference Group) was held on 14 November 2025.

Reference Group members discussed the [First Annual Implementation Progress Report of the Government Response to Report 66 – Broken Bonds, Fractured Lives](#) which was tabled in the WA Parliament on 22 October 2025. Members noted Recommendation 20 – the establishment of a redress scheme for those directly affected by past forced adoption in WA remains under consideration by the WA Government and discussed their views on this recommendation.

Representatives from the Mental Health Commission and Department of Health attended the meeting to consult with Members on Recommendations 5,6 and 8 that were supported or supported in principle by the WA Government. These recommendations focus on developing mental health practitioner expertise in complex trauma and force adoption, and the promotion of the Australian Psychological Society's forced adoption training package for psychologists and general practitioners within WA. Members shared their experiences and views on current mental health supports and made suggestions for positive enhancements such as development of practitioners with lived experience of adoption and the importance of lived experience expertise in development of service development models, training and approaches.

Members also had preliminary discussions about:

- Recommendation 19 – a strategy for raising public awareness of forced adoption and
- Recommendations 14 and 17 focused on the development and implementation of a plan for services to meet the needs of people impacted by forced adoption in Western Australia in relation to mental health support; access to adoption records and information; and search, contact, genealogy and mediation services.

Members will continue to be involved in the work in these areas during the next year.

The next meeting of the Reference Group is scheduled for February 2026.