



GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Western Australian Government Second Annual Implementation Progress Report of the Government Response to Report 66 – Broken Bonds, Fractured Lives 2025-26

October 2026

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Acknowledgement of Country

The Western Australian Government acknowledges the traditional custodians of this country and recognises the continuing connection to land, waters and communities. We pay our respects to Aboriginal cultures and to Elders past and present.

Recognition of lived and living experience

The Government recognises both the individual and collective expertise of those with a lived, and living, experience of forced adoption. We acknowledge the courage and resilience of people who share their personal stories and perspectives and their willingness to work alongside government to contribute to improving the legislation, policies, practices and services that impact them. We recognise their pain and suffering through the ongoing impacts of forced adoption trauma. Embedding the expertise of those with lived and living experience is central to ensuring the wrongs of the past are acknowledged, never forgotten and never repeated.

Language and terminology

The Government acknowledges that using certain language when referring to adoption may continue to negatively affect people who have experienced forced adoption. While efforts have been made to sensitively use language within this report, there are instances, for the purposes of clarity, where terms such as mother, father, adoptive parent(s) and adopted people/person are used. The report also uses the terms lived and living experience, which, when used singularly, should be interpreted to include all experiences both historical and current. We recognise that language plays an important role in acknowledging people’s experiences and that not everyone will identify with all language or terminology.

Counselling and support services

Counselling and support services are available for anyone who has experienced or is impacted by historic forced adoption policies and practices.

Organisation	Contact
Adoption Research and Counselling Services Inc is an independent, not-for-profit community agency offering professional counselling, support, education, research and information to anyone living with the reality of adoption and/or being separated from family. Free counselling for people with	Phone: (08) 9370 4914

Organisation	Contact
experience of forced adoption is funded by the Department of Communities.	
Relationships Australia (WA) Forced Adoption Support Service provides a range of specialist trauma-informed support services for people affected by forced adoption. This is a free service funded by the Department of Social Services.	Phone: 1800 210 313
Department of Communities Adoption Services provides information, support and access to counselling relating to adoption, including information about peer support groups for people with lived experienced of adoption in Western Australia.	Phone: 1800 182 178
Yorgum Healing Services Aboriginal Corporation offers a variety of support services for Aboriginal people. This is a free service.	Phone: 1800 469 371

Minister's foreword



The Second Annual Progress Report (Progress Report) on the Western Australian Government's implementation of supported recommendations from the Government Response to Report 66 – Broken Bonds, Fractured Lives: Report on the Inquiry into Past Forced Adoption in Western Australia (the Government Response), marks an important milestone in the Government's ongoing commitment to addressing the enduring impacts of forced adoption.

Past adoption policies and practices were deeply harmful and wrong. The forced separation of mothers, fathers and children caused profound and lasting harm. Many people continue to live with the effects of trauma, loss, grief and disrupted identity. These practices reflected significant systemic failures by governments, institutions and those in positions of authority to protect the rights of mothers and fathers and uphold the best interests of children.

The Western Australian Government remains committed to ensuring these past wrongs are acknowledged and never repeated. Central to this commitment is our engagement with the Western Australian Forced Adoption Reference Group (Reference Group). The Reference Group plays a vital role in providing information and guidance to Government, ensuring that people with lived and living experience are at the centre of reforms to legislation, policy, practice and service design. People with lived and living experience are experts in the impacts of policy and practice, and the insight and wisdom they bring has the power to shape attitudes, deepen community understanding, and drive meaningful, lasting change. I want to express my sincere gratitude to every member of the Reference Group for their generosity, courage and commitment. Their contribution has been invaluable in helping guide this important work.

This Progress Report outlines the important progress we have made over the past 12 months on supported recommendations, including integrated birth certificates, funding to progress work to digitise adoption records, and the building of community awareness on forced adoption and its ongoing impacts.

Looking forward, over the next 12-month period the Department of Communities (Communities) will co-design with individuals with lived experience, an apology, for Communities to deliver, acknowledging its past involvement in forced adoption practices in Western Australia.

While there has been significant work undertaken, and important progress made, there is more to do. The Government is committed to the implementation of the remaining supported recommendations of Report 66, and to the people and families living with the impact of forced adoption.

Hon Jessica Stojkovski MLA

Minister For Child Protection; Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence

Introduction

The impacts of forced adoption are not confined to the past. For many mothers, fathers and adopted people, the trauma of separation has remained unresolved throughout their lives. For many adopted people, questions of identity, belonging and origin have shaped their sense of self, often without access to the records or information that may have provided answers and support. For families, the effects of forced adoption have extended across generations, influencing relationships between parents, children, siblings and extended family members.

The Government continues to acknowledge its role in past forced adoption practices and expresses its deep regret for the illegal actions, historical policies and practices that caused profound and enduring harm. These practices inflicted lifelong trauma on individuals and families and continue to affect many people today.

The Inquiry into past forced adoptive policies and practices (the Inquiry) uncovered evidence of actions by government agencies, community organisations, hospitals and justice system personnel that reflected a culture of secrecy and misuse of power. These actions and practices undermined people's rights, silenced their voices and caused significant harm. The Inquiry provided an important opportunity for people with lived and living experience to share their stories, have their experiences formally recognised and recorded, and contribute to a foundation for healing, reform and change.

The Government welcomed the findings and recommendations of Report 66 - Broken Bonds, Fractured Lives: Report on the Inquiry into Past Forced Adoption in Western Australia (Report 66) and, on 22 October 2024, tabled its response to the report. The Government Response acknowledged the profound impacts of forced adoption and outlined a commitment to meaningful action.

This second Progress Report highlights progress made during 2025-26 in implementing the Government's supported recommendations. Substantial progress has been achieved across a broad range of recommendations. Much of this work has involved establishing the foundations necessary for reform, including building stakeholder relationships, undertaking consultation, and strengthening policy and practice frameworks.

While much of this foundational work may not yet be reflected in tangible outcomes, it is critical to ensuring that future reforms are well-informed, effective and responsive to the needs of those affected by forced adoption.

There remains more work to be done to strengthen legislation, policy, practice and service delivery. The pathway forward is guided by the Inquiry's recommendations and informed by the expertise of people with lived and living experience of forced adoption, the community services sector, and peer support groups across Western Australia. This

collaborative approach is essential to achieving meaningful reform, responsive services and lasting change. This Progress Report reflects another year of progress, demonstrating the Government's ongoing commitment to turning acknowledgement into action.

Our approach

The continued implementation of supported and supported in principle recommendations requires the sustained collaboration of multiple government agencies including the Departments of Communities, Justice and Health and the Mental Health Commission through the Forced Adoption Interagency Working Group.

Western Australia also contributes to change at a national level through a Community Services Ministers Records Access Working Group (CSMRAWG). The CSMRAWG has been established to improve access to records and information across jurisdictions for people impacted by past child welfare practices, including forced adoption, and work towards the development of national consistency where possible regarding access to records and information.

Engaging people with lived and living experience

People with lived and living experience bring a depth of expertise that cannot be replicated in other ways. Their first-hand understanding of systems, services and decisions that have impacted their lives provides invaluable insight into experiences, harm caused and recommendations for the necessary changes that must be made.

Mothers, fathers, adopted people and their families who are victims/survivors of forced adoption provide knowledge about the legislation, policies, practices and services that continue to impact their daily lives. This expertise strengthens the Government's understanding of community need and informs design and delivery of services that are responsive, appropriate and effective. The Government also recognises that Aboriginal people and families may have been affected by historical adoption practices and values the contribution of First Nations people with lived experience in informing implementation of the Government Response.

As noted in the First Progress Report, the Government established the Western Australian Forced Adoption Reference Group (the Reference Group) to embed lived experience expertise and knowledge into the implementation of supported recommendations of the Government Response, focussing on, at a minimum, recommendations 4, 5, 8, 17 and 19.

The Government recognises that sharing lived experiences, contributing to discussion and providing advice, is not without personal cost. We acknowledge these impacts on

individuals who participate. The willingness of people to share and provide advice in the pursuit of reform is deeply valued and appreciated.

The continuing work of the Reference Group over the last 12 months has provided opportunity for Government to hear first-hand the experiences of people directly impacted by forced adoption. By bringing together a range of perspectives, the Reference Group has contributed to a deeper understanding and a consolidated base from which recommendations for improved and additional resources, service development and long overdue change is built.

Members of the Reference Group, acknowledge that recommendations 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 14, 17, and 19 have been the primary focus for the group to date. Members have provided valuable advice which continues to inform implementation of these recommendations (detailed further in this report). Reference Group members have also suggested that Government consider extending the term of the group and/or establish a similar forum, such as a Lived Experience Standing Advisory Committee, to continue working through the other supported recommendations in the Government Response, as well as those recommendations requiring further consideration by Government.

This working relationship between Government and people with lived experience is a mutual engagement that aims to be proactive and empowering. Government provides information, so people with lived experience are informed and have choice in making decisions that affect them. We work alongside people with lived experience and respect the impacts that these past practices have had on their lives, their knowledge of what changes are necessary, and the wisdom, and skills that as a collective group they bring to the table. We listen and seek to understand the impact of lived experience people in a deeper way, and we honour their voice.

Image: Key areas of advice provided by the Forced Adoption Reference Group.

Key areas of advice





The number of **completed recommendations** increased from

7 to 10

Key Areas of Progress

Trauma-Informed Practice and Service Improvement

Communities is strengthening trauma-informed practice across its Adoption Services directorate through internal staff training, a new client survey, and updates to the Adoptions Practice Guide, including a new section on the trauma associated with forced adoption. Information on available mental health supports has also been updated for Post Adoption Services' clients and on Communities' Adoption Services webpage. Internal practices for engaging with people affected by forced adoption and connecting them with appropriate supports have been reviewed in consultation with the Reference Group and service providers. Communities' Adoption Information System (client database) has also been enhanced to better capture referrals to external counselling and support services. (Recommendation 4)

There are also broad system initiatives led by the Department of Health (Health) and the Mental Health Commission (the Commission). Following engagement with the Reference Group in November 2025, Health and the Commission developed a proposed implementation approach informed by Health's scoping work and related recommendations in Report 66. Health and the Commission continue to work with Communities to identify opportunities for an integrated approach through the adoption services review and recommissioning process. (Recommendation 5)

In December 2025, the Commission released the Western Australian Mental Health Workforces Capability Framework, a whole-of-government framework, which identifies trauma-informed practice as one of eight essential principles of practice for Western Australia's public mental health services. The Commission also finalised work on its Trauma Informed Guide in 2026, developed in consultation with Communities, Health, Justice and people with lived experience. Together, these initiatives support consistent, person-centred and trauma-informed approaches across government services. (Recommendation 5)

Training and Community Awareness

Health has engaged with the Australian Government's Department of Social Services and the Australian Psychological Society to better understand the history, suitability, uptake and promotion of forced adoption training, including its relevance to professional groups beyond psychologists and general practitioners. This work is informing a communications strategy led by the Commission promoting the availability of training which is planned to commence in October 2026 (Recommendation 6) and will coincide with Communities' public awareness raising campaign on forced adoption. (Recommendation 19)

The Commission's communications will focus on awareness of forced adoption and relevant training across the mental health and alcohol and other drugs sectors, including health and mental health peak bodies, Commission staff, frontline workers and funded non-government services. (Recommendation 6)

Communities' public awareness raising campaign on the history and impacts of forced adoption has been developed in consultation with the Reference Group and includes digital recordings of people with lived experience speaking about the impact of forced adoption in their own voice. An information resource has also been developed for use across medical, social welfare and community settings. (Recommendation 19)

Studies and Research

Initial scoping and evidence gathering is underway to inform approaches to this recommendation. While enquiries have been made, the next phase requires more in-depth consideration and understanding of research and scholarship opportunities. (Recommendation 8)

Health launched the Mental Health Translational Research Grants 2026 program on 30 July 2026 to support implementation of the Mental Health and Alcohol and Other Drugs Strategy 2026–2031. The competitive program supports Western Australian research that addresses Strategy priorities, including trauma-informed, person-centred approaches and translates evidence into clinical practice, policy, public health and service delivery. (Recommendation 8)

Access to Records and Information

Communities has progressed development of a publication to help people understand what adoption-related records are available, where they are held and how they can be accessed. The publication will cover records held by Communities and other organisations with historic involvement in forced adoptions, medical and Family Court records, birth, marriage and death information, interstate and intercountry adoption, genealogy and support services, and rights to access information and provide feedback. Consultation with the Reference Group is continuing, and the final publication will be available to people

applying for Post Adoption Services and publicly available via Communities' Adoption Services webpage. Hard copies will be available. (Recommendation 9)

Communities has also completed comprehensive scoping of the approach and cost required to catalogue and digitise adoption records to improve access, record quality and long-term preservation. Approximately 1,360 boxes of highly sensitive child adoption records dating from the 1930s to the 2010s have been identified for digitisation and preservation. Funding has been approved to digitise the adoption records. (Recommendation 10)

A number of improvements to access to adoption information have also been completed. Regulation 86 of the *Adoption Regulations 1995 (WA)* has been deleted to improve access to Family Court records, and the Application for Post Adoption Services form has been updated and digitised to improve accessibility, streamline processing and incorporate trauma-informed language. Hard copy applications will continue to be accepted. (Recommendation 10(7))

Communities and Health provide information on how medical records can be accessed. Information is also provided on the potential support that general practitioners may be able to provide in this process. Redaction is applied only to the minimum extent necessary. (Recommendations 10(8) and 10(9))

Communities' non-identification letter is a letter which provides information from adoption records held by Communities and does not identify other individuals party to the adoption. This process has been revised so that summaries and extracts of records are no longer provided in place of the records themselves. Following a trauma-informed approach, supported release of records continues to be offered by Communities to provide applicants with choice and agency in how they receive information. (Recommendation 10(10))

Information on internal and external review rights under the *Adoption Act 1994*, including review by the Director General, the State Administrative Tribunal and Communities' complaints process, has been published on the Adoption Services webpage. (Recommendation 10(12))

Legislative Reform

Communities, in partnership with the Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages, has developed legislative amendments to the *Adoption Act 1994 (WA)* and the *Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act 1998 (WA)* to introduce integrated birth certificates in Western Australia. Implementation of integrated birth certificates will come into effect approximately 6-12 months after assent, to enable the registry to make the system changes required. This work will also inform consideration of integrated death certificates. (Recommendations 11 and 13).

A broader program of legislative reform is progressing. It is important that the amendments, including but not limited to the repeal of contact vetoes (Recommendation 28), when they are made, consider learnings from other jurisdictions which have undertaken reforms, and are informed by lived experience where appropriate.

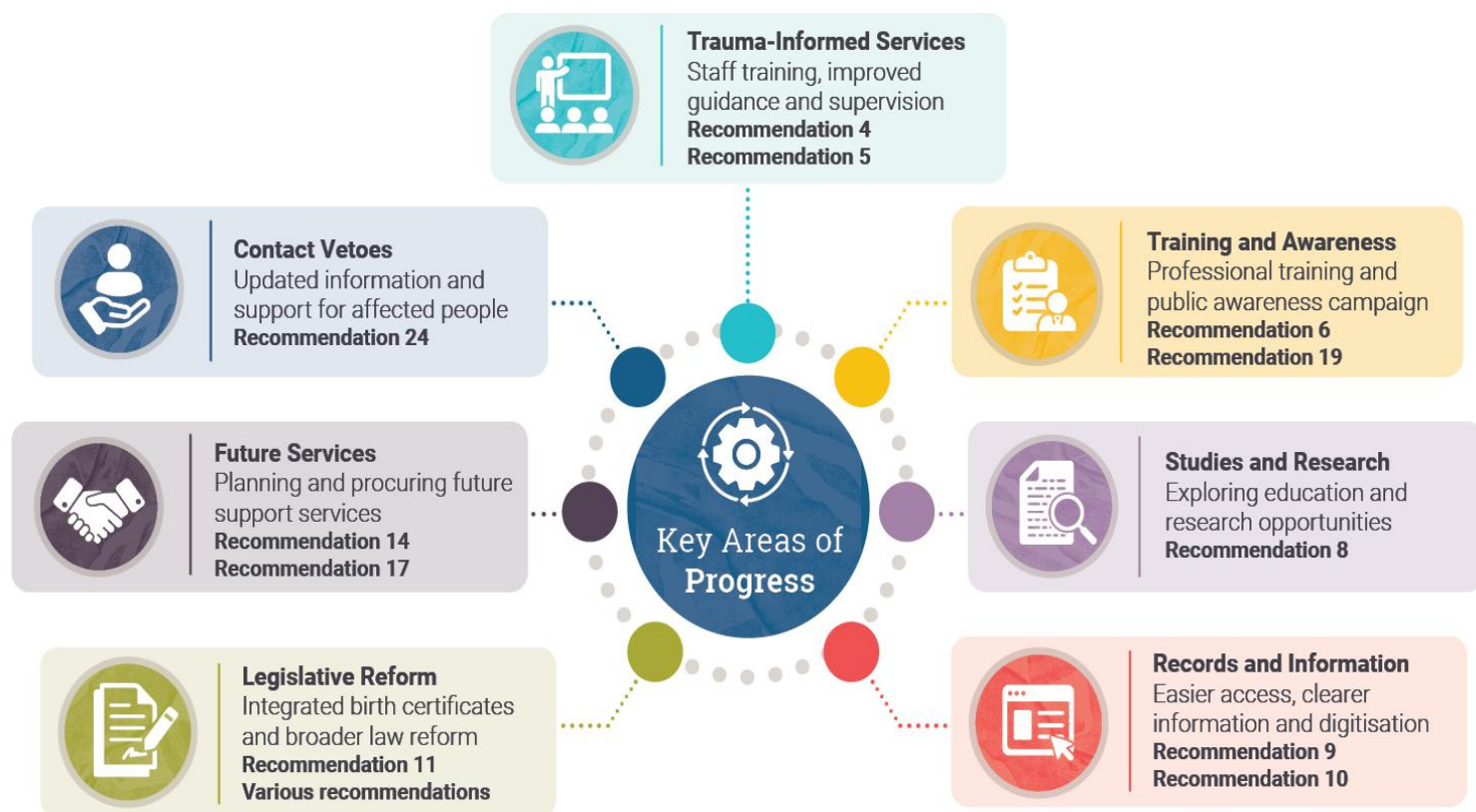
Contact Vetoes

Communities has completed a project to identify people who entered into undertakings relating to contact vetoes or lodged a contact veto prior to amendments being made to the *Adoption Act 1994* which decriminalised contact vetoes. Relevant information has been published on the Adoption Services webpage, and Communities has completed a process of contacting affected parties and providing updated information about the decriminalisation amendments and available specialised counselling and support services. (Recommendation 24)

Future Service Delivery

Communities has commenced a recommissioning process for future services to meet the needs of those affected by forced adoption, including service delivery for Aboriginal people affected by forced adoption. This work has been supported by consultation with the Reference Group, service providers, community groups and interested individuals. Consultation has been sought with Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations. The process has included community consultation regarding mental health supports, assistance with accessing adoption records and information, and search, contact, genealogy and mediation services. New service arrangements, based on current funding, are planned to commence in January 2028. (Recommendations 14 and 17)

Key Areas of Progress



Next steps for implementation

The next year of implementation will have a focus on designing and establishing specialised support services (Recommendations 14, 17); introducing legislative amendments to the *Adoption Act 1994* (various recommendations); and the continuation of community education, awareness raising and recognition of the impacts of forced adoption (aligned to Recommendation 19).

It is acknowledged there are recommendations which remain subject to further consideration. These will be considered in the context of various policies, as well as aspects where recommendations may need to be progressed together or may be contingent on decisions made regarding each other.

A significant area of focus will be the co-design of an apology with members of the forced adoption community, with the apology to be delivered by Communities as formal acknowledgement for historical conduct and responsibility in relation to forced adoption in Western Australia.

Implementation update 2025-26



Completed



In progress



Not yet commenced



No further action

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 1 Ngala commit to participating in a redress scheme in recognition of their involvement in past forced adoption.	Noted	Ngala	
Recommendation 2 The Salvation Army commit to participating in a redress scheme in recognition of their involvement in past forced adoption in WA.	Noted	Salvation Army	
Recommendation 3 Institute of Sisters of Mercy Australia and Papua New Guinea commit to participating in a redress scheme in recognition of their involvement in past forced adoption in WA.	Noted	Sisters of Mercy	
Recommendation 4 The WA Government consult with support service providers and people affected by forced adoption to: • improve the quality and dissemination of information on available mental health supports • devise better internal procedures for interacting with forced adoption clients, and for connecting people to relevant supports and following up • increase referrals to external support services.	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 5 The Minister for Health and Mental Health consult with people impacted by forced adoption in Western Australia and professional representative bodies to commission informed development of: 1) criteria for establishing a mental health practitioner as a specialist in treating trauma in the forced adoption space 2) a public register of WA professionals who meet these criteria and their contact details 3) a means for inviting relevant WA professionals to register 4) a system for assessing applications 5) a system for maintaining, updating, and advertising the register 6) a strategy to quickly grow the number of professionals eligible for the register 7) a plan for periodic review and revision of this arrangement, including through consulting with people with lived experience of forced adoption.	Supported in principle	Department of Health / Mental Health Commission	
Recommendation 6 The Minister for Health and Mental Health: 1) consult with relevant stakeholders to develop and implement a strategy for promoting the Australian Psychological Society's forced adoption training package for psychologists and general practitioners within WA 2) connect WA health professionals to their network counterparts working in this space.	Supported	Department of Health / Mental Health Commission	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 7 The Minister for Community Services tie future funding for forced adoption counselling services to: 1) qualified practitioners completing training and development relating to forced adoption 2) the provision of evidence-based approaches to treating complex trauma 3) ongoing clinical supervision from qualified professionals specialised in trauma.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 8 The Minister for Health and Mental Health commence a dialogue with those with lived experience of forced adoption, service providers and the university sector to: 1) establish a post-graduate qualification in treating forced adoption traumas 2) establish research projects into relevant topics, such as health and mental health impacts, data collection and data linkage 3) incentivise study and research in this area through the provision of scholarships.	Supported in principle	Department of Health / Mental Health Commission	
Recommendation 9 The WA Government develop an accessible online resource that is clear, comprehensive, and up to date – providing advice identifying the existing collections of records relevant to forced adoption, where they are held and how the records can be accessed.	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 10 3) A clear object under the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> to ensure those affected by adoption have access to information about themselves and their lives, including their early care and their medical needs. 5) Records currently held by entities or institutions which previously provided adoption services be provided to the unit dealing with applications under the scheme. 6) Records from the Department of Communities be reviewed, catalogued, and digitised as a matter of urgency. 7) Applications under the scheme provide for access to information and records about the adoption itself, and also about the early life of an adopted person. This includes medical records. 8) Applications provide for access to medical information relevant to the health of an adopted person or their descendants. 9) Redaction only be used to the minimum extent necessary. 10) Summaries or extracts not be provided to applicants. 11) Applicants be provided with a list or index of records that exist, and information as to what has been provided, what has not, and the reasons for this. 12) There be clear and legislated pathways for internal and external review of decisions made regarding access.	Supported in principle 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 10 (continued) 1) A separate act dealing with access to information and records relating to adoption. 2) Applications to access information and records under the scheme be managed by a standalone unit responsible for	Not supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
managing adoption information within the Department of Justice. 4) Records currently held by the Department of Communities relating to forced adoptions be transferred to the unit dealing with applications under the scheme.			
Recommendation 10 (continued) 13) The new scheme include a provision equivalent to section 83 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994 (WA)</i> . Where there is an existing court order under section 83 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994 (WA)</i> , that order be converted to apply to the new scheme.	Noted		
Recommendation 11 The WA Government urgently implement integrated birth certificates, to be issued to eligible people upon request, and that they be legal proof of identity of equal status to other birth certificates.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 12 The Attorney General liaise with the Registry of Births Deaths and Marriages to implement a specific process for the names of fathers to be added to the birth certificates of children who were subsequently adopted and for whom fathers' identities were not originally recorded. This process should be responsive to the needs of people affected by forced adoption, including in the following ways: • not assume fathers will be alive, located within Australia, literate, or without other impediments to providing sworn evidence in writing • not assume applicants will have support from or any relationship with the father, or other family members	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
• not assume fathers will be listed on other documents relating to the adoption of the child • any application fees be waived • the cost for any DNA test required not be borne by the applicant.			
Recommendation 13 The WA Government implement integrated death certificates, to be issued to eligible people upon request, and that they have equal legal status to other death certificates.	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	
Recommendation 14 The Minister for Community Services direct the Department of Communities to consult with relevant adoption search, contact and genealogy service providers to devise and action steps for improving access to records necessary to identify key family.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 15 The WA Government introduce an amendment bill repealing provisions relating to contact and mediation licenses in the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> .	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 16 The Minister for Community Services direct the Department of Communities to review their internal practice on search and contact to ensure that people affected by past forced adoption receive clear and simple information, orally as well as in writing, about all relevant matters, including: • what supports exist and why using them may be beneficial • what support services are provided by the relevant authority	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
• the roles of public servants who provide which support services and the qualifications relevant to those roles • who is eligible and ineligible for support services provided by the relevant authority and on what bases • what support services are provided externally • how to access those external services • whether those external services are free or charge fees.			
Recommendation 17 The WA Government consult with lived experience stakeholders and identified support service providers to develop and implement 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 • search, contact, genealogy and mediation services.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 18 The WA Government make arrangements to ensure that the services of: • access to adoption records and information and • search, contact, genealogy and mediation services are provided by a standalone unit that is not within the Department of Communities.	Not supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 19 The WA Government consult with lived experience stakeholders to develop and implement a strategy for raising public awareness of forced adoption, including staff training, the gathering of	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
health-related information, online information, and the development of any other relevant resources.			
Recommendation 20 The WA Government establish a redress scheme for those directly affected by past forced adoption in WA, comprised of: • a monetary payment • counselling and psychological support • a direct personal apology from involved institutions and organisations. The following principles guide the scheme: • the eligibility criteria include mothers whose babies were forcibly removed, children forcibly removed from their mothers, and in some circumstances fathers of children forcibly removed • the evidentiary threshold be 'reasonable likelihood' that the child was forcibly separated from its mother or parents • the process streamlined and applicants given choice between the scheme's components • fixed sum payments through the scheme that does not discriminate between the specific circumstances of different applicants or the eligibility classes • lifelong individual and family counselling by therapist of choice • applicants not precluded from accessing the scheme if they have made a civil claim • the scheme be administered by a standalone unit not within the Department of Communities.	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 21 The Attorney General liaise with those institutions and organisations involved in past forced adoption, and secure their commitment to a redress scheme including: • partial reimbursement for redress payments and/or counselling provided to recipients • participation in an apology process.	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	
Recommendation 22 The WA Government establish and fund a legal advice and referral service for ensuring those affected by forced adoption are able to receive free, independent legal advice about their options for accessing a redress scheme.	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	
Recommendation 23 The Attorney General introduce legislation similar to the <i>Civil Liability Amendment (Child Sexual Abuse Actions) Act 2018 (WA)</i> amending the <i>Civil Liability Act 2002 (WA)</i> and the <i>Limitation Act 2004 (WA)</i> to remove limitations on claims relating to forced adoption.	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	
Recommendation 24 The Minister for Community Services direct the Department of Communities to contact individuals who entered into an undertaking about contact vetoes prior to the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> decriminalisation amendments and provide updated information.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 25 The WA Government introduce an amendment bill repealing section 108 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> .	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
Recommendation 26 The WA Government introduce an amendment bill to: - repeal section 103 and 82(4)(c) of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> - amend section 82(4)(b) by deleting “83(2); and” and inserting instead - “83(2).” - amend section 100(3) to remove the reference to section 103.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 27 The WA Government introduce a bill amending the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> to convert existing contact vetoes into ‘Statements of objection to contact’ and place on a register.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 28 The Attorney General introduce a bill repealing section 100 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> and providing for contact vetoes to no longer have an effect after 12 months of the amendments coming into operation.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 29 Prior to the date for contact vetoes ceasing to have an effect, the Department of Communities (Post Adoption Services) is to contact every individual who holds a contact veto under the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> and is to provide them with information regarding the amendments and details for services available to provide them with counselling and support.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 30 The Attorney General introduce amendments to relevant legislation to ensure that civil litigation on matters of past forced	Further consideration required	Department of Justice	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
adoption (including those brought under any legislative changes resulting from Recommendation 23) can continue by the estate of the plaintiff.			
Recommendation 31 The Attorney General direct the Department of Justice to provide clear and current information about discharging an adoption and the forms required. This information be included on the Family Court of Western Australia website.	Supported	Department of Justice	
Recommendation 32 The Attorney General introduce a bill amending section 124 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> removing relatives under (1)(e) from the classes of persons whose identities are protected by that offence.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 33 The Attorney General introduce a bill repealing section 126 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> .	Not supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 34 The Attorney General introduce a bill repealing section 127 of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> .	Not supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 35 The Minister for Community Services direct the Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Communities to clarify the circumstances in which the Chief Executive Officer will and will not provide notification under section 80(1) or 80(2) of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> . This include clarification that a lack of awareness by a party they are adopted, or have a relative who	Supported	Department of Communities	

Recommendation	Government position	Lead agency	Status
has been adopted does not constitute 'special circumstances' for the purposes of section 80(3) of the <i>Adoption Act 1994</i> .			
Recommendation 36 The WA Government notify all adult adopted persons not already aware of their adopted status.	Not supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 37 The Minister for Community Services direct the Department of Communities (Post Adoption Services) to implement a process for adults to apply for confirmation they are recorded as a party in any adoption in Western Australia.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 38 The Minister for Community Services direct the Department of Communities to publish accurate online information about the numbers and kinds of adoptions occurring in the state each year, legislation relevant to adoption, the status of reviews of that legislation and progress on implementing review changes.	Supported	Department of Communities	
Recommendation 39 The WA Government establish an adoption reference group inclusive of mothers, fathers, adopted people, and First Nations people with lived experience of forced adoption, as well as relevant service providers when appropriate.	Supported	Department of Communities	