

Helping Keep Country *Kids Safe*

- › Overcoming barriers
- › Empowering communities
- › Promoting safe environments for children

The Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian (the Commission) is an independent agency responsible for promoting the rights, interests and wellbeing of children and young people in Queensland. Part of the Commission's role is to collect information on child deaths in Queensland and recommend ways to prevent them.

The Commission has found that children from rural areas die from non-intentional injury (transport incidents, drowning, fire and other non-intentional injury) under different circumstances to children in cities, and seem to face a number of risks unique to their environment, such as drowning in dams, or all-terrain vehicle crashes.

The Commission is committed to working with the rural sector to identify ways to reduce child deaths, and is establishing a **Keeping Country Kids Safe** initiative. This initiative aims to develop a prevention strategy which brings together the knowledge, skills and experience of people at all levels – from individuals, communities, industry, government and non-government agencies.

The first stage of the initiative will be to release a Discussion Paper and Community Survey sharing the Commission's findings from analysing 5 years worth of child death data. The Discussion Paper and Community Survey will identify issues of concern, and seek feedback from all interested parties. Individuals and community groups are particularly encouraged to respond – by understanding the needs of local communities, the Commission can support rural areas to develop programs which are right for them.

The Commission is currently distributing the Discussion Paper and Community Survey so that it will reach as many people within the rural sector as possible. If you think you or your organisation can help distribute these documents throughout your community, or are just interested in receiving a copy for yourself, please contact:

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