



commission for  
children and young people  
and child guardian

# Views of Children and Young People in Care

## Thank you

As Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian, I want to thank everyone who took part in our survey of children in care earlier this year.

As you know, our Community Visitors (CVs) asked you to fill out a survey so we could see how you feel about being in care.

We were very happy with the number who took part. Over 1,700 children and young people told us what they think.

Your answers are important, because they tell us what is working for you, and what isn't, in out-of-home care.

## Our report on what you said

When we got your surveys back, we went through them and wrote a report on what you had to say.

This report is called the *Child Guardian: Views of Children and Young People in Care – Queensland 2006*.

It was really good to see that around 90 per cent of all children and young people surveyed felt they were better off since they came into care.

Also, 84.5 per cent felt things had got better in the last 12 months.

Overall, over 90 per cent said:

- you feel safe
- your carer understands you
- your carer understands what is best for you
- your carer treats you well, and
- the rules and discipline where you live are reasonable

Overall, it seems children and young people in out-of-home care in Queensland are happy in their current placement and feel safe.

But there were some things we need to look at more closely.

Around a quarter said you feel you are not listened to, or not listened to often.

Many of you have been through a lot of different placements, and a large number said you want more contact with your families and Child Safety Officers.

## Your views are important to us

The information you have given us will help us make decisions about things that affect you.

Knowing what you think means we can consider your views when we talk to the government and other groups about how they should support you and look after you.

## A copy for you

We will make sure that everyone in out-of-home care can see the report.

Your CV will drop off a copy over the next month or so.

All your comments are at the back of the report, so you can see what other children and young people had to say as well.

If you don't get a copy and you want one, call the Commission on (freecall) 1800 688 275 or ask your Community Visitor to bring one next time they visit.

I'm pleased so many children and young people told us what you think, because as Commissioner, I need to hear what you have to say.

I appreciate your input and will keep working to make sure you are safe and well looked after, wherever you live.

Kind Regards



Elizabeth Fraser  
**Commissioner for Children and Young People and Child Guardian**



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T&G Building, 141 Queen Street  
Brisbane Qld 4000

PO Box 12671  
Brisbane George Street Qld 4003