

## Factsheet

# Child Protection Specialist Network - Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership

## Background

The Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership (SCPCP) provides a forum for members with a clinical or research interest in child protection to act as a source of expertise on issues of child protection; to provide a clinical voice on the implementation of state-wide child protection policy and reform; develop and contribute to state-wide resources and guidance; and to advocate for vulnerable children and young people including those in care on issues related to their health needs at a local, regional and state-wide level.

## Clinical Engagement - CPLO Networks

One of the key activities for the Statewide Child Protection Clinical Partnership (SCPCP) is assist in facilitating and strengthening the clinical network of health professionals working in child protection roles. These roles can be isolating and the ability to connect with colleagues working within a similar clinical context assist with clinician engagement and wellbeing within these roles.

The SCPCP facilitates several regional and Statewide clinical networks to support clinicians working in Queensland Health child protection roles. This fact sheets provides an overview of the Child Protection Liaison Officer (CPLO) networks that health professionals can engage with to ensure they have access to collegial support and advice.

There are two Child Protection Liaison Officer (CPLO) Clinical Networks that exist within Queensland

- (1) Southern CPLO network
- (2) Northern CPLO network

These groups are chaired by a nominated CPLO and rotate annually, the membership is open to clinicians working in dedicated child protection roles including CPLOs and Child Protection Social Workers.

The CPLO clinical networks provide a supportive and collaborative forum for clinicians on child protection responses and the intricacies of their specialist child protection roles.

The networks play an important role in providing a safe forum for clinicians to identify any emerging opportunities and challenges in the health response to child protection, for clinicians to raise concerns, share and develop best practice and collectively respond to common issues.

The chair of the network are members of the SCPCP Steering Committee to ensure that they give voice to and advocate for local CPLO issues.

## CPLO Clinical Networks exist to:

- Support CPLO's working within Hospital and Health Service (HHS) child protection services across Queensland to develop supportive relationships with colleagues in the wider region.



- Promote consistent child protection clinical practice and responses across Queensland ensuring that services reflect research and evidence-based practice related to child protection.
- Provide a communication pathway between clinicians, the SCPCP and Department of Health Strategic Policy Unit to provide a clinician voice and consultation on wider projects and policy developments.
- Provide an avenue for escalation of pertinent and emerging issues affecting network members to the SCPCP Steering Committee.

Note: A separate Statewide clinical network exists for medical officers and Child Protection Advisors.

## Southern and Northern CPLO Network aims to provide:

- Peer support for Child Protection Liaison Officers
- Mentorship and networking for CPLOs
- An opportunity for CPLOs to develop and share resources and strategies to support clinical practice and the wellbeing of clinicians working in this area.
- Advocacy and escalation of emerging practice, policy and system issues as early as possible
- Consultation and advice to key stakeholders to support Statewide child protection responses and the Queensland child protection reform program.
- Quality improvement activities, research and funding opportunities and submissions.
- Offers a support network to each other and to new CPLOs, with a friendly, collegiate manner to develop constructive, cooperative, and collaborative relationships
- Opportunity to review, contribute and promote the development and implementation of standards, policies, clinical guidelines, and other documents relevant to child protection service delivery within health services.

<p><b>Southern CPLO network</b></p> <p>Hospital and Health Service Membership: Charleville, Children’s Health Queensland, Darling Downs, Gold Coast, Metro North, Metro South, Roma, South West, Sunshine Coast, West Moreton, Mater</p> <p><b>Meeting Details:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequency: Bi-monthly Meetings</li> <li>• Location: via Teams</li> <li>• Chair: Cheryl Glidden</li> <li>• Phone: (07) 3089 6900</li> <li>• Minute taker: Rotating</li> </ul>	<p><b>Northern CPLO network</b></p> <p>Hospital and Health Service Membership: Townsville, North West, Mackay, Cairns &amp; Hinterland, Torres &amp; Cape, Central Qld, Central West and Wide Bay</p> <p><b>Meeting Details:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frequency: Bi-monthly Meetings</li> <li>• Location: via Teams</li> <li>• Chair: Belinda Guernieri</li> <li>• Phone: 0428 794 912</li> <li>• Minute taker: Rotating</li> </ul>
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## More information Contact:

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