



wa council of
social service

CHILDREN'S POLICY ADVISORY COUNCIL: TERMS OF REFERENCE (2020)

The Children's Policy Advisory Council brings together WACOSS Members in order to ensure a cohesive whole of sector response is continued to be developed around children's policy by providing:

1. A consultative forum for the development of WACOSS policy positions;
2. A mechanism for members to raise issues of concern and collaborate with others in the sector in addressing them;
3. A means of developing strategies to advocate for social policy change to enhance the experiences children in Western Australia;
4. An opportunity for key information sharing between members and guests.*

The CPAC will also:

- Maintain strong and supportive relationships with other organisations and bodies doing work in children's policy which fall outside of the PAC's priorities, yet is aligned with the PAC's Terms of Reference and ensure their work is fed back into CPAC policy creation and advocacy.
- Identify, share and promote innovative and effective children's programs, services and research. This work may also inform WACOSS's State Budget Submission and advocacy campaigns.

The Children's PAC is chaired by a senior representative from WACOSS who reports regularly to the CEO and Board of WACOSS on its activities. The Children's PAC meetings are held on a quarterly basis, although special forums and events may also be held from time to time.

Membership of the Children's PAC is drawn from members of WACOSS with an active interest in children's policy and services, rather than representatives of particular organisations or the sector as whole. CPAC Members are encouraged to identify the most appropriate person within their organisation to contribute strategically and support regular engagement.

The Children's PAC is an internal WACOSS Committee and as such minutes and other documents will only be circulated to CPAC members. It is understood that content may be discussed with other stakeholders and networks to better inform the CPAC members. Where information or discussion is of a confidential or sensitive nature, it will be identified as such.

* On an as-needs basis, WACOSS will invite guests as identified and prioritised by the Children's PAC Members to support sector engagement, strategic alliances and/or seek insights on policy priorities.