

STOP AND PREVENT BULLYING MEETING

25 July 2019

COMMUNIQUE

Today community leaders from 32 organisations met as the first step in working towards a whole-of-community approach to stopping and preventing bullying. Bullying is a serious problem that can only be prevented through a shared effort, supported by each of us as individuals and as a community.

Participants noted the substantial work already underway in government, businesses and communities aimed at understanding, preventing and responding to bullying. They explored how to collectively build on current activities and work together to take further action against bullying.

A range of issues were discussed:

- understanding what we mean by bullying and where and how it occurs,
- the benefit and value of stopping and preventing bullying,
- exploring options and approaches that (will) make a difference,
- the importance of lived experience,
- key themes/priorities.

Participants agreed key actions to be further explored:

- the creation of a bully-free State – a state of kindness,
- reaching a shared community understanding of what bullying is and is not,
- building an evidence base to measure prevalence, what is working and what is not, and reporting on it

underpinned by a principles-based approach emphasising strong collective leadership and restorative practice.

The Deputy Premier, Hon Jeremy Rockliff, hosted the meeting. The Tasmanian Government thanked participants for their attendance and willingness to work together to take further action against bullying.

Representatives from the following organisations participated in the meeting:

A Fairer World
Alannah & Madeline Foundation
Anglicare Tasmania
Association for Children with Disability
Carers Tasmania
Circular Head Aboriginal Corporation
Commissioner for Children and Young People
Council on the Ageing Tasmania
Equal Opportunity Tasmania
Flourish
Independent Education Union Victoria Tasmania
Independent Schools Tasmania
Lifeline Tasmania
Mental Health Carers Tasmania
Mental Health Council of Tasmania
Multicultural Council of Tasmania
Neighbourhood Houses Tasmania
Relationships Australia Tasmania
Rural Alive and Well
Speakout
Tasmanian Association of State School Organisations
Tasmanian Catholic Education Office
Tasmanian Opposition
Tasmanian Men's Sheds Association
Tasmanian Principals Association
Tasmanian Small Business Council
Unions Tasmania
University of Tasmania
Volunteering Tasmania
Working it Out
Worksafe Tasmania
Youth Network of Tasmania

Representatives from Tasmanian Government agencies also participated.