

Attachment 9.4



Safeguarding Children and Young People

Member Report – November 2016

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Background:

At the 2014 AGM, the Movement endorsed the Movement's Safeguarding Children and Young People (Child Protection) Policy.

There are a number of reporting requirements that the National Board must comply with, through an annual report to the Movement. This report addresses these and other matters relative to the policy.

Report:**Policy implementation**

As per the policy, the National Council, the National Board and Licensed Member Associations have responsibilities in implementing the policy. Please refer to the checklist in Appendix 1 for an updated report on the implementation to date.

Accreditation of YMCAs:

The partnership with the Australian Childhood Foundation (ACF) and their accreditation system has continued, with most YMCAs achieving accreditation.

To date, twenty Associations are accredited with ACF, one Association has received conditional accreditation (awaiting ACF Panel review) and one Association is unaccredited. Refer Appendix 3 for further information.

An annual report from the ACF (June 2016) can be found in Appendix 4. The key findings from this report include:

Training and support program:

The 2016 training and support program included:

Month	Event	Presenters
July	National Conversation – webinar	Dr Joe Tucci (CEO ACF), Andrew Smith (President YMCA Australia), Susan Halliday (ACF Panel) and Jodie Johnson (CEO Launceston)
September	CEO/Leadership Forum – 2016 ACF report (strengths and improvement areas)	ACF – Monique Blom
November	National YMCA Convention presentation	Dr Joe Tucci, Safeguarding Children and Young People

APPENDIX 1 – Policy implementation responsibilities – summary

Entry	Role/Responsibility	Status/due date
National Council of YMCAs of Australia – The Movement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the principles and intent of this policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the policy is reviewed on a three yearly cycle as a minimum or at a time governed by legislation, regulations or organisational learnings that precipitates a change to the policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2017-2020 review in progress.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate regular discussions at all levels of the Movement to support a culture of openness, continued improvement and accountability to protecting children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing. Movement webinar held annually.
National Board – YMCA Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate a review of the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy annually as a minimum or at a time determined or promoted by changes to legislation, regulations or organisational review. 	2017-2020 review in progress. Alignment to Royal Commission's Child Safe institutions paper (Aug 2016) being undertaken.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop, monitor and annually review the YMCA Licensing Standards to ensure that they are continuously improved to support the protection of children and young people. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing. November 2015. (Safeguarding Children Standards review). November 2016 (Governance Standards review).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure all Licensed Member Associations provide an annual child safety assessment referencing the requirement of the policy via a self-reporting process. 	Undertaken Apr-Jun annually.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support all Licensed Member Associations and their affiliates to achieve accreditation and a positive audit result with an agreed independent child protection specialist organisation. 	Ongoing, 91% full accreditation completed (as of Nov 2016).
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In collaboration with Licensed Member Associations, develop and implement a YMCA Child Safety Strategy for the Movement every three years. 	2017-2020 review in progress. Movement consultation to commence in January 2017.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure adequate resources are allocated to allow for the development and effective oversight of the YMCA Child Safety Strategy and the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy. 	Child Safety role incorporated in YMCA Australia's organisational structure. Governance & HR Committee includes SC&YP as a standing item on the agenda.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and promote opportunities for the Movement to enhance a culture of transparency, accountability and continuous improvement in relation to the YMCA Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy. 	National Leadership team have completed a workplan. SC&YP is an agenda item via the Connections Framework events.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approve an independent child protection specialist organisation to work with the YMCA, in consultation with the Movement. 	ACF agreement 14-17. Agreement for 17-20 in review.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate for, and promote the rights of, children and young people nationally. 	Forum presentations and education presentations have been undertaken by YMCA Australia and Member Associations throughout the year.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Empower and engage children and young people in this policy. 	National Leadership team developing strategies and practice in this area.

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APPENDIX 1 – continued

Entry	Role/Responsibility	Status/due date
Licensed Member Associations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all YMCA People understand their obligations in accordance with the intent and principles of the YMCA Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy and its implementation at a local level. • Ensure that the YMCA Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy is complied with. • Ensure that localised policies, codes of conduct and procedures support compliance to the Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy. • Adhere to the YMCA Licensing Standards in place at the time. • Provide to YMCA Australia an annual child safety assessment referencing the requirement of the policy via a self-reporting process. • Allocate adequate resources to enable the effective implementation of local policies and operational procedures that are compliant with the YMCA Safeguarding Children and Young People Policy. • Support the YMCA Child Safety Strategy. • Achieve and maintain accreditation with an agreed independent child protection specialist organisation. • Provide YMCA Australia with the outcome reports of independent audits on a three year cycle as a minimum. • Advocate for and promote the rights of children and young people at a local level. • Empower and engage children and young people in support of this policy. • Develop opportunities for regular discussion at all levels of the Association to support a culture of continuous improvement and accountability for the protection of children and young people. • Communicate with YMCA Australia in the event of a breach of this policy. • Ensure children, staff, volunteers, Board Directors and families are listened to and have a way of being heard in regards to child protective practice. • Empower and engage children and young people in local policy and/or operational procedure development that has a direct impact on them. 	Applicable to Licensed Member Associations implementation plans.

APPENDIX 2 – Implementation of Movement SCYP Policy

Association	Actively use the Movement Policy	Use alternate version of Movement Policy
Australia	✓	
Ballarat	✓	
Bendigo		✓
Brisbane		✓
Bundaberg	✓	
Canberra	✓	
Central Australia		✓
Geelong	✓	✓
Grampians Region	✓	
Hobart	✓	✓
INEA		✓
Katherine		✗
Launceston	✓	
Manningham		✓
NSW	✓	✓
Queanbeyan	✓	
South Australia		✓
Stanthorpe	✓	
Top End		✓
Victoria		✓
WA	✓	✓
Whittlesea		✓

APPENDIX 3 – Status of YMCA accreditation

Congratulations to the following YMCAs who have achieved accreditation		
Australia	Ballarat	Bendigo
Brisbane	Bundaberg	Canberra
Central Australia	Geelong	Grampians Region
Hobart	INEA	Launceston
Manningham	Queanbeyan	South Australia
Stanthorpe	Top End	Victoria
WA	Whittlesea	

The following YMCAs are yet to be fully accredited			
Association	Audit date booked	Additional information	Comment
Katherine	December 2016	No audit date scheduled.	No audit scheduled due to imminent merger with YMCA Top End/Northern Territory.
NSW	October 2016	Audit occurred in October 2016.	ACF have provided a conditional accreditation as of November 2016. ACF Panel interview is scheduled for 13 December 2016.

