

Australian Capital Territory

# Children and Young People (Therapeutic Support Panel) Appointment 2024 (No 7)

Disallowable instrument DI2024–49

made under the

Children and Young People Act 2008, Section 501E (Appointment of panel members)

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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This explanatory statement relates to the *Children and Young People (Therapeutic Support Panel) Appointment 2024 (No 7)* as made by the Minister for Children, Youth and Family Services.

### Overview

The *Children and Young People Act 2008* (the *Act*) among other things, governs the establishment, functions and membership of the Therapeutic Support Panel for Children and Young People (the Panel).

Under section 501E of the *Act*, the Minister must appoint at least 10, but not more than 12, members to the Panel.

In appointing a Member, the Minister must be satisfied of their relevant expertise or experience and must ensure the Panel membership represents a diversity of experience and expertise.

The Minister must also be satisfied of their suitability to be a Member, including considering relevant information of the kind mentioned in the *Act* in section 65 (1), definition of suitability information, paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) about the person.

### Appointment

In accordance with section 501E of the *Act*, this instrument appoints Dr Bronwen Phillips as Member of the Panel.

Dr Bronwen Phillips, Senior Data Analyst at the National Mental Health Commission, is primarily an epidemiological researcher with decades of experience working in community-controlled organisations in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health and wellbeing. As a current member of the ACT Children and Young People Death Review Committee, Dr Phillips is well aware of the devastating outcomes for many children and young people in the ACT, and in recognising systemic faults in the

fragmented systems surrounding a child or young person in crisis. Dr Phillips holds a PhD, a Bachelor of Psychology (Hons) and a Bachelor of Applied Science (Optometry).

The Minister for Children, Youth and Family Services is satisfied that Dr Bronwen Phillips has relevant expertise and experience as a psychologist and is suitable for appointment.

Dr Bronwen Phillips is appointed for a period of 4 years.

### **Consultation**

Division 19.3.3 of the *Legislation Act 2001* (the *Legislation Act*) applies as Dr Bronwen Phillips is not a public servant, is appointed for longer than 6 months, and will have functions beyond advising the Minister.

In accordance with section 228 of the *Legislation Act*, the Standing Committee on Health and Community Wellbeing has been consulted and noted the appointment.

Section 229 of the *Legislation Act* states that the instrument making an appointment to which division 19.3.3 applies is a disallowable instrument.