Australian Capital Territory

Official Visitor (Children and Young People) Appointment 2024 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2024-213

made under the

Official Visitor Act 2012, s. 10(1)(a)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 10(1)(a) of the *Official Visitor Act 2012* (OV Act) authorises the Minister to appoint at least two official visitors, including one official visitor who is an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person, for the purposes of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

Official visitors work to protect the rights and interests of entitled persons in visitable places under the *Children and Young People Act 2008*, the *Corrections Management Act 2007*, the *Disability Services Act 1991*, the *Housing Assistance Act 2007* and the *Mental Health Act 2015*.

This instrument appoints Ms Vickie Quinn as an official visitor for the purposes of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*. Ms Quinn satisfies the Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person requirement, section 10(5) of the OV Act, as she is a person who:

- a) is a descendant of an Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander person; and
- b) identifies as an Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander person; and
- c) is accepted as an Aboriginal person or Torres Strait Islander person by an Aboriginal community or Torres Strait Islander community.

Tara Cheyne MLA is Minister responsible for the OV Act (as appointing Minister) and Rachel Stephen-Smith MLA is responsible for the *Children and Young People Act 2008* (as operational Minister). Section 10(2) of the OV Act requires the appointing Minister to consult with the operational Minister. The operational Minister has agreed to the appointment and is satisfied that Ms Quinn has suitable qualifications and experience to exercise the functions of an official visitor for the purposes of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.

Ms Quinn is not excluded from appointment as she is not a public employee as defined under the *Legislation Act 2001* and does not hold a relevant interest as defined under section 10(3) of the OV Act.