

Education and Training Reform Act 2006

Appointment of an Independent Monitor for the Department of Education's systemic review of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools

MINISTERIAL ORDER NO. 1458

I, **Ben Carroll**, Minister for Education, make the following Order –

1. Title

This Order may be cited as Ministerial Order No. 1458 – *Appointment of an Independent Monitor for the Department of Education's systemic review of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian governments schools.*

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Order is to appoint an Independent Monitor to oversee the department's systemic review of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools.

3. Authorising Provisions

This Order is made under sections 5.2.10 and 5.10.4 of the **Education and Training Reform Act 2006**.

4. Commencement

This Order takes effect on the date it is signed.

5. Definitions

In this Order –

- (a) **Department** means the Department of Education;
- (b) **Independent Monitor** means the person appointed to undertake the functions specified in Schedule 1;
- (c) **Secretary** means the Secretary to the Department;
- (d) **Systemic Review** means the Department's systemic review of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools.

6. Appointment

Ms Julia Griffith PSM is appointed as the Independent Monitor.

7. Functions and powers

- (1) The terms of reference for the Independent Monitor are set out in Schedule 1 to this Order.

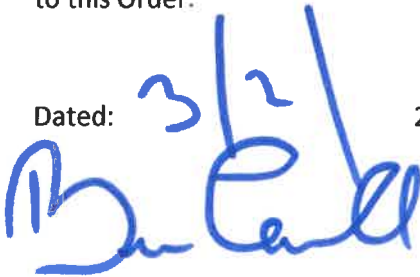
- (2) The Independent Monitor may do anything that is necessary or convenient to be done for, or in connection with, the terms of reference, except for employing or engaging persons or spending monies.

8. Terms and Conditions of Appointment

The terms and conditions of appointment of the Independent Monitor are contained in Schedule 2 to this Order.

Dated:

2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ben Carroll', is written over the date. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'B' and a long horizontal stroke.

THE HON. BEN CARROLL MP
Minister for Education

SCHEDULE 1

Independent Monitor for the Department of Education's systemic review into historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools

Terms of Reference

1. The purpose of the Independent Monitor is to provide independent quality assurance to the Department's systemic review of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools (Systemic Review). The Independent Monitor will objectively oversee the Department's conduct of the Systemic Review (including against the Terms of Reference for the Systemic Review), to provide assurance:
 - a. to victim-survivors of historical child sexual abuse and the broader community that there is independent oversight of the Systemic Review; and
 - b. that the Department is transparent about its past failings by publishing an objective account of historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools ascertained from its civil claims' files.
2. Specifically, the Independent Monitor will:
 - a. independently review, monitor and assess the Department's performance of the Systemic Review, with a focus on the Department's application of the principles and methodology as set by the Department for undertaking the Systemic Review;
 - b. receive regular briefings on the Department's approach to undertaking the Systemic Review;
 - c. provide quality assurance advice to the Department (where requested by the Department and as part of executing the general performance monitoring function described in section 2(a)) to ensure that the outcomes of the Systemic Review are met, in line with the Department's principles and methodology for undertaking the Systemic Review;
 - d. review the Department's Systemic Review final report and endorse the report if satisfied that it meets the Terms of Reference for the Systemic Review and the Department's principles and methodology for the systemic review; and
 - e. provide independent advice to the Minister, or any other person or body as requested by the Minister, on the matters set out in clause 2(a) to (d) and any other matter referred to the Independent Monitor by the Minister from time to time.

SCHEDULE 2

Independent Monitor for the Department of Education's systemic review into historical child sexual abuse in Victorian government schools

Terms and Conditions

1. Period of appointment

The appointment of Ms Julia Griffith PSM as the Independent Monitor is from the date on which this Order commences until 30 June 2026 (both dates inclusive).

2. Vacancy and termination

At any time during the period of appointment:

- a) the Independent Monitor may resign by giving notice of the resignation in writing to the Minister;
- b) the Minister may revoke the appointment of the Independent Monitor by giving notice of the revocation in writing to the appointee for any reason.

3. Duties and responsibilities

The Independent Monitor must perform and exercise their functions and powers in accordance with this Order and the terms of reference set out in Schedule 1 to this Order.

4. Remuneration and expenses

- 1) The Independent Monitor is to be paid at a daily rate of \$475, as a Schedule D, Band D3 organisation in accordance with the Victorian Government *Appointment and Remuneration Guidelines*, as made and amended from time to time.
- 2) Superannuation will be paid in accordance with the *Superannuation Guarantee (Administration) Act 1992 (Cth)*.
- 3) The Independent Monitor is entitled to be reimbursed for all reasonable travel and personal expenses incurred in carrying out their duties, in accordance with Part 5.5 of the *Victorian Public Service Executive Employment Handbook*, as if they were a VPS executive under the Handbook.

5. Code of conduct

When performing their duties and functions, the Independent Monitor must comply with the *Code of Conduct for Directors of Victorian Public Entities*, as issued and amended by the Victorian Public Sector Commissioner under the **Public Administration Act 2004** from time to time, as if they were a director of a public entity under the Code of Conduct.

6. Other terms and conditions

The Independent Monitor is subject to any further terms and conditions of appointment, including periods of appointment and remuneration as may be agreed with the Minister or the Secretary, and recorded in a letter signed by the Minister or Secretary and the appointee, from time to time.