

The Office of Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman – Annual statement of compliance with Child Safe Framework

The Office of Inspector-General of Taxation and Taxation Ombudsman (IGTO) is committed to fostering a culture of child safety and well-being. In accordance with the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework, the IGTO has conducted a child safety risk assessment for 2023 and determined the risk to be very low. The assessment concluded that the evaluation and identification of risks to the safety and protection of children and young people was conducted thoroughly, and the measures implemented to alleviate those risks are suitable.

Despite the nature of the IGTO services and activities rarely involving interaction with children, we continuously improve our practices and policies through ongoing development and education to create a safe environment that meets the rights, needs, and interests of children.

The IGTO's interaction with children includes:

- Available data shows 0.24% of all contact to our DIS are from persons under the age of 18, with the youngest being 15 years old. Furthermore, the DIS does not have direct or face-to-face contact with complainants, with all communication being via ICT (Information Communications and Technology) channels (e.g., telephone or email) or post.
- Occasionally, the IGTO extends invitations to employees and their families to partake in events. In situations where children under the age of 18 are present, parental supervision is required.

Our staff members recognise the significance of safeguarding the well-being and safety of children participating in activities or events organised by the IGTO. Education and training play a crucial role in establishing an organisation that prioritises the welfare of children, operates transparently, and maintains a safe environment. The Commonwealth Child safe Framework e-learning module has been implemented as a mandatory requirement for all staff to complete on an annual basis.

In accordance with the requirements of the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework and the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations, the IGTO has established an independent Child Safe Framework. This Framework clearly outlines the expectations for all employees to consistently demonstrate ethical and responsible behaviour towards children and young people.

The IGTO will continue to integrate child safety initiatives into our organisational culture and work practices. We will ensure that our employees remain informed about the requirement of the Commonwealth Child Safe Framework, including the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations.