

MEDIA ALERT

COSS Network Directors call for national action to raise the age of criminal responsibility

ACOSS CEO Dr Cassandra Goldie, CEOs of the national COSS Network, ACT Attorney-General Shane Rattenbury MLA, and ACT Minister responsible for Youth Justice Emma Davidson MLA will call for the Commonwealth, states, and territories to follow the ACT's lead and raise the age of criminal responsibility.

There is overwhelming medical consensus that locking away children as young as 10 can cause lifelong damage to their mental health and cognitive development. However, despite this evidence the only jurisdiction to commit to raising the age of criminal responsibility is the ACT.

There is nothing stopping states and territories from acting in the best interest of children and of the community. The time to raise the age is now.

Who:

ACT Attorney-General Shane Rattenbury MLA
ACT Minister responsible for Youth Justice Emma Davidson MLA
ACOSS CEO Dr Cassandra Goldie
ACTCOSS CEO Dr Emma Campbell
NCOSS CEO Joanna Quilty
NTCOSS CEO Deborah Di Natale
SACOSS CEO Ross Womersley
TasCOSS CEO Adrienne Picone
WACOSS CEO Louise Giolitto

When: 08.45 am, Wednesday 16 June 2021

Where: Mural Hall, Parliament House

Note this press conference will be broadcast live on ACTCOSS's facebook page.

**For more information or comment, please contact
Dr Emma Campbell, CEO, ACTCOSS, on 0424 910 617 or 02 6202 7200.**

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