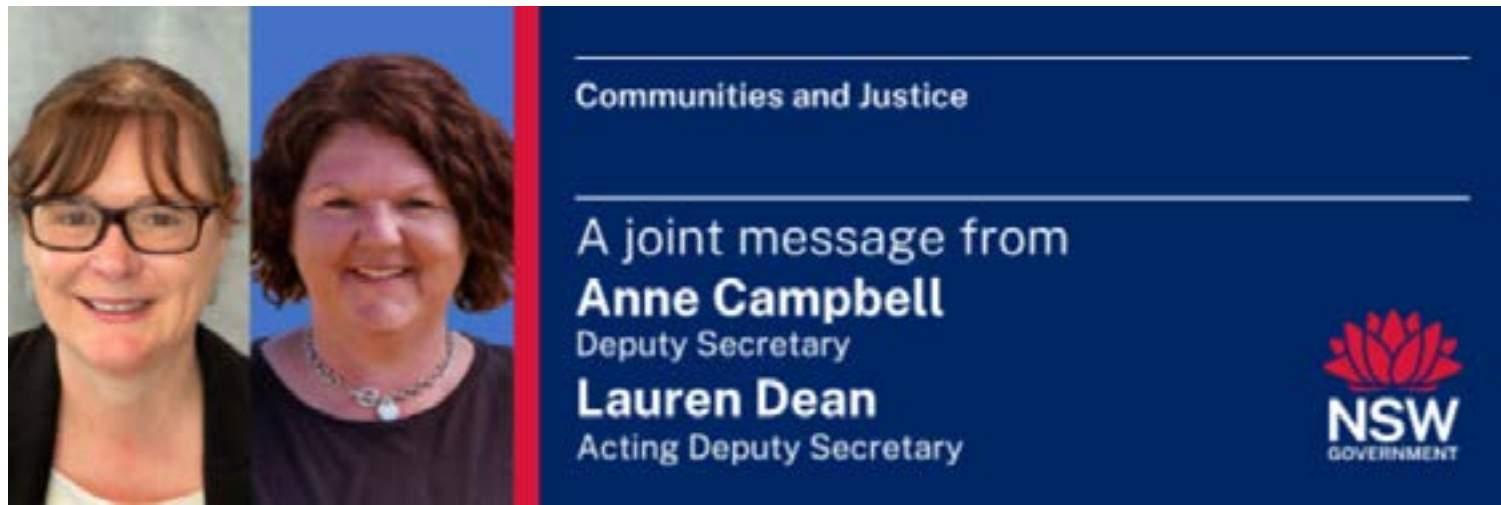




Quick Links



Your Voice Services Launch

Legal Aid NSW has launched Your Voice, a new free legal advocacy service for children and young people in care. Developed in collaboration with DCJ, this independent service provides confidential legal assistance to eligible young people across NSW.

Key Service Features

Your Voice offers independent, confidential legal support for any legal issue, including placement concerns, family time arrangements, and NDIS matters. The service employs specialist Youth Caseworkers and Aboriginal Field Officers to ensure age-appropriate and culturally appropriate support.

Importantly, young people don't need to disclose their legal issues to caseworkers or DCJ. Once referred, the Your Voice team will meet directly with the young person to discuss their needs and available assistance.

Current Eligibility (Pilot Phase)

The service is currently available to children and young people in:

- Individual Placement Arrangements (IPAs)
- Other High-Cost Emergency Arrangements (HCEA)

Requirements:

- Must have final orders
- Must express desire for referral (formal consent not required)
- No age limit, but must have capacity to instruct Legal Aid NSW
- Available statewide across NSW

Action Required from Practitioners and Managers

Please offer referrals to all eligible children and young people. Use the [promotional video](#) to explain the service. If a young person agrees to referral, complete the referral form and submit to the [DCJ High Cost Emergency Arrangement Strategy Unit](#).

DCJ or Funded Service Provider referral is required for access, though the service remains independent and confidential.

Next Steps

1. Review attached information materials
2. Share information with eligible young people
3. Attend an information session
4. Begin making referrals for interested young people

For eligibility questions or referral assistance, contact the [HCEA Strategy Unit](#).

Resources

Starting a conversation with young people about legal advocacy can feel challenging, especially when they may have had negative experiences with authority figures or systems. The following resources from the PSP Learning Hub have been selected to help practitioners and managers approach these conversations with confidence, sensitivity, and effectiveness.

Building rapport and trust

- [Relationship Based Practice](#)
- [Dignity Driven Practice](#)
- [Understanding Resistance in Practice](#)
- [Tips For Talking With Children And Young People](#)
- [Building Relationships with Children and Young People](#)

Using appropriate language

- [Words Matter: Trauma sensitive language with children](#)
- [Language – The Impacts of How We Talk](#)
- [Language - The Words We Use Practice Tips](#)
- [Language](#)

Respecting cultural considerations

- [Foundations of Culture and Identity](#)
- [LGBTQIA+ in Culture and Identity](#)



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