

# Annual child safety statement of compliance - 2023

## Commonwealth Child Safe Framework

The overwhelming majority of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency's (WGEA/Agency) functions do not involve regular interactions with children. Where there are interactions with children, they are likely to be brief, incidental to interactions with adults, and/or undertaken in either public environments or under the supervision or scrutiny of other people.

The Agency is committed to the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in connection with our work and with our employees. The welfare of children will always be a priority.

We have zero tolerance for child abuse and exploitation, and any allegations and concerns for safety of children and young people will be treated seriously. We believe that all children have a right to feel safe, respected, valued and protected from harm. We will not knowingly engage – directly or indirectly – anyone who poses a threat to children.

The WGEA is an independent Commonwealth statutory agency the Australian Government's key agency charged with promoting and improving gender equality in Australian workplaces, through the provision of advice and assistance to employers and the assessment and measurement of workplace gender data.

Our Agency is committed to promoting and contributing to understanding, acceptance and public debate of gender equality issues in the workplace. WGEA employees regularly speak at events on workplace gender issues and work with business, academics, gender equality networks and groups on like-minded projects.

The WGEA has a Risk Management policy that applies the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. WGEA reviews its risk register annually to ensure any risks related to child safety are documented and treatments applied to reduce levels of risk.

The WGEA has undertaken a child safety risk assessment. The assessment concludes that the overall level of risk to child safety and wellbeing in the context of the WGEA is low, and that sufficient controls exist to manage this risk. The Agency had no interactions with children as part of its operations during reporting period FY2022-23.

To manage the risk of occasional or limited contact with children, WGEA provides access to an on-demand eLearning module on the Framework allowing staff to undertake regular refresher training.

There were no reportable incidents during 2022 or 2023.