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NSW Child Death Review Team report

Embargoed until 9.30am Wednesday 15 November 2017

The Convenor of the NSW Child Death Review Team (CDRT), Acting NSW Ombudsman Professor John McMillan, tabled a report in Parliament today on *'Childhood injury prevention: Strategic directions for coordination in New South Wales'*.

In NSW each year, over 40 percent of deaths of young people aged between one and 17 years are injury-related. There are many more child injuries that do not result in death. Overall, the burden of childhood injury is a significant health, well-being and public policy issue.

In 2015 the CDRT commissioned the Centre for Health Service Development at the Australian Health Services Research Institute, University of Wollongong, to map prevention activities and structures related to childhood mortality and morbidity. That report was tabled in Parliament in October 2015 and confirmed there was a need for stronger leadership and coordination in NSW to deliver further improvements in childhood injury and disease prevention.

'The report tabled today builds on the earlier work by addressing a number of critical questions about effective approaches to coordination of injury prevention initiatives' said Professor McMillan. **'Drawing on comparable systems nationally and internationally, as well as expert stakeholder interviews throughout 2016, the report identifies strategic directions for coordination of initiatives in NSW'**.

Key themes identified are the need for effective policy leadership; strong data and information systems; research and knowledge translation networks; and coalitions, collaborations and partnerships.

'The report presents considerable evidence that childhood injury prevention is the responsibility of a number of agencies in NSW, and needs a whole of government response' said Professor McMillan. The report notes that NSW Health has been a leading agency in coordination of data and information access and promoting research on childhood injury.

'I commend this report to all government and non-government agencies with an interest in preventing childhood injury. The report should encourage discussion - and I trust action - from policy makers to respond positively to the need for effective coordination and collaboration in this critical area'.

[Read the report on the NSW Ombudsman's website.](#)

For further Information about the strategic directions for coordination in New South Wales report contact: Monica Wolf on 02 9286 0982.