



Uniting Church in Australia
ASSEMBLY
Assembly Standing Committee

12-14 November 2021

DOCUMENT 9

Title	Disability Royal Commission National Task Group ASC Member
Type of Paper (Information/Decision)	For information and decision
Assembly or ASC Minute	Not applicable
Consultation	
Purpose	To provide information regarding the Terms of Reference of the Disability Royal Commission National Task Group, and for the ASC to appoint a member of the Task Group.
Rationale & Findings Summary	<p>According to the Disability Royal Commission National Task Group Terms of Reference, membership of the Task Group includes an ASC Member appointed to the Task Group.</p> <p>Expressions of Interest have been received from the following ASC members:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Anna Wilson2. Yuko Tonai-Moore <p>ASC members will be asked to undertake an electronic ballot at the November ASC meeting to elect the ASC member to the National Task Group.</p>
Attachments	Attachment A: National Task Group for the Disability Royal Commission Terms of Reference Attachment B: Expression of Interest – Anna Wilson Attachment C: Expression of Interest – Yuko Tonai-Moore
Proposal/s	That the Assembly Standing Committee: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Elect the ASC member of the Disability Royal Commission National Task Group.
Submitted by	Colleen Geyer Assembly General Secretary colleeng@nat.uca.org.au ; 0411 333 167

NATIONAL TASK GROUP FOR THE DISABILITY ROYAL COMMISSION

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Background

A Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability (the Disability Royal Commission) has been established by the Commonwealth Government.

The Uniting Church offers a range of services to people with disability and their families, and there are people with disabilities in congregations and among staff and ministry agents. The Uniting Church is committed to social justice and supporting people to live life in all its fullness.

Key contacts with people with disabilities are:

- Community services agencies of the Church, including through the National Disability Insurance Scheme, family and child supports including the child protection system, employment services, community care, respite care, people with disabilities receiving support through aged care infrastructure, and other community services
- Schools
- Congregational participation
- Staff and ministry agents
- Community engagement and participation

Purpose of the National Task Group

The National Task Group (the NTG) will provide leadership of the Church's engagement, response and contact with the Royal Commission, working collaboratively with the Church's community services agencies and schools (who may have separate engagement with the Royal Commission in their service contexts), along with Synods, congregations and Presbyteries.

The NTG will:

- provide leadership of whole of Church engagement with the Royal Commission, including direct engagement with the Royal Commission and communication into the Church
- document the Uniting Church's values in relation to people with a disability
- oversee development of whole of Church policy positions in response to the work of the Royal Commission
- monitor the work of the Royal Commission and oversee analysis of the work and learnings of the Royal Commission and its impact on the Church and the communities it serves and communicate the analysis across the Church
- harness the expertise within the life of the Church in relation to services to people with disabilities
- provide leadership into the Church in relation to the institutional safety of people with a disability
- provide leadership in the Church's response to people with a disability who have experienced violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation in the Church

Principles

The NTG will:

- work collaboratively and in partnership across the Church, including with Synod Task Groups
- draw on the expertise held across the Church in the provision of services to people with disabilities and in institutional safety
- seek the voices of people with a disability in the work of the NTG
- seek to understand the particular needs of people with disabilities from First Peoples and culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, and reflect these needs in its work
- engage with ecumenical and community services partners

Membership of the National Task Group

- Assembly General Secretary (Chair)
- Six persons nominated by the Synod Task Groups (ie one from each Synod) with provision for an alternate to attend meetings if the member is unavailable
- One person appointed by the Assembly Standing Committee
- Three persons nominated by the Board of UnitingCare Australia, including one person who is a participant in the UCA Disability Working Group
- Up to three persons co-opted by the NTG to ensure that representation includes a person with knowledge and skills in disability advocacy, a representative of schools, and any other skills or experience the NTG identifies as necessary to support the work of the NTG (for example, institutional safety, redress, governance, service delivery)
- The President as attendee

Accountability and reporting

The NTG is accountable to the Assembly Standing Committee.

The secretariat will provide regular reporting to Church stakeholders, including Synod Task Groups as per the Communications Strategy. This will include a summary of the NTG's meeting outcomes where the NTG has met within the period.

Accountability and reporting

The NTG is accountable to the Assembly Standing Committee.

Relationship with Synod Task Groups and UnitingCare Australia Disability Working Group

The NTG will lead the Church's national response to the Royal Commission. Synod Task Groups and the UnitingCare Australia Disability Working Group will be invited to contribute to development of policy positions and to raise issues through the secretariat or NTG Chair for consideration at the national level. Approval of the work developed by the NTG will rest with the Assembly General Secretary.

Secretariat

UnitingCare Australia will provide secretariat support for the NTG and will resource the work of the NTG.

Meetings of the National Task Group

The NTG will meet at least five times per year. Meetings can be held face to face or in person. The meeting length will be determined by the Chair in consultation with the secretariat depending on the agenda.

Approved by the Assembly Standing Committee, November 2019

Expression of Interest Form for Assembly Committees or Task Groups

Basis of Union:

The Uniting Church recognises that responsibility for government in the Church belongs to the people of God by virtue of the gifts and tasks which God has laid upon them.

Constitution:

The Assembly shall have determining responsibility in matters of doctrine, worship, government and discipline, including the promotion of the Church's mission, establishment of standards of theological education and the reception of ministers from other denominations, and is empowered to make final decisions on all matters related to the Constitution of the UCA.

Name of the Committee / Task Group:

Disability Royal Commission National Task Group

Brief description of the Mandate / Terms of Reference for this body:

The National Task Group will provide leadership of the Church's engagement, response and contact with the Royal Commission, working collaboratively with the Church's community services agencies and schools. This includes developing policy as a response to the learnings of the Royal Commission, communication to the whole church and responding to the needs of those with disability.

Personal Information:



Name: Anna Wilson

(Please complete as relevant)

Congregation: Ascot Community Uniting Church

Presbytery: Presbytery of Southern SA

Synod: Synod of South Australia

What skills and experience will you bring to the Committee / Task Group?

I would bring a lived experience of having a disability. This provides me with some knowledge about the sorts of needs and care requirements people living with disability have. I am concerned about the rights of people living with disability and bringing justice to them. I am passionate about contributing to the life and mission of the wider church. I have an interest in disability advocacy and in 2022 I will start studying a Bachelor of Disability and Community Inclusion at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia.

What if any relevant experience have you had in the life of the Church?

I have been part of the Uniting Church all of my life and since 2021 have been a Presbytery and Assembly member. I have previously volunteered at Kids Camp Out in Adelaide, South Australia as well as being involved at Ascot Community Uniting Church as projector operator, steward, bible reader and putting together the newsletter. I am also part of the youth group events team at The Corner Uniting Church and on the singing roster for the evening service at Adelaide West Uniting Church. I am a Baptised and Confirmed member of the Uniting Church in Australia.

What if any relevant qualifications do you have?

I am currently studying a Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology with Adelaide College of Divinity. In 2022 I will start studying a Bachelor of Disability and Community Inclusion at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia.

Age range	<u>Under 30</u>	30-59	60+
Ministry category	<u>Lay</u>	Ordained	

Location	Remote	Rural	Regional Centre	City
What cultural and linguistic background do you have?				
Australian (Caucasian)				

Referees: *(Please list the names and contact details of two people to act as referees for you in regard to this role)*

1. Charissa Suli charissas@nat.uca.org.au 0413 188 105
2. Linda Driver driverlm@gmail.com 0458 500 656

If you are not appointed to this body, are you willing for Assembly to retain a copy of this form, and to consider you for appointment to a relevant task group in the future? YES / ~~NO~~

Signature: AS Wilson

Date: _____ 19/10/21 _____

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Name of the Committee / Task Group:

The Disability Royal Commission National Task Group

Brief description of the Mandate / Terms of Reference for this body:

Personal Information:


<p><i>Affix photo here</i></p> 	<p>Name: Yuko Tonai-Moore Congregation: Bridgetown Uniting Church WA Presbytery: WA Synod: WA</p>
<p>What skills and experience will you bring to the Committee / Task Group? I am acutely aware how different disabilities affect individuals differently, how hard, and sometimes time consuming and expensive it is to get accurate diagnosis, and how life changing it is when one can access appropriate supports at a personal level. As a teacher, I have worked and cared for children/ care givers with disabilities in the mainstream school environment. In my family circle, I have family members with different degrees of disability. (Dyslexia, asperges, Intellectual disability) As a Chaplain at the local high school, I work with other Student Service team members to cater for students who require support in the school environment. As a non-native English speaker, I have experienced what it is like not to be able to speak and be understood.</p>	
<p>What if any relevant experience have you had in the life of the Church? Current ASC member and last ASC member. 3 years experience A member of Act2 task group WA Presbytery Thrive Committee member A member of WA Presbytery Standing Committee A member of Mission Shaped Ministry team Local church leader</p>	
<p>What if any relevant qualifications do you have? Certificate IV in Christian Ministry and Theology</p>	
Age range	Under 30 30-59 60+X
Ministry category	Lay X Ordained
Location	Remote Rural X Regional Centre City
<p>What cultural and linguistic background do you have? My parents are Japanese and lived in Japan for first 5 years, moved to India for about 4 years, back to</p>	

Japan for 8 years and moved to Perth Western Australia. Since then, I have been back to Japan for visits and live there for a short time but most of my life is in WA. My heart language is Japanese and adopted English as a second language.

Referees: *(Please list the names and contact details of two people to act as referees for you in regard to this role)*

- 1.Rev. Greg Ross 0417637944
- 2.Miss. Ingrid Moore 0431837500

If you are not appointed to this body, are you willing for Assembly to retain a copy of this form, and to consider you for appointment to a relevant task group in the future? YES / NO

Signature: _____


Date: _____25/10/2021_____