

Megan Giles

Megan Giles joined the Queensland Public Service in 1997 as a Legal Officer, Youth Legal Aid, Legal Aid Queensland. Megan joined the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services in 2010 as Director, Child and Family Policy after working in both the Department of Justice and Attorney-General and the Department of Child Safety in policy roles.

Megan holds a Bachelor of Laws, has been admitted as a Solicitor and has recently completed the Executive Masters of Public Administration (ANZOG) program [in 2015](#).

After working in strategic policy roles for over a decade, in 2015, Megan was appointed as the Executive Director, Legislative Reform, for the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services in the Queensland Government. This is a position that has responsibility for leading legal policy and legislative reform projects, within the Policy and Legislation service area, across the department's portfolio of responsibilities including disability services, child protection, community services, multicultural affairs and domestic and family violence prevention. Megan and her team have led various legislative reforms including the Review of the *Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012* in partnership with the Department of Justice and Attorney-General; Review of the operation of the *Adoption Act 2009* and Review of the *Child Protection Act 1999*.

Tracey De Simone

Tracey de Simone is currently the Official Solicitor in the Office of the Child and Family Official Solicitor in the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services. The Office was created following the report of the Queensland Child Protection Commission of Inquiry and its recommendations around children and the legal system.

Tracey has been admitted since 1997. She worked at Legal Aid Queensland for 14 years as the coordinator of Women's Legal Aid, the senior solicitor at the Woodridge Legal Aid office, a strategic policy advisor and as an assistant director in Family Law Services. She previously worked in private practice. She specialises in family law, domestic violence cases, independent children's representation and separate representation in child protection matters. She has also practised in criminal law.

Tracey also worked in the domestic violence legislation unit in the Department of Communities and on a strategic legal and court reform project for the then Attorney – General in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Tracey has been a member of the Queensland Law Society committee on the *Not Now Not Ever Report* on domestic and family violence in Queensland. She has volunteered on the committees of several non-government organisations including the Immigrant Women's Support Service and the Nundah community legal service. She has completed a masters of law and has published several articles and publications on family law and the access of vulnerable people to legal aid services.

Graham Murray

Graham Murray is an Assistant Director within the Director of Child Protection Litigation, a newly created statutory agency which comes into being on 1 July 2016. He has over ten years' experience as a child protection lawyer, with an emphasis on representing statutory state welfare authorities. Originally from the UK, Graham worked as part of an in-house legal team for a large London Borough, advising in relation to child protection matters and bringing applications for Care Orders, Placement Orders and Adoptions in the Magistrates, County and High Courts in England. More recently, as a Court Services Advisor in Queensland, he has provided advice to Child Safety Service Centres in respect of child protection litigation and the interplay with the Family Law Act. Passionate about ensuring children's voices are heard within litigation concerning them, Graham recently undertook a secondment at the Office of the Public Guardian supervising a state-wide team of child advocates. Within both England and Queensland, Graham has facilitated training in child protection proceedings to a variety of audiences, including the judiciary, social workers, child safety officers and mental health practitioners.