

**JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE
COMMISSIONER FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

First Report — Annual report 2020–2021 — Tabling

HON NEIL THOMSON (Mining and Pastoral) [10.09 am]: I am directed to present the first report of the Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People titled *Annual report 2020–2021*.

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Hon NEIL THOMSON: As Deputy Chair of the Joint Standing Committee on the Commissioner for Children and Young People, I am pleased to table the committee's first report for the forty-first Parliament. This reporting period encompasses the first three meetings of the current committee and the activities of the previous committee between July and December 2020. One of the first activities of the new committee was to meet with the Commissioner for Children and Young People, Mr Colin Pettit. This was a fairly informal meeting during which the commissioner briefed us on his recent work. It provided us with an appreciation of the important role he plays in listening to children and young people in this state and acting on their needs. Furthermore, it has helped shape the committee's immediate work program.

I note that Mr Pettit's tenure as commissioner will end in November, and I take this opportunity to thank him for his six years of advocating for children and young people and working to make the world a safer place for them. I look forward to welcoming a new commissioner, who I am sure will work just as hard as Mr Pettit has in bringing the concerns of children and young people to our attention. I also look forward to working with my fellow committee members in performing our oversight role and following up on some of the recommendations made by the previous committee.