

Electoral Reform Secretariat
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
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Dear Sir or Madam

I am writing regarding the Australian Government's *Electoral Reform Green Paper – Strengthening Australia's Democracy*. Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this paper.

The NSW Commission for Children and Young People was established by the *Commission for Children and Young People Act 1998* to promote the safety, welfare and well-being of children and young people in NSW.

One of the principal functions of the Commission is to make recommendations on legislation, policies, practices and services affecting children. Important in making these recommendations is knowledge of the views of children and young people.

The Commission has not undertaken any study of the issues addressed in the *Green Paper*. As a result our feedback is necessarily limited. I believe however that this is an important area of study and have recently partnered with the Whitlam Institute, University of Western Sydney, to examine the political participation of young people. This study provides an opportunity to engage with young people in order to truly understand their views.

Should you require any further information, please contact Lou-Anne Lind, Manager, Policy on (02) 9286 7205 or at lou-anne.lind@kids.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Jan McClelland
A/Commissioner
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