



10 April 2018

The Hon Greg Hunt MP
Minister for Health
PO Box 6022
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Minister,

I recently met with some members of the Childhood Injury Prevention Alliance (CHIPA). They indicated that some of their members met with you earlier this year.

As you know this group of leading clinicians, researchers, industry partners and funders are advocating for the creation and funding of a National Injury Prevention Commission to drive a national injury prevention strategy and action plan.

Australia is one of the few developed countries, which does not have a child injury plan. Childhood injury hospitalisation rates have not decreased over the ten-year period, 2002 to 2012 in Australia. Child injury remains a costly and serious public health issue in Australia. The total hospital cost of injury hospitalisations of children during the ten-year period was \$2.1 billion (\$212 million annually).

Childhood injury is preventable. However, it is necessary for injury prevention strategies and plans to be developed and used to achieve this.

I urge you to offer your support to CHIPA in establishing a forward agenda to reduce childhood injuries.

If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Dr Susan Nicolson on 02 9284 9772.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan Mitchell'.

**Megan Mitchell
National Children's Commissioner**

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