

# Report of the South Australian Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme

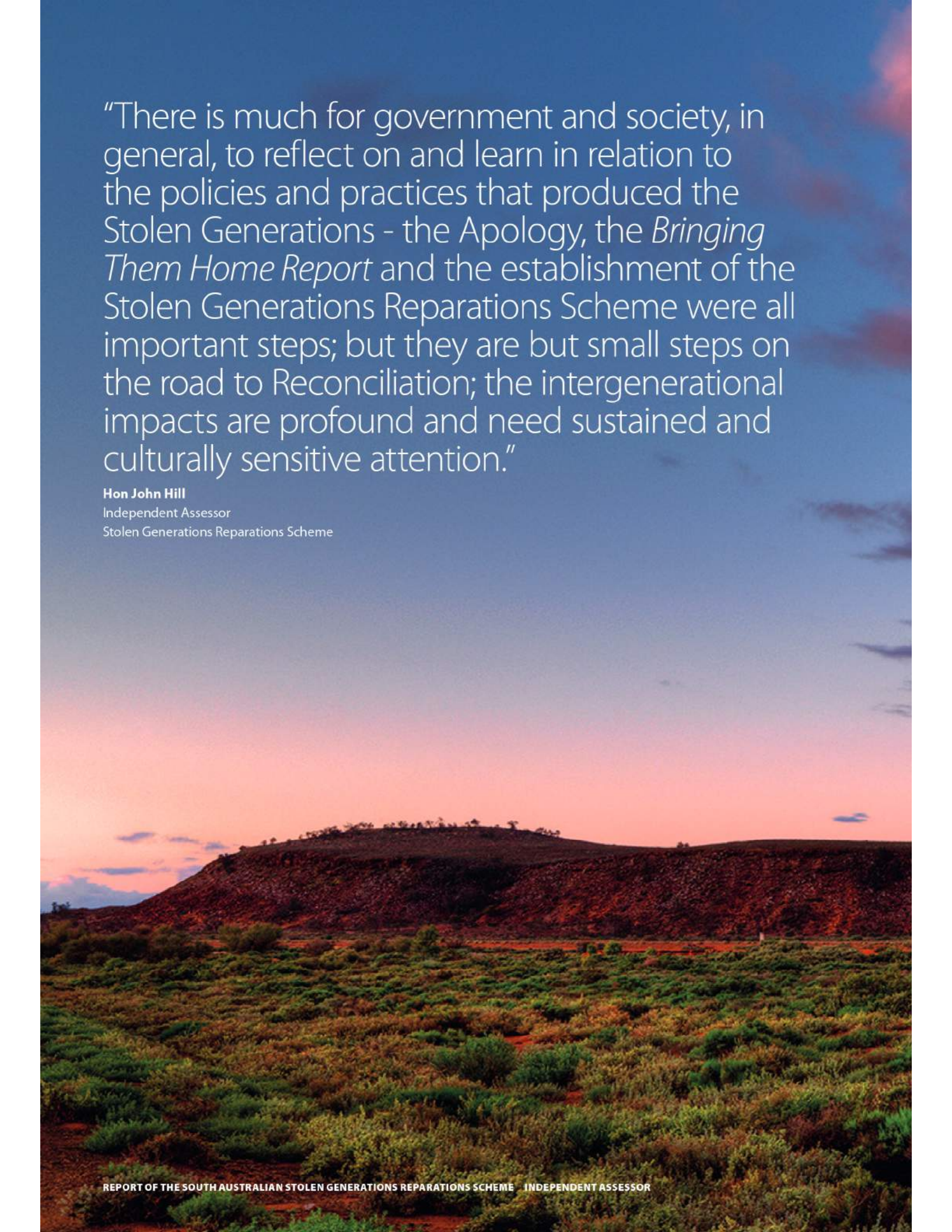
Independent Assessor

July 2018

Warning: This report contains material, including a number of individual accounts of removal, which may cause distress to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.



Government  
of South Australia

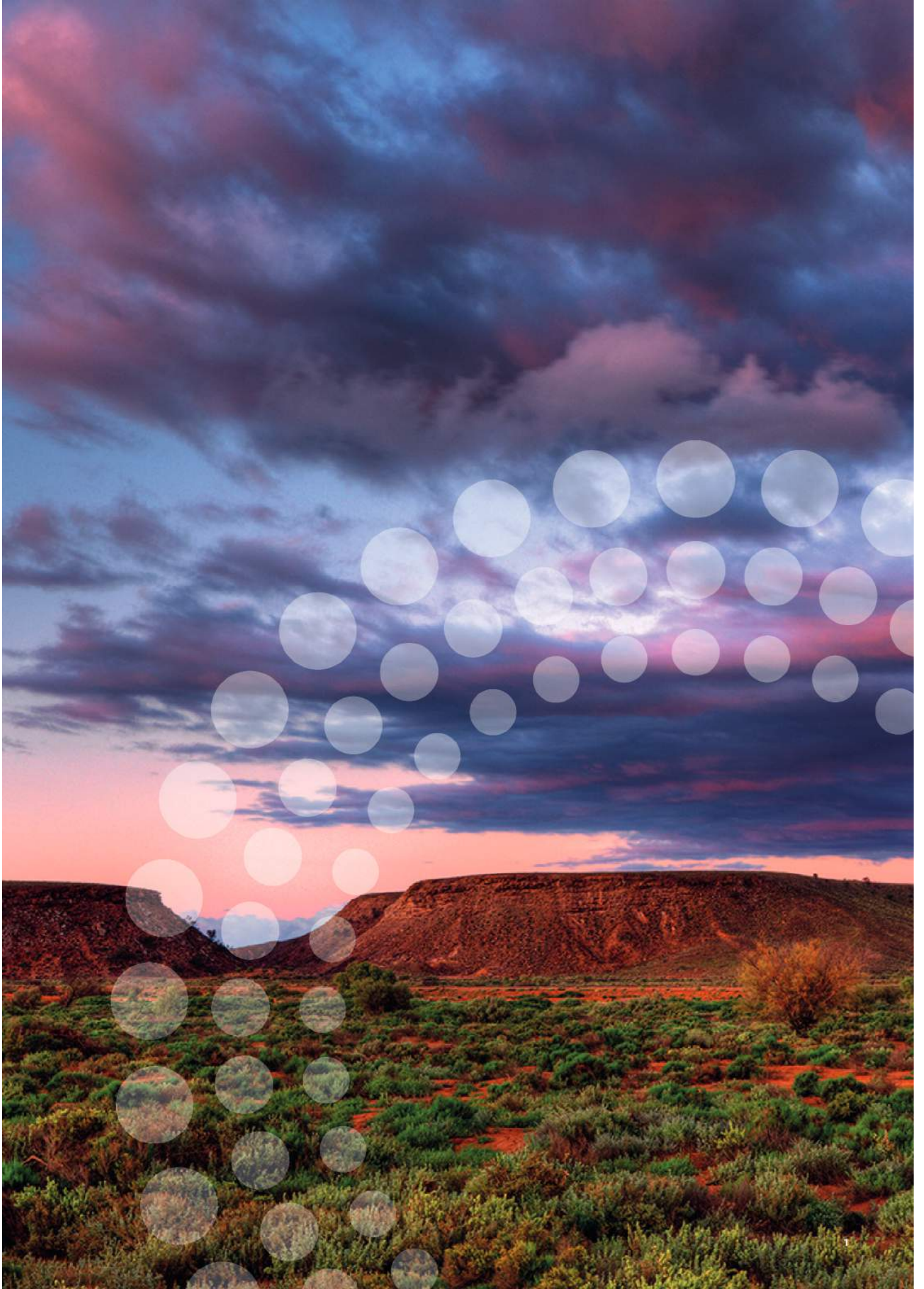


“There is much for government and society, in general, to reflect on and learn in relation to the policies and practices that produced the Stolen Generations - the Apology, the *Bringing Them Home Report* and the establishment of the Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme were all important steps; but they are but small steps on the road to Reconciliation; the intergenerational impacts are profound and need sustained and culturally sensitive attention.”

**Hon John Hill**

Independent Assessor

Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme



# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	4
<i>Applicant A – One woman’s story: We are islands in the sea of humanity</i>	5
<hr/>	
<b>Establishment of the Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme</b>	12
Ministerial Statement	12
Bringing Them Home Report	13
Inquiry into the Stolen Generations Reparation Tribunal Bill 2010	13
Tasmanian Scheme	13
Stolen Generations Reparations Scheme announcement	13
Appointment of Independent Assessor and support staff	14
Application form and guide to applicants	14
Change in Assessor’s role	14
<hr/>	
<b>The SGRS criteria</b>	15
a. Applicant must be Aboriginal	15
b. Removed from family	15
c. Prior to 31 December 1975	15
d. Without a court order	16
e. At time of removal usual place of residence was SA; or they were removed by South Australian authorities	17
<hr/>	
<b>South Australian Law</b>	19
<i>Maintenance Act 1926-1937</i>	19
<i>Children’s Protection Act 1936</i>	19
<i>Aborigines Act 1911</i>	19
<i>Aborigines (Training of Children) Act 1923</i>	20
<i>Aborigines Act 1934-1939</i>	20
Administrative removal of Aboriginal children	20
The Protector	21
<i>Aboriginal Affairs Act 1962</i>	21
<i>Adoption of Children Act 1925-1965</i>	22
Current judicial authority	22
<hr/>	
<b>Northern Territory Law</b>	23
South Australian government of the Northern Territory 1863-1911	23
Commonwealth government of the Northern Territory 1911-1978	23
The removal of Aboriginal children in the Northern Territory	23
Commonwealth Government responsibility	25
<i>Applicant B – One man’s story: I spoke German, Dutch, French and Latin – but not a word of my people’s language</i>	25

<b>Conduct of the SGRS</b>	28
The applications	28
Meetings with applicants	28
Consideration of applications	29
Recordings	29
<hr/>	
<b>Summary of applications</b>	30
The applicants	30
Eligible applicants	30
<hr/>	
<b>Stories of removal</b>	31
Applicant C	31
Applicant D	31
Applicant E	32
Applicant F	32
Applicant G	35
Applicant H	37
Applicant I	38
<hr/>	
<b>General observations</b>	39
<hr/>	
<b>Thanks</b>	41
<i>Applicant J – The Voices of the Children – a story of two siblings</i>	42
<hr/>	
<b>Appendices</b>	43
Appendix 1 Ministerial Statement	43
Appendix 2 Bringing Them Home Report	46
Appendix 3 News release 19/11/2015	54
Appendix 4 Application form	55
Appendix 5 Guide to applicants	61
Appendix 6 Newsletter 1 to applicants	65
Appendix 7 Newsletter 2 to applicants	69
Appendix 8 Newsletter 3 to applicants	73
Appendix 9 Meeting places and dates	77
Appendix 10 Letter and form regarding recordings	78