



ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON ROBERT McClelland MP

NEWS RELEASE

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NEW RESOURCES TO ASSIST GRANDPARENTS

Attorney-General Robert McClelland today announced that the Rudd Government will provide increased resources through the family law system to help grandparents maintain positive relationships with their grandchildren.

The initiatives being undertaken by the Government include:

- Commissioning the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) to examine the impact of the 2006 family law reforms on grandparents;
- Producing information brochures, booklets and DVDs on the importance of children maintaining strong relationships with significant people in their lives, including grandparents;
- Developing and issuing guidelines to be used by Family Relationship Centres when dealing with cases involving grandparents; and
- Exploring how the Parenting Orders, Post Separation Cooperative Parenting and Supporting Children After Separation programs can better include discussions about the importance of grandparents and other extended family members.

This work complements the \$400,000 provided by the Rudd Government to Legal Aid Commissions last year to enhance the delivery of family dispute resolution services to grandparents and other extended family members.

“The Government is committed to investing in the relationship between a child and their grandparents.”

“It is a relationship that can provide children with love, support and additional care, particularly during times of family relationship difficulties,” he said.

“I am confident that these materials will lead to better outcomes for families including grandparents and, most importantly, their grandchildren,” Mr McClelland said.

Media Contact:

Adam Sims

0419 480 224