

AIJA Indigenous Youth Justice Conference

Panellist

Day 2 - Session 11: 'Cross Over Kids'



Dr Kath McFarlane

Kath McFarlane Consulting

Dr Kath McFarlane is an Adjunct Associate Professor at the School of Population Health at the University of New South Wales, and a Board member of the Justice Health and Forensic Mental Health Network.

A former Executive Officer of the NSW Sentencing Council and the Children's Court, she served as a ministerial Chief of Staff in the portfolios of Planning and Infrastructure, Attorney Generals and Justice, and Family and Community Services. In her doctoral thesis she identified and described the process of 'care-criminalisation', which leads children in Out of Home Care to become unnecessarily enmeshed in the criminal justice system. She has provided expert witness reports to courts, appeared before Royal Commissions and parliamentary inquiries, and as the director of Kath McFarlane Consulting, delivers independent research, policy and evaluation services to government, business and community organisations.