



Mark Speakman
Attorney General

STATEMENT

Monday, 6 September 2021

ACTING PRESIDENT FOR CHILDREN'S COURT OF NSW

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Magistrate Ellen Skinner as acting President of the Children's Court of NSW, following the appointment of former President Judge Peter Johnstone as NSW Chief Magistrate.

Magistrate Skinner has experience across the legal system, having worked for the Aboriginal Legal Service, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and Legal Aid. In 2009, her Honour became the youngest magistrate appointed in NSW when she was elevated to the bench at 33 years old.

Magistrate Skinner has a long established commitment to improving outcomes for children, young people and families who come before the Children's Court.

Her Honour was admitted to the legal profession in 1999 having graduated from the Australian National University in Arts and Law. She is a member of the Newcastle Law School Advisory Board.

Magistrate Skinner takes up the role as Acting President of the Children's Court today. Her Honour's appointment expires on 15 October, or on the appointment of a permanent President, whichever occurs first.