



## QUEENSLAND CHILD PROTECTION WEEK – AWARD WINNER

**Award Category:** Professional (Government)

**Award Description:** Outstanding contribution to child protection at a practice, policy or service development level within the public service.

**Winner:** Detective Sergeant Tania Plant

### **BIO**

Detective Sergeant Tania Plant has been working to address Child Protection issues for approximately 23 years within the Qld Police Service.

Tania is described by her colleagues as one of the best investigators of Child Protection matters; as someone who possesses superior knowledge about Child Protection and Child Abuse issues. And the work involved in responding to the issues. Her approach is recognised and Tanya is called upon to address difficult and sensitive issues. Tanya is described by her colleagues as reliable, trustworthy, very capable and very thorough – she goes the extra mile – and will locate the evidence or the witness to gain the evidence.

Her team see her as a mentor, building a future group of investigators and modelling the building of relationships with the children she works to protect, other agencies and internally. She is creative in engaging with the children who have been abused sexually, physically and verbally, with exceptional communication skills that gain their trust.

*“DS PLANT is the .... strongest, empathetic and motivated officers that I have met who work within child protection.... and her commitment to helping the children be safe is admirable. This passion that she has and shares does not just come from work experience and knowledge of child protection, but a deep desire to share and mentor her staff who will also be the future of this unit. .... colleagues are grateful for her commitment and are extremely appreciative of having such a strong mentor who has such a strong understanding of child protection investigation strategies and encourages us to advance in these skills by constantly increasing our knowledge and understanding”.*

*“DS PLANT believes that there should be a strong chain between both internal and external agencies to ensure a strong link for the children who are vulnerable and works exceptionally hard for there to be no weakness in the chain”.*

*“Overall ..... she has made a significant difference in thousands of children’s lives by protecting them from harm and sexual abuse and has ensured the safety of further children who could have been harmed if the offenders had not served a sentence. DS PLANT has proceeded with investigations and had a successful prosecution with investigations” by persisting “utilising her experience and knowledge of acquiring evidence and utilising other strategies”.*

**Location:** Ipswich

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