



Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

Inquiry into Dangerous Driving **ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

Asked by Dr Marisa Paterson on 14 November 2022: Professor Lorana Bartels took on notice the following question(s):

Reference: Hansard [uncorrected] proof transcript 14 November 2022 [PAGE 48]

In relation to:

DR PATERSON: Okay.

So I suspect the article that was referred to is the article yesterday about the ACT government data, that the data that you were using for your submission was inaccurate. And that also has been used in other submissions. Do you see this as a significant problem and that we need to improve our data collection systems, particularly in respect to certain offences?

Professor Bartels: So I was actually away over the weekend and was not aware of this media article. So I can only infer what it likely says. And the JRI has been in contact with Mr McLuckie. And our Executive Director has a meeting with him shortly—

THE CHAIR: I guess you could take it on notice to respond to that.

Professor Bartels: I can—without having seen the article, when he drew our attention to the errors in it, I contacted the Chief Justice with his concerns. And as I understand it, obviously was, you know, was likewise concerned if there are errors in the database of what the implications of that might be for sentencing practice in the ACT.

I guess I can respond more fully when I have seen exactly what is in the media. But Mr McLuckie has raised his concerns with the JRI. We have responded directly to him and then I have taken it up further with the judiciary.

Professor Lorana Bartels: The answer to the Member's question is as follows: –

I have raised this issue with the ACT courts and Attorney-General's office. I look forward to participating in further discussions, to ensure that the ACT criminal justice data are accurate and thereby assist in evidence-based policy-making and sentencing practice.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'L. Bartels', written in a cursive style.

Signature:

Date:

2/12/22

By the Justice Reform Initiative, Professor Lorana Bartels