



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Disability, Carers and Community Services

Redirected to: Minister for City and Government Services

In relation to: WWVP Scheme and changes to employment

Hearing: 13 November 2025

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 15

Transcript provided: 19 November 2025

Answer Due: 26 November 2025

THE CHAIR: Okay. Yes, I have got a couple more as well, if that is just on this line, if that is okay, just before I hand to you, Ms Carrick. Another policy question about notifying employers about cancelled Working with Vulnerable People cards. Currently my understanding is that we are relying on individuals who hold the card to self-report where they work, which means—well, for starters, is that accurate?

Ms Dolan: I am going to have to take that on notice to ensure that I have the right detail to hand. I do not have that detail in front of me at this moment.

Ms Tara Cheyne MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The Working with Vulnerable People scheme (the scheme) is not an employer-based scheme as is the case in the Working with Children Check and other safeguarding schemes operated by other jurisdictions. This is in recognition of the broad range of regulated activities and services covered by the scheme and the portability of registration across these activities and services – in which a registered person may engage in several at any given point in time.

It is not mandatory for a registered person to nominate or advise of employers or organisations for whom they will engage with vulnerable people at the point of application, or during a period of registration. Notwithstanding this, Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) registration holders can, and do notify Access Canberra of their employers and this information is recorded on their record. This process enables Access Canberra to share a range of information with the employer if an adverse decision is made about the person's WWVP registration. This is not the only avenue to enable information sharing to employers.

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Access Canberra is obligated by the *Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act 2011* (the Act), to notify any nominated employer of adverse decisions following an application for a WWVP registration, or of adverse changes to the registration status during the registration period. Access Canberra is also entitled under section 63C of the Act to share information about a person's registration or application status with any associated employer (i.e., any unnominated employer who engages or intends to engage an WWVP applicant/registrant in a regulated activity). Where information about associated employers is known, Access Canberra frequently proactively notifies them of adverse application or registration outcomes.

Employers also have a shared responsibility to ensure their workers and volunteers who engage with vulnerable people in a regulated activity or service have WWVP registration for the roles where it is required. Many employers are diligent and undertake periodic verification of WWVP registration details for their workforce, and in some instances, will notify Access Canberra of their engagement of a WWVP registration holder in a regulated activity or service so their association with that person can be recorded.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Social Policy

Signature:



By the Minister for City and Government Services, Ms Tara Cheyne

Date:

24/11/25