



Extracts of minutes of proceedings

Inquiry into Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 041* – Wednesday, 5 November 2025

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 12.10 pm.

6. Referral of the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

6.1. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] that the Chair, on behalf of the Committee, reply to the Speaker stating that the Committee has decided to inquire into the Bill.

6.2. The Committee **resolved** [RATTENBURY] that the inquiry submission period close on 16 January 2026, and that a decision on whether to hold a public hearing would be deferred until the Committee's meeting on 21 January 2026.

6.3. The Committee noted the stakeholder list prepared by the Secretariat.

6.4. The Committee **resolved** [RATTENBURY] to endorse the media release.

12. Close

12.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.50 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 051* – Wednesday, 26 November 2025

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 11.02 am.

7. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

- 7.1. The Committee noted the letter sent on 5 November 2025 to the Speaker advising him that the Committee has resolved to undertake an inquiry into the Bill.

16. Close

- 16.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.28 pm.
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Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 054* – Wednesday, 10 December 2025

Members present: Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

- 1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 12.09 pm.

7. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

- 7.1. The Committee noted that no submissions have yet been received.
- 7.2. The Committee resolved [RATTENBURY] that the Secretary be authorised to grant submission extensions until close of business on 20 January 2026, on request.

16. Close

- 16.1. The Deputy Chair closed the meeting at 12.41 pm.
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Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 056* – Wednesday, 21 January 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

- 1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 11.06 am.

8. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

- 8.1. The Committee **resolved** [RATTENBURY] to receive and publish the following submissions to the inquiry:

- 8.1.1. Submission 1: Legal Aid ACT
- 8.1.2. Submission 2: Victims of Crime Commissioner
- 8.1.3. Submission 3: Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT)
- 8.1.4. Submission 4: ACT Government
- 8.1.5. Submission 5: ACT Law Society & ACT Bar Association

8.2. The Committee **resolved** [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to agree to the extension request from Ms Indra Esguerra, ACT Coordinator at the Justice Reform Initiative for a submission extension until 30 January 2026.

8.3. The Committee agreed for Members to provide the Secretariat with proposed recommendations by Tuesday 27 January 2026.

19. Close

19.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.27 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 057* – Wednesday, 28 January 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 10.06 am.

6. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

6.1. The Committee noted that the Justice Initiative had been given an extension to make a submission until 30 January 2025.

6.2. The Mr Werner-Gibbings agreed to review Mr Rattenbury's and Ms Barry's proposed recommendations and provide feedback by close of business Thursday 29 January

6.3. Mr Rattenbury agreed to review Ms Barry's proposed recommendations and provide feedback by close of business Thursday 29 January 2026.

10. Close

10.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.00 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 058* – Wednesday, 11 February 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 11.00 am.

6. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

6.1. The Committee resolved [WERNER-GIBBINGS] to receive and authorise for publication the following submissions:

6.1.1. Submission 6 – Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

6.1.2. Submission 7 – Justice Reform Initiative

6.2. The Committee deliberated on draft recommendations.

13. Close

13.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.29 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 059* – Thursday, 12 February 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 3.08 pm.

3. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

3.1. The Committee discussed draft recommendations for inclusion in the Chair's draft report.

8. Close

8.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 4.43 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 059* – Wednesday, 12 February 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),
Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 3.08 pm.

3. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025

3.1. The Committee discussed draft recommendations for inclusion in the Chair's draft report.

8. Close

8.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 4.43 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 060* – Wednesday, 18 February 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 11.00 am.

5. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025 – report consideration

5.1. No Member submitted an alternative draft report.

5.2. The Committee agreed to consider the report by paragraphs together.

5.3. The Committee deliberated on the report as follows:

Chapter 1 – agreed to
Chapter 2 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.1 to 3.3 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.4 - deferred
Paragraph 3.5 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.6 to 3.26 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.27 – removed
Recommendation 1 – agreed to
Recommendation 2 – removed
Paragraphs 3.28 to 3.34 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.35 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.36 to 3.44 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.45 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 3.46 – agreed to
Recommendation 3 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.47 to 3.48 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.49 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.50 to 3.52 – agreed to
Recommendation 4 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.53 to 3.57 – agreed to
Finding 1 – agreed to
Insert new recommendation after Finding 1
Paragraphs 3.58 to 3.61 – agreed to
Recommendation 5 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 3.62 to 3.63 – amended and agreed to
Recommendation 6 - amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.64 to 3.67 – agreed to
Recommendation 7 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.68 to 3.69 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.70 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 3.71 – agreed to
Recommendation 8 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.72 to 3.75 – agreed to
Recommendation 9 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.76 to 3.78 – agreed to
Recommendation 10 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.79 to 3.82 – agreed to
Recommendation 11 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.83 to 3.85 – agreed to
Recommendation 12 – agreed to

Paragraph 3.86 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.87 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 3.88 – agreed to
Recommendation 13 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.89 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.90 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.91 to 3.92 – agreed to
Recommendation 14 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.93 to 3.96 – agreed to
Recommendation 15 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.97 – deferred
Recommendation 16 – deferred
Paragraph 3.98 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.99 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.100 to 3.101 – agreed to
Recommendation 17 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 4.1 – agreed to
Recommendation 18 – agreed to
Paragraph 4.2 – agreed to
Paragraph 4.3 – amended and agreed to
Appendix A – agreed to.

5.4. The Committee **resolved** [BARRY] to defer adoption of the report to its next meeting.

12. Close

12.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.37 pm.

Extract from *Minutes of Meeting 061* – Tuesday, 24 February 2026

Members present: Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA (Deputy Chair),

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

1. Commencement

1.1. The Chair opened the meeting at 12.16 pm.

3. Inquiry into the Magistrates Court (Indicative Sentencing) Amendment Bill 2025 – report consideration

3.1. No Member submitted an alternative draft report.

3.2. The Committee agreed to consider the report by paragraphs together.

3.3. The Committee deliberated on the report as follows:

Chapter 1 – agreed to
Chapter 2 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.1 to 3.26 – agreed to
Recommendation 1 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.27 to 3.45 – agreed to

Recommendation 2 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.46 to 3.51 – agreed to
Recommendation 3 – amended and agreed to
Paragraphs 3.52 to 3.56 – agreed to
Finding 1 – agreed to
Recommendation 4 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.57 to 3.60 – agreed to
Recommendation 5 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.61 to 3.62 – agreed to
Recommendation 6 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.63 to 3.66 – agreed to
Recommendation 7 – agreed to
Recommendation 8 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.67 to 3.70 – agreed to
Recommendation 9 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.71 to 3.74 – agreed to
Recommendation 10 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.75 to 3.77 – agreed to
Recommendation 11 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.78 to 3.81 – agreed to
Recommendation 12 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.82 to 3.84 – agreed to
Recommendation 13 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.85 to 3.87 – agreed to
Recommendation 14 – agreed to
Paragraphs 3.88 to 3.91 – agreed to
Recommendation 15 – agreed to
Paragraph 3.92 to 3.95 – agreed to
Recommendation 16 – amended and agreed to
Paragraph 3.96 – removed
Recommendation 17 – removed
Paragraphs 3.97 to 3.100 – agreed to
Recommendation 18 – agreed to
Chapter 4 – agreed to
Appendix A – agreed to

- 3.4. The Committee **resolved** [BARRY] to adopt the report, as amended.
- 3.5. The Committee **resolved** [RATTENBURY] that the Secretary be authorised to make minor formatting and typographical changes to the report to prepare it for printing, after its adoption by the Committee but prior to its presentation.
- 3.6. Noting the order of the Assembly requires the inquiry to be concluded by 27 February 2026, the Committee agreed to table the report in the Assembly on Thursday 26 February 2026.
- 3.7. The Committee noted that dissenting reports, if any, are to be provided to the Secretariat at least a day before tabling. Dissenting reports are not circulated to Members prior to this.
- 3.8. The Committee deliberated on speaking time for the report in the Assembly.
- 3.9. The Committee agreed that the Chair would move that the report be noted.

3.10. The Committee deliberated on the draft media release. The Committee **resolved** [RATTENBURY] to adopt the media release.

7. Close

7.1. The Chair closed the meeting at 12.56 pm.

All minutes are signed by the Chair with the exception of the minutes for 12 February 2026, 18 February 2026 and 24 February 2026 which are certified correct by the secretary.

[CERTIFIED CORRECT]



Ms Kathleen de Kleuver
Committee Secretary
24 February 2026