



Inquiry into the Bail Amendment Bill 2026

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings MLA

Addressed to: Ms Juliette Ford, Victims of Crime Commissioner

In relation to: Collection of bail data in other jurisdictions

Hearing: 25 June 2026

Uncorrected Proof Transcript p 46

Transcript provided: 3 July 2026

Answer Due: 10 July 2026

Ms Juliette Ford took on notice the following question(s):

MR WERNER-GIBBINGS: Thank you. In your submission on page 2, “collection of data in relation to bail administration”, if possible are you able to expand a little bit on this suggestion? What sort of data, in what context, if you sort of have that analysis. And it is obvious that it would improve the data system, but from your perspective, in your role—sorry, the justice system—how that data would improve the justice system from where you sit?

Ms Ford: The collection of data that occurs in a systematic way in New South Wales and Victoria has been directly relevant towards reforms made in those jurisdictions in the criminal justice area. So the collection of data can be on two fronts, both in relation to those things that I was pointing out before in relation to what decision was made, or why that decision was made at certain points. And then you can start having an analysis in relation to what that may indicate. The value of a databank that allows us then to draw upon in relation to what sorts of decisions for bail are made at any point in time—what the trends are, whether it was effective or not, could better decisions be made—can directly inform reform in a way which is systemised.

Now, recognising the ACT is a smaller jurisdiction than New South Wales and Victoria, there must be opportunities to leverage off what they have learnt in relation to how they have rolled out their commitment to data collection in a manner which is separate to the justice system, but informs how the justice system operates. Now, I can provide some explicit examples about what it looks like in those other jurisdictions if you would like me to do so, but I would have to take that away and provide that to you out of session.

MR WERNER-GIBBINGS: Do you think it would be helpful? Do you think you could bring—I mean, how long—actually, yes, if possible, what you can within—is fine without putting yourself out too much. That would be really helpful.

Ms Ford: No, absolutely. I mean, certainly what I can do is provide you with an example of what it looks like in New South Wales and in Victoria and how it operates in a manner which supports the reform piece, which goes back to the first question that I was asked today.

MS VASSAROTTI: Yes, that would be great.

MR WERNER-GIBBINGS: Thank you kindly.

Ms Juliette Ford: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

In NSW, bail-related data is primarily collated and analysed by the NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR), using information obtained from police, courts and Corrective Services NSW. BOCSAR publishes statistics and research on bail decisions, bail refusal rates, remand populations and broader criminal justice trends. The data can be analysed by a range of demographic characteristics and offence types, and is regularly used to inform criminal justice policy development and law reform discussions in NSW.

In Victoria, bail and remand information is publicly available through the Crime Statistics Agency which publishes regular bail and remand statistics, and Corrections Victoria which publishes prisoner and remand population data. Evidence regarding the operation of the bail system has also been examined through processes such as the Veronica Nelson Coronial Inquest. This information is used to support criminal justice system operation and reform.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:



Date: 10 July 2026

By the Victims of Crime Commissioner, Ms Juliette Ford