



STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

JEREMY HANSON CSC MLA (CHAIR), MARISA PATERSON MLA (DEPUTY CHAIR), JO CLAY MLA

Inquiry into referred 2019–20 Annual and Financial Reports and Budget Estimates 2020-21
ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Asked by Peter Cain MLA:

Ref: JACSD Annual Report 2019-20, Human Rights Commission, 'Protecting Vulnerable People '

In relation to: COVID-19 Emergency Response Legislation Amendment Act 2020

1. As part of the ACT Government's COVID-19 Response, the function of the HRC was to deal with complaints about abuse, neglect or exploitation were expanded. During the 2019-20 financial year, how many complaints about abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable people were made?
 - a. How many of those were resolved during the 2019-20 financial year?
 - b. How many complaints from the reporting period remained open at the end of the 2019-20 financial year?
 - c. How many total complaints remain open currently?
 - d. How many of complaints made during the 2019-20 financial year occurred after the passage of the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Legislation Amendment Act 2020*?

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

The vulnerable person complaint jurisdiction commenced on 14 May 2020. The jurisdiction is not retrospective.

In the 2019/20 financial year the Commission received the Commission received 2 vulnerable people complaints.

- a. Neither of those two complaints was resolved in the 2019/20 financial year.
- b. Two complaints from the 2019/20 reporting period remained open at the end of the reporting period
- c. As at 1 March 2021 the Commission had 8 open vulnerable person complaints
- d. Two vulnerable person complaints occurred after the passage of the COVID-19 Emergency Response Legislation Amendment Act 2020 in the 2019/20 reporting period



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QON No. 74

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

Signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tara Cheyne", written over the "Signature:" label.

Date: 8/3/21

By the Minister for Human Rights, Tara Cheyne MLA