



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ESTIMATES 2024-2025

Ms Nicole Lawder MLA (Chair), Ms Suzanne Orr MLA (Deputy Chair),
Miss Laura Nuttall MLA

**ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE
DURING PUBLIC HEARINGS**

Asked by: Mr Peter Cain MLA

Addressed to: Director of Public Prosecutions

Redirected to: n/a

Reference: Uncorrected Hansard Transcript [Page 10-11]

In relation to: Prosecutions in 12-14 age group

Hearing Date: 1 August 2024

QTON lodgement date: 2 August 2024

Answer Due Date: 7 August 2024

MR CAIN: So, is there any is there any lack of clarity at all about prosecuting say a 13 year old for a serious assault?

Ms Engel: I do not believe so the status quo is that they would be prosecuted, but if there are particular factors that would weigh against the public interest in prosecuting them, in light of the fact that the age will be or is being raised has been raised, then that is being assessed on a case-by-case basis. But certainly, my office does not have a uniform policy of not prosecuting those people.

MR CAIN: Within that 12 and 14 cohort, how many additional prosecutions are you able to say have actually been implemented? Because of the raising of the age from 12—from 10 to 12.

Ms Engel: I would have to take that question on those.

Ms Victoria Engel: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

No additional prosecutions have been implemented.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2024-2025

Signature: 

Date: 4 August 2024

By the Director of Public Prosecutions, Ms Victoria Engel SC