



Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Ms Deborah Morris MLA

Addressed to: Dr John Boersig, Chief Executive Officer, Legal Aid Commission ACT

Redirected to:

Reference: Legal Aid Commission ACT

Hearing: 12 February 2025

In relation to: Employment of convicted child sex offender at Legal Aid

Question received: 21 February 2025

Answer Due: 28 February 2025

- (1) Did Bradley John Burch, also known as Bradley “Sexton”, have a current Working with Vulnerable People check when he applied for a position at Legal Aid ACT?
 - a. If no; why did Legal Aid hire Mr Burch/Sexton without a returned police check and without a Working with Vulnerable People check?
- (2) Did Mr Burch/Sexton identify any other names in the form that Legal Aid sent to police?
 - a. What other names did Mr Burch/Sexton specify?
- (3) Did Mr Burch/Sexton identify any criminal convictions in the form that Legal Aid sent to police?
 - a. If yes, what criminal convictions did Mr Burch/Sexton identify?
- (4) On what date did Mr Burch’s employment at Legal Aid cease?
- (5) What area of Legal Aid was Mr Burch working in before his police check was returned on 2 August?
 - a. What was the nature of Mr Burch’s work in this role?
 - b. Did Mr Burch have access to any information involving minors or sexual misconduct/assault?
- (6) What area of work was Mr Burch moved to after his police check was returned?

Dr Boersig: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

OFFICIAL

(1) No.

- a. I refer the Member to my evidence to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs during the Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023-24 on 12 February 2025 at pages 29-30 of the transcript (the transcript).

(2) No.

- a. Mr Sexton identified the names Bradley Burch and Bradley Sexton. I refer the Member to my evidence on page 30 of the transcript.

(3) No.

- a. Mr Sexton identified his criminal convictions as 'unspent convictions'. He did not detail what his specific convictions were. I refer the Member to my evidence on pages 30-32 of the transcript.

(4) Mr Sexton resigned effective 14 August 2023.

(5) Mr Sexton was working within the Criminal Law Practice as a paralegal prior to the return of his police check.

- a. Paralegal staff support lawyers within the Criminal Law Practice by conducting legal administrative work including booking appointments, updating and compiling client files, and filing documents at the courts.
- b. Mr Sexton was a paralegal in the Criminal Law Practice. I refer the Member to my evidence on page 29 of the transcript.

(6) Mr Sexton was relocated to work directly to the Chief Executive Officer as a research assistant, conducting legal research and administrative tasks under direct supervision. I refer the Member to my evidence on page 29 of the transcript.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:

By the Chief Executive Officer of Legal Aid ACT, Dr John Boersig PSM

Date:

5/3/25