

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

QTON No. 7

STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY Mr Peter Cain MLA, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA, Mr Andrew Braddock MLA

Inquiry into Community Corrections ANSWER TO QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE 16 February 2022

Asked by Dr Marisa Paterson on 16 February 2022: Mr Michael Kukulies-Smith took on notice the following question:

[Ref: Hansard Transcript 16 February 2022, page 55]

In relation to:

Legal representation in parole proceedings

Michael Kukulies-Smith: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:-

Whilst lawyers are permitted to appear, there is often minimal or no legal representation in parole proceedings. Legal Aid lawyers do not generally assist with parole application or hearings, although assistance can be given from time to time for exceptionally complex matters. We understand that Legal Aid ACT prioritises funding to assist individuals who are *at risk of* incarceration rather than to those who are *already in* incarceration. We also note that a representative from Legal Aid ACT will appear before the Committee in March 2022 and address this question.

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

Signature: Date: Response received 22/02/2022

By the [Commissioner/Officer for], [name of Commissioner/Official]