



Simon Corbell mla

ATTORNEY-GENERAL
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS



Member for Molonglo

**Answer to Question Taken on Notice
During Public Hearings**

Mrs Giulia Jones and Mrs Vicki Dunne asked the **Minister for Police and Emergency Services**, upon notice, on 18 June 2014:

- (1) Ask the AFP to clarify in writing the advice that they gave to Mrs Jones.
- (2) Why the AFP does not at least explore the adult ads for evidence of criminality.

Asked by Mrs Giulia Jones MLA on 18 June 2014: Mr Simon Corbell MLA took on notice the following questions:

[Ref: Uncorrected Proof Copy Transcript of Evidence, Wednesday 18 June 2014, Page 14]

In relation to: Regulating the brothel industry

THE CHAIR: Would you please take on notice and ask the AFP to clarify in writing the advice that they gave to Mrs Jones?

MR CORBELL: Happy to do so.

Mrs Dunne: The chairman has made a request about follow up advice on the briefing Mrs Jones and I received and I would like specific comment on why the AFP does not at least explore the adult ads for evidence of criminality.

MR CORBELL: That is a separate question and I would have to refer that to ACT Policing.

MRS JONES: Well no only that I just want to clarify that I am not suggesting that they never do any proactive work in the ACT to find criminality across the board, but that it was made very clear in the briefing that criminality in this industry is not proactively sought out by the police. That was the statement that was made to me and if that is the case I am disappointed, and if it is not the case I would be very happy to hear that it is not, thank you.

MR CORBELL: On the advice given to me I think that is not an accurate summation of the advice that ACT Policing provided to you, but nevertheless for the sake of—

MRS JONES: Well there are two witnesses here.

MR CORBELL: —for the sake of being absolutely clear about that I will take that question on

Approved for circulation to the Member

Simon Corbell MLA
Attorney-General

Date: 1.7.14

notice and ask for a written answer from the AFP.

Mr Simon Corbell MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:—

- (1) During the briefing with AFP and ACT Policing members advice was provided about policing of the brothel industry. The Office of Regulatory Services (ORS) performs the role of licensing brothels and sole operator sex workers and is responsible for monitoring compliance with occupational health and safety laws. ACT Policing is responsible for investigating criminal offences against the *Prostitution Act 1992*.

ACT Policing is intelligence-led and works with partner agencies to monitor and respond to any identified issues of criminality in the community. For example, ACT Policing attends joint site inspections of brothels with the ORS (WorkSafe ACT) and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection.

As a result of assisting ORS in the inspections of licensed brothels, ACT Policing maintains an ongoing criminal intelligence gathering role across the ACT on a range of areas including potential criminality in the adult sex industry. Where intelligence or information indicates possible criminality occurring, ACT Policing will initiate appropriate action in partnership with ORS as the licensing body..

In monitoring the criminal environment, ACT Policing relies on a broad range of sources for gathering intelligence including human sources, partner agency information, media, Crimestoppers, etc.

- (2) ACT Policing employs an intelligence-led investigative model, which draws information from a variety of sources.

Sources of information such as classified advertising are shared through liaison with the ORS, and the Department of Immigration and Border Protection, for example.

Advertisements for adult services are not, in isolation, evidence of criminality.

Should information be provided to ACT Policing that indicates potential criminality occurring within the sex industry, an investigation will be undertaken.