



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

JACS No. 43

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 Ms Jo Clay MLA: To ask the Attorney-General:

In relation to: **People who are vulnerable and COVID**

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Will the COVID vulnerable people measures to protect older people and people with a disability be extended, particularly given interim findings in the Aged Care Royal Commission?

Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:–

A number of protections for vulnerable people were introduced in response to the COVID-19 emergency.

Some measures, including safeguards relating to the risk of misused powers of attorney, have already been made permanent, and others will be reviewed prior to expiry to consider whether they should be continued on a permanent basis.

This includes the new complaint handling jurisdiction for the ACT Human Rights Commission introduced by the *COVID-19 Emergency Response Legislation Amendment Act 2020*, which allows the Commission to consider complaints about the abuse, neglect or exploitation of vulnerable people including older people and people with a disability.

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

Signature:

Date: 15/3/21

By the Attorney-General, Shane Rattenbury MLA