

**Tara Cheyne MLA**

Assistant Minister for Economic Development  
Minister for the Arts  
Minister for Business and Better Regulation  
Minister for Human Rights  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Member for Ginninderra

Our ref: PRO22/2858

Mr Peter Cain MLA

Chair, Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role)  
Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory  
GPO Box 1020  
CANBERRA ACT 2601

September 2022

Dear Mr Cain

I am writing in response to the Standing Committee of Justice and Community Safety's comment and request for a response on the Victims of Crime (Fees) Determination 2022 (No 1) [DI2022-101] in its Scrutiny Report 20.

The Committee has sought an explanation as to why a Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase of 3.0 per cent was used rather than a Wage Price Index increase of 3.25 per cent.

These fee increases were made by the Director-General of the Justice and Community Safety Directorate under a Ministerial delegation.

The Legislation (Victims of Crime) Delegation 2018 (No 1) [NI2018-337] was made under section 254A of the *Legislation Act 2001*. The delegation permits the Director-General to determine fees for service providers under the section 50 of the *Victims of Crime Regulation 2000*. It provides that the Director-General:

May in writing determine the fees that are payable for services provided to an eligible victim under this regulation. Fee increases must be commensurate with Consumer Price Index.

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The increase in fees was made in compliance with the terms of that delegation. The CPI rate used was in line with ACT Treasury advice on the appropriate escalation factor.

The approach taken in increasing fees in the 2022/23 financial year is consistent with previous increases to these fees in line with CPI as specified in the delegation since 2018.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the matters raised by the Committee.

Sincerely

Tara Cheyne MLA  
Minister for Human Rights