



Shane Rattenbury MLA
Attorney-General
Minister for Consumer Affairs
Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction
Minister for Gaming

Member for Kurrajong

Mr Peter Cain MLA
Chair
Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety (Legislative Scrutiny Role)
ACT Legislative Assembly
via email: scrutiny@parliament.act.gov.au

Dear Mr ~~Cain~~ *Peter*

I am writing to respond to Scrutiny Report 33 of the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety in its Legislative Scrutiny Role (the Committee).

In the Report, the Committee made comments on DI2023-205 Legal Aid (Commissioner – ACTCOSS Nominee) Appointment 2023. I thank the Committee for its comments in relation to the above instrument and provide the following response.

Section 16(2) of the *Legal Aid Act 1977* (the Act) empowers me to appoint members to the Legal Aid Commission Board other than the Chief Executive Officer. The reference to 'part-time member' in the above instruments is pursuant to section 16(4) of Act, which specifies that members are appointed by me to the Board on a part-time basis.

To address the Committee's comments, the explanatory statement for this appointment has been revised to specifically refer to section 16(4). I do not consider it necessary to amend the instrument as it states it is made under section 16 of the Act which includes all subsections.

I trust the above addresses the matters raised.

Yours sincerely

Shane Rattenbury MLA
Attorney-General

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