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Mr Michael Tatham
Clerk of the Legislative Assembly
Legislative Assembly of the Northern Territory
GPO Box 3146
DARWIN NT 0801

Dear Mr Tatham

Michael

I now provide you with the Government's Response to the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee Inquiry into the Domestic and Family Violence Amendment (Information Sharing) Bill 2017 (the Bill) in accordance with Standing Order 201.

On 13 March 2018, the Social Policy Scrutiny Committee tabled its Report on the Inquiry into the Bill. The report made two recommendations:

- Recommendation 1: The Committee recommends that the Legislative Assembly not pass the Domestic and Family Violence Amendment (Information Sharing) Bill 2017.
- Recommendation 2: The Committee recommends that the Government undertakes further consultation with the domestic and family violence sector to consider and address the issues raised in this report.

In response to Recommendation 1, the Government is preparing amendments to the Bill for introduction in the October 2018 Sittings of the Legislative Assembly.

The Committee outlined a series of specific suggestions in relation to the Bill following advice from key stakeholders in domestic and family violence services and legal services. These suggestions are sensible and the Government amendments will address these key issues.

In response to Recommendation 2, amendments to the Bill requires consultation on the development and amendment of the information sharing guidelines and regulations. The new information sharing regime created by this Bill demonstrates the Government's commitment to tackling domestic violence and making women and children in the Territory safer.

Yours sincerely

Natasha

NATASHA FYLES

11 SEP 2018



RECEIVED

12 SEP 2018

Office of the Clerk