

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts
Committee Inquiry Question on Notice
Environment and Communications
Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Bill 2024 [Provisions]

IQ24-000098

Division/Agency: DIV - Digital Platforms Safety and Classification

Hansard Reference: Spoken (25 November 2024)

Topic: Number of meetings between eSafety and the Minister/Department regarding legislation

Sarah Hanson-Young asked:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: How many meetings has the Minister had with the eSafety Commissioner about this particular piece of legislation?

Mr Chisholm: The Minister meets with eSafety Commissioner regularly, as do we.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: I would like by the end of today how many meetings the Minister has had, and the department has had, with the eSafety Commissioner specifically in relation to this issue.

Mr Chisholm: We'll take that on notice.

Answer:

The Minister for Communications and her office regularly meet and speak to the eSafety Commissioner on all online safety matters, including the development of this Bill. Through the course of the development of this Bill, this has involved a substantial number of discussions and meetings.

This is in addition to a number of meetings between relevant eSafety staff and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts at officer and senior levels to discuss the legislative design principles and the Bill.

eSafety is also a member of the cross-government working group established as part of the Age Assurance Trial. The working group meets regularly to discuss implementation of the age assurance trial and has had regular oversight of the legislative design process.