

Office of the eSafety Commissioner
Responses to questions taken on notice
Inquiry into the AVM Act
Public Hearing 17 November 2021

Question Two

[Page 35] **CHAIR:** How is this particular piece of legislation holding up compared to jurisdictions overseas?

Mr Dagg: I'm very happy to take on notice a question about comparable law that's being explored in jurisdictions overseas. We know that Canada, the UK, the European Union and Ireland are all thinking about bringing forward online safety legislation. I'm not sure, off the top of my head, of the extent to which it covers abhorrent violent material in the way that the Australian legislation does through the Criminal Code, but I'm very happy to answer that question on notice.

CHAIR: That's fine. We obviously have the ability to do an international comparison at our end, but I was just interested in your discussions with your counterparts around the world. Deputy Chair, have you got a final question before we move on?

ANSWER

eSafety is not aware of other jurisdictions which have introduced legislation that specifically mirrors the features of the *Criminal Code Amendment (Sharing of Abhorrent Violent Material) Act 2019*. However, New Zealand has proposed legislation with some similarities through the *Films, Videos, and Publications Classification (Urgent Interim Classification of Publications and Prevention of Online Harm) Amendment Bill*. Among other things, the Bill creates an offence for the livestreaming of objectionable material or sharing livestreamed objectionable material.