

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Access to free hospital assistance for victims of domestic violence

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: 0205

Type of question: Written, 21 August 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 September 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

The NSW government announced it would allow people who are ineligible for Medicare (such as victims on TPVs) to access free hospital assistance for DV injuries without having to report the crime to police. Was this discussed at the Women's Safety Council meeting? Are you aware of similar measures being considered in other States?

Answer:

The outcomes from the recent Women's Safety Ministerial meeting on 7 August 2020 are available at <https://pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/pmc/womens-safety-ministers-meeting-outcomes-7-august-2020.pdf>.

The Office for Women is not aware of other states and territories considering this measure at this time.

Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Topic: Women's Economic Security Statement 2018

Senator: Siewert

Question reference number: 0206

Type of question: Written, 21 August 2020

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 4 September 2020

Number of pages: 1

Question:

What work is being done to update the Women's Economic Security Statement 2018 to take account of the impacts of Covid?

Answer:

The Commonwealth Government is closely monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on all Australians, including women.

The Government is working to refresh its Women's Economic Security Statement (WESS). The refreshed WESS will be released in due course.