

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice
Additional Estimates Spill-Over Hearing March 2017
Communications Portfolio
Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

Question No: 295

Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner

Hansard Ref: Written, 03/04/2017

Topic: Adult access to the eSafety Commission

Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:

The Second Reading speech to the Enhancing Online Safety for Children Amendment Bill 2017 (9 February 2017) states that 'The bill amendments address feedback received by the government that adult members of the public are not aware that they can go to the Children's eSafety Commissioner for assistance with concerns around illegal or offensive online content, the sharing of intimate images without consent...or for general advice about how to manage technology risks and online safety. Please advise in detail what feedback or evidence the Commissioner has to indicate that adult members of the public are not aware as described in the second reading speech.

Answer:

The Office of the Children's eSafety Commissioner (OCeSC) supports the proposed amendments to the *Enhancing Online Safety for Children Amendment Bill* to reflect the expanded functions of the OCeSC.

The OCeSC has noted anecdotal feedback that the current name may deter some segments of the public coming to the Office for assistance on a broad range of online safety issues currently within the office's remit.

Expanding the OCeSC's role and changing the name of the Children's eSafety Commissioner to the eSafety Commissioner will make it easier for the broader public to identify where they can seek assistance and advice in relation to a range of online safety issues, irrespective of age.