

4 December 2019

RE: Question on Notice

Please find below our response to the question from The Hon. Daniel Mookhey MLC, Deputy Chair, Legislative Council Standing Committee on Social Issues, at the hearing for the Inquiry into the Modern Slavery Act 2018 and Associated matters on 4 November 2019.

Do you think the Anti-Slavery Commissioner should have the power to seek an AVO?

Providing the Anti-Slavery Commissioner with the power to seek an AVO would be inconsistent with the current role and functions of the Anti-Slavery Commissioner. The restrictions on the exercise of functions in section 10(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (NSW) specifically provide that the 'Commissioner does not generally have the function of investigating or dealing directly with the complaints or concerns of individual cases'.

Anti-Slavery Australia welcomes and supports the general functions of the Anti-Slavery Commissioner, particularly the Commissioner's role in encouraging good practice in the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of modern slavery, and in the identification of victims.

Thank you again for the opportunity to contribute to the Inquiry.

Questions may be directed to Carolyn Liaw, Researcher, at