STANDING COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL ISSUES

MEDIA RELEASE

COERCIVE CONTROL BILL REPORT TABLED

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 4 November 2022

The Legislative Council's Standing Committee on Social Issues has today tabled its report for the inquiry into the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Coercive Control) Bill 2022. The key object of the bill is to criminalise coercive control against a current or former intimate partner.

Chair of the committee, the Hon Scott Barrett MLC said, 'Coercive control is an insidious and often misunderstood form of domestic abuse, and it is evident that the current laws in New South Wales do not adequately respond to the needs of victim-survivors'.

'During this inquiry the committee heard differing views among stakeholders, with some expressing support for the bill, while others, still recognising the need for such legislation, expressed concern about some aspects of the current bill'.

The Chair concluded, 'Despite these differences of opinion, one thing is clear – coercive control must be criminalised'.

The report recommends that debate on the bill proceed in the Upper House, and that the concerns identified by the stakeholders as set out in the report be addressed during debate in the House.

The committee's report and other inquiry related documents can be found on the committee's webpage.

-ENDS-

For further information, please contact the office of Committee Chair, the Hon Scott Barrett MLC, on (02) 9230 3728.