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Senator Nita Green
Chair
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee
PO Box 6100 Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Via email: LegCon.Sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator

Nita,

I write in response to your letter dated 2 December 2022 inviting the Department of the Chief Minister and Cabinet to make a submission to the Inquiry into current and proposed sexual consent laws in Australia (the Inquiry) of the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs References Committee. Your letter has been referred to me to respond as Attorney-General and Minister for Justice.

The Northern Territory Government recognises the importance of appropriate sexual consent laws and supports the intent of the Inquiry. The Northern Territory Law Reform Committee has recently accepted a request to review consent in sexual offences in the NT Criminal Code. It is expected that a report including recommendations will be provided for the Northern Territory Government to consider later this year.

While Northern Territory legislation in this area is presently under review, greater inter jurisdictional cooperation may be beneficial. I look forward to the findings of the Inquiry.

CHANSEY PAECH
15 MAR 2023