



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement

Inquiry into Australia's illicit drug problem: challenges and opportunities for law enforcement

Additional Information

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

Additional clarifications

By way of clarification of answers provided to the Committee, the CDPP also notes the following:

1. On page 29 of the transcript, Ms Amparo observed that the conviction rate for the period 1 July to 31 July 2023 for over 705 matters was 94.23%. Ms Amparo omitted a reference to the relevant year for the first date. To clarify, the conviction rates referred to were for the period 1 July **2020** to 31 July 2023.
2. On page 30 of the transcript, Mr de Crespigny observed that there was no process to determine whether a drug related offence matter was better prosecuted by a State or Territory prosecution agency or by the CDPP. To clarify, the CDPP does have a Practice Group Instruction titled *Charging guidelines for serious drug offences under Part 9.1 of the Criminal Code*, a copy of which is attached which, at a high level, provides relevant factors to be considered when determining whether a matter should be prosecuted by the CDPP, or if it should be referred to another prosecution agency.
3. On page 30 of the transcript, Mr de Crespigny provided an answer that he was not aware of any consultation with the CDPP regarding the proposed laws or the change of drug laws in the ACT. To clarify, the CDPP was not consulted in relation to the amendments in the *Drugs of Dependence (Personal Use) Amendment Act 2022* (ACT). The CDPP notes that in 2019 the CDPP was consulted in relation to amendments to ACT drug laws concerning cannabis.