

## Senate Select Committee on COVID-19

### ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Access to free hospital assistance for victims of domestic violence

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question reference number:** 0205

**Type of question:** Written, 21 August 2020

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 September 2020

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

The NSW government announced it would allow people who are ineligible for Medicare (such as victims on TPVs) to access free hospital assistance for DV injuries without having to report the crime to police. Was this discussed at the Women's Safety Council meeting? Are you aware of similar measures being considered in other States?

#### **Answer:**

The outcomes from the recent Women's Safety Ministerial meeting on 7 August 2020 are available at <https://pmc.gov.au/sites/default/files/files/pmc/womens-safety-ministers-meeting-outcomes-7-august-2020.pdf>.

The Office for Women is not aware of other states and territories considering this measure at this time.

## **Senate Select Committee on COVID-19**

### **ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

#### **Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio**

**Department/Agency:** Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

**Topic:** Women's Economic Security Statement 2018

**Senator:** Siewert

**Question reference number:** 0206

**Type of question:** Written, 21 August 2020

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 4 September 2020

**Number of pages:** 1

#### **Question:**

What work is being done to update the Women's Economic Security Statement 2018 to take account of the impacts of Covid?

#### **Answer:**

The Commonwealth Government is closely monitoring the impacts of COVID-19 on all Australians, including women.

The Government is working to refresh its Women's Economic Security Statement (WESS). The refreshed WESS will be released in due course.