

ACT Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions

MEDIA RELEASE

RE: CONDUCT OF WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY PROSECUTION REVIEW FINAL REPORT JUNE 2022

25 JULY 2022

The Director of Public Prosecutions Shane Drumgold SC holds significant concerns about the content of the Conduct of Work Health and Safety Prosecutions Review Final Report June 2022 in general, and as it relates to fundamental prosecution roles and responsibilities.

Firstly, the report is replete with misrepresentations, unfounded claims and serious factual errors.

Further, the report and its content completely disregard well-established and fundamentally important principles including the independence of prosecutorial decisions from government interests, investigator bias and interest group pressure.

The recommendations completely disregard the prosecutor's primary role as a minister of justice, going so far as to set performance measures in securing unrealistic, and comparatively unhealthy conviction rates.

The resulting proposal is completely unrealistic, and if adopted, would result in a model that would be both prohibitively expensive and functionally and legally unworkable.

End media release