

## **Triple Bottom Line (TBL) Assessment Summary**

The Triple Bottom Line Assessment is required to be published in accordance with Part 4, section 23 (1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2016

## 19/601 Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Bill 2020

## Summary of impacts:

- Proposed amendments to the *Working with Vulnerable People (Background Checking) Act* 2011 are intended to reduce the risk of harm or neglect to vulnerable people in the ACT. This objective puts the human rights of vulnerable people in conflict with the rights of individuals to work or care for others.
- Some workers who have a Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) clearance, and who are currently working with vulnerable people in the ACT, may not satisfy national standards for working with children checks contained in the Bill.
- The Bill aims to balance the rights of a person to work with a vulnerable person's rights to safety and protection from harm. On balance, the proposed amendments favour protecting the rights and dignity of vulnerable people by limiting their exposure to those who pose a risk to their safety and wellbeing.

Level of impact	Positive	Negative	Neutral
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Social			
Level of impact	Impact	Summary	
Positive	Disability	• The proposed amendments strengthen both the protection afforded to people with disability and children by continuing the ACT's implementation of nationally consistent worker screening and working with children checks systems.	
Positive	Disadvantaged and vulnerable	<ul> <li>As above, the proposed amendments strengthen both the protection afforded to people with disability and children by continuing the ACT's implementation of nationally consistent worker screening and working with children checks systems.</li> </ul>	

Positive	Human rights	<ul> <li>The proposed amendments balance the human rights of a person to work against a vulnerable person's rights to safety and protection from harm.</li> <li>For the purpose of background checking, the</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>For the purpose of background checking, the vulnerable person's right to protection from harm was determined to be the prevailing right.</li> </ul>
Neutral	Access to social inclusion/participation and community activities	<ul> <li>The proposed amendments will have a positive impact for social inclusion by implementing nationally consistent standards for working with children checks to mitigate the risk of harm or neglect to vulnerable people in the ACT.</li> <li>There could be a negative impact on social participation for a very small minority of individuals with a criminal history that includes disqualifying offences who will not be permitted, under the proposed amendments, to register for the Working with Vulnerable People scheme (WWVP scheme).</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>On balance the amendments improve social inclusion.</li> </ul>

Economic				
Level of impact	Impact	Summary		
Neutral	ACT Government Budget	• There will be no implications for the ACT Government Budget, however, there are operational costs associated with Access Canberra's administration of the WWVP scheme.		
Neutral	Employment	<ul> <li>All employees and volunteers in the ACT operating in a regulated activity are currently required to hold a current WWVP registration.</li> <li>The proposed amendments may negatively impact on a very small number of WWVP registrants who do not satisfy the proposed new nationally</li> </ul>		
Neutral	Small Business Impact	<ul> <li>Nil (beyond what is included in 'Employment' section above).</li> </ul>		

Environmental Nil impact