

SELECT COMMITTEE INTO ELDER ABUSE — REPORT — GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

1852. Hon Alison Xamon to the Leader of the House representing the Attorney General; Minister for Commerce:

I refer to recommendation 25 in the Government Response to *I never thought it would happen to me: when trust is broken*, Final report of the Select Committee into Elder Abuse, and I ask:

- (a) has a preferred option been identified for harmonising enduring power of attorneys;
- (b) if no to (a) what stage is the process of identifying options up to;
- (c) what is Western Australia's involvement in this process; and
- (d) when is it expected that the national register will be in place?

Hon Sue Ellery replied:

- (a) No.
- (b) The Australian Guardianship and Administrators Council (AGAC) has finalised an options paper which was submitted to the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department in late December 2018. The paper identifies three options for possible harmonisation of laws and policies. The options paper is being considered by a Council of Attorneys General (CAG) Enduring Power of Attorney Working Group.
- (c) Western Australia has two representatives on the CAG Enduring Power of Attorney Working Group and two representatives on the overarching CAG Implementation Executive Group.
- (d) Not known. The Australian Government has made \$2 million available to support on-going discussions on law reform and development of a proof-of-concept for a national online register of financial Enduring Powers of Attorney.