

17 June 2020

Ms Pauline Wright President Law Council of Australia Limited DX 5719 CANBERRA ACT 2600

By email to: alexandra.wormald@lawcouncil.asn.au

Dear Ms Wright

OPTIONS ON ADDRESSING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION

I refer to your Memorandum dated 5 December 2019 and the attached Options Paper – Addressing Sexual Harassment in the Legal Profession.

I note that the Options Paper in effect proposes five options for addressing sexual harassment in the legal profession, namely:

Option 1: Develop national model sexual harassment policy and guidelines;

Option 2: Develop a centralised source of information and suite of educational tools;

Option 3: Facilitate a consistent complaints process;

Option 4: Support Constituent Bodies to develop professional development training; and Supplementary Option: Engage a victim support officer.

On behalf of the Law Society of Western Australia, I write to formally indicate our support and agreement with each of these options, and particularly acknowledge the importance of Option 3.

I look forward to the Law Society of Western Australia working on these options with the Law Council of Australia in addressing this very important initiative.

Yours sincerely

Nicholas van Hattem President