

## **PART C: Submission**

1. How would you describe the workplace culture(s) of the Commonwealth parliamentary workplace(s) where you work/have worked? Please outline specific strengths and/or weaknesses in terms of workplace culture(s), based on your experiences, as appropriate.

I just want to comment of the amount of alcohol and the alcohol culture that exists amongst the MPs and Senators. Not unusual for client to walk out to the shuttle line during the adjournment debate totally plastered. Sometimes, they can barely walk. We are given jobs to pick up the client ASAP from a restaurant. They will come out an hour late, bordering on drunk!

2. Based on your experiences, what are the factors that already do, or could contribute to a safe and respectful environment in Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces?

Alcohol free!

3. Based on your experiences, what are the factors that may contribute to workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault in Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces?

From my working perspective, the alcohol doesn't help. There is an obvious power imbalance as well but that is beyond my scope.

4. Are you familiar with any Commonwealth parliamentary workplace policies, processes and/or practices in relation to staff and worker safety and wellbeing, workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault? If so, please outline your understanding of how these policies, processes and/or practices operate.

As a Public Servant, I spent over the first cohort introduced to in the 80's. Was a of the

5. During your time working in a Commonwealth parliamentary workplace(s), have/did you receive any education or training in relation to worker safety and wellbeing, and/or how to prevent or respond to workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault? If yes, please outline your experience of the training and whether it was useful in increasing your knowledge and/or skills in relation to preventing and responding to workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault.

See above. I did numerous counseling courses, they did help but I was surprised by some of the people who undertook such roles - they were totally unsuitable.

6. Are you aware of how you and/or other people working in Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces can report workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault (either formally or informally)? If yes, please specify what reporting options exist, and outline your experience with accessing and/or using those reporting

options if applicable.

Yes

- 7. Are you aware of any supports available in Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces to people who experience workplace bullying, sexual harassment or sexual assault? If yes, please specify what supports exist, and outline your experience with accessing and/or using those supports if applicable.

  No
- 8. Based on your experiences, do you have any suggestions or recommendations on how to improve the prevention of and responses to workplace bullying, sexual harassment and sexual assault in Commonwealth parliamentary workplaces? Alcohol free zone for starters.
- 9. Is there anything else you would like to tell the Commission? No



