



## MEDIA RELEASE

# MODERN SLAVERY COMMITTEE RELEASES PART TWO OF ITS REPORT ON THE REVIEW OF THE *MODERN SLAVERY ACT 2018*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**[20 December 2024]**

Today, the Modern Slavery Committee tabled part two of its report on the review of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (the Act), making 12 recommendations to the NSW Government to strengthen the Act and the broader efforts to combat modern slavery and support victim-survivors.

Dr Joe McGirr, Chair of the Committee, stated: "This review marks a significant milestone for the Modern Slavery Committee. It is the first opportunity for the committee to review the Act since its commencement in 2022 and to engage with individuals with lived experience of modern slavery that the Act is designed to support".

"In part 1 of the review we heard from various stakeholders about the need to centre lived experience expertise in the work of the committee and broader response to modern slavery. Part two of our review was conducted for this purpose. We heard from individuals with lived experience who spoke in detail about the realities of modern slavery, its impact and the challenges they have faced in coming forward, accessing support and seeking justice".

"Their testimony played a significant role in shaping our recommendations to the NSW Government. I thank these individuals for their bravery and strength in sharing their experience with the committee. I also extend my gratitude to all other stakeholders who contributed to the review", the Chair added.

"Our recommendations call on the NSW Government to make various changes to the Act. For example, we have recommended that the NSW Anti-slavery Commissioner's information gathering and sanctioning powers be strengthened. In addition, we have made other recommendations that go beyond the scope of the Act, including that the NSW Government provide mandatory training to government and non-government frontline organisations to appropriately identify and respond to victims of modern slavery".

"Finally, we call on the NSW Government to amend the Act to allow for the committee to scrutinise the Act and broader response to modern slavery once every Parliament. It is hoped that future reviews, along with other inquiries by the committee, will provide for the continued improvement of the Act and efforts to combat modern slavery", the Chair concluded.

-ENDS-

*For further information please contact Committee Chair, Dr Joe McGirr MP, on (02) 6921 1622*