

Civil Liability (Holding Institutions Accountable for Child Abuse) Amendment Bill 2026

Statement of Compatibility

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*

In accordance with section 38 of the *Human Rights Act 2019*, I, Meaghan Scanlon MP, Shadow Attorney-General, Shadow Minister for Justice, Shadow Minister for Housing, Homelessness and Home Ownership make this statement of compatibility with respect to the *Civil Liability (Holding Institutions Accountable for Child Abuse) Amendment Bill 2026*.

In my opinion, the Bill is compatible with the human rights protected by the *Human Rights Act 2019*. I base my opinion on the reasons outlined in this statement.

Overview of the amendments

The intent of the Bill is to restore a right for victims to seek redress regarding child abuse. The policy objectives and overview of the Bill are outlined in the detailed Statement of Reservation of the Bill.

Human Rights Issues

Human rights relevant to the Bill (Part 2, Division 2 and 3 *Human Rights Act 2019*)

In my opinion, the human rights under the Human Rights Act that are relevant to the Bill are, but not limited to:

- recognition and equality before the law.
- protection of families and children.
- fair hearing.
- property rights.
- retrospective criminal laws.

In my opinion any impacts on any relevant human right are limited and proportionate to the outcome being sought by the Bill.

Conclusion

In my opinion, the Bill is compatible with human rights under the *Human Rights Act 2019* because it limits human rights only to the extent that is reasonable and demonstrably justifiable in a free and democratic society based on human dignity, equality and freedom.

THE HONOURABLE MEAGHAN SCANLON MP
SHADOW ATTORNEY-GENERAL AND SHADOW MINISTER FOR JUSTICE
SHADOW MINISTER FOR HOUSING, HOMELESSNESS AND HOME OWNERSHIP