

**INQUIRY INTO THE HANDLING OF CHILD ABUSE BY RELIGIOUS AND
OTHER NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS**

Guidelines for right of reply

PURPOSE

To ensure a process of providing a right of reply for individuals affected by the subject of an adverse reflection in evidence to the Committee.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

The Committee seeks to ensure that the power of parliamentary privilege is not misused in its Inquiry.

In the event that any imputations against individuals are made, the Committee may provide an opportunity for a right of reply to any affected person who is the subject of an adverse reflection in evidence to the Committee.

RIGHT OF REPLY

1. The Committee will consider all requests for a right of reply when a person considers they are the subject of an adverse reflection in evidence to the Committee.
2. Depending on the circumstances, the Committee may accept a right of reply by written submission or through an appearance at a Committee hearing, whereby the Committee may also question the person seeking the right of reply.
3. Publication of any written submissions will be considered on a case by case basis.