



Northern Territory  
Community Legal Centres

Central Australian Aboriginal Family Violence Legal Unit Inc  
Central Australian Women's Legal Service Inc  
Darwin Community Legal Service Inc  
Environmental Defenders' Office Inc  
Katherine Women's Information and Legal Service Inc  
North Australian Aboriginal Family Legal Service Inc  
Top End Women's Legal Service Inc

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MEDIA RELEASE

13 OCTOBER 2022

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY COMMUNITY LEGAL CENTRES WELCOMES INCREASES TO AGE OF CRIMINAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The Northern Territory Association of Community Legal Centres ('NTACLC') joins Aboriginal, legal and peak organisations and services across the Northern Territory ('NT') in welcoming new legislation that will see an increase in the age of criminal responsibility from 10 to 12 years old in the NT.

NTACLC Chair, Rachael Bowker, said "This change is in the right direction about how our community should be responding to kids who need our care and support.

We see this as a step on the way to the NT changing the minimum age of responsibility to 14 years old, and we welcome the progress towards this"

The NTACLC also welcomes the introduction of legislation to curtail mandatory sentencing, aimed at improving sentencing options for offenders, with members ready to collaborate with the NT Government to ensure that safety mechanisms are in place for impacted persons, particularly those experiencing domestic, family and sexual violence ('DFSV').

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