



The Hon Anika Wells MP

**Minister for Communications
Minister for Sport
Federal Member for Lilley**

MS25-000807

Ms Julie Inman Grant
eSafety Commissioner
Office of the eSafety Commissioner
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Dear Commissioner

As you are aware, the former Minister for Communications, the Hon Michelle Rowland MP, previously announced the Government's proposal to use the rule-making power under subsection 63C(6)(b) of the *Online Safety Act 2021* (the Act) to carve out certain services from the social media minimum age obligation: messaging, online games, services that significantly function to support the health and education of users, and YouTube. In line with the requirement under subsection 63C(7), I am writing to seek your advice on the attached draft Online Safety (Age Restricted Social Media Platforms) Rules 2025 (draft Rules).

The above exclusions were reflected in draft Rules my department consulted on in February and March 2025. As part of that targeted consultation, the department sought direct feedback from over 100 stakeholders including youth groups, parents and carers, digital industry, civil society groups, experts in child development, mental health and law.

The department has incorporated a number of minor updates to the draft Rules following feedback from stakeholders. This includes expanding the messaging exclusion to include voice and video-calling, and establishing new exclusions for product review and professional development services.

I am looking to finalise the Rules by mid-year to provide industry and the general public with time to prepare for the minimum age obligation coming into effect by 10 December 2025. Your timely advice on the draft Rules would help facilitate this.

Finally, I would like to thank you and your office for engaging constructively with my department throughout this process, including as part of the targeted consultation.

Yours sincerely

Anika Wells MP

12 June 2025

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