

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

Question No. 52

Senator Hanson-Young asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2012:

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Does ASIO brief the minister on these assessments?

Mr Irvine: Which minister?

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: The Minister for Immigration and Citizenship.

Mr Irvine: To my recollection, we have not personally briefed the minister. It is entirely up to the Secretary of DIAC and DIAC themselves what they provide to their minister. I believe the minister has seen some but I do not know if he has seen them all.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: From ASIO's perspective, ASIO has not directly briefed the immigration minister on any of these 59 cases?

Mr Irvine: Not on 59 individual cases, no.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: That is not part of the standard practice, then?

Mr Irvine: No.

Senator HANSON-YOUNG: Do you know if your department has briefed the minister on any of those 59 cases?

Mr Irvine: I would need to check that but I suspect not.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

ASIO provides a copy of the classified statement of grounds to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship upon request. As at 30 April 2012, classified statements of grounds had been requested by and provided to the Minister in relation to two adverse security assessment cases. The classified statement of grounds may also be made available to the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).