



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee  
Additional Estimates 2020-21  
Monday, 22 March 2021  
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.07pm.

The committee called the Australian Federal Police; Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission and Australian Institute of Criminology; Australian Security Intelligence Organisation; Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre; Office of the Special Investigator and Department of Home Affairs, examining cross-portfolio, corporate and general matters and Outcomes 1 and 2.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- allegations of sexual assault at APH and subsequent investigations and inquiries;
- allegations of sexual assault against the Attorney-General;
- NSW Casino inquiry and a 2017 report from AUSTRAC on junkets;
- regulations listing Sonnekrieg Division as an ideologically motivated group;
- use of language to describe ideological groups;
- logistical arrangements for the Office of the Special Investigator, including staffing and the timeline of reporting and investigations;
- protections for whistle blowers in the course of the Special Investigator's work;
- US resettlement arrangement of asylum seekers and refugees;
- removal of a minor from Australia to New Zealand;
- cancellation and removal of immigration detainees under the character test in relation to the Migration Amendment (Strengthening the Character Test) Bill 2019;
- COVID-19 in the Pacific region, Australia's support to PNG;
- travel exemptions for entry into and exit from Australia, and the allocation of such permits to celebrities, diplomats and for separated families;
- 9News Story 'Con Air', in which media crews filmed deported individuals on the tarmac of an airport;
- allocation of Safer Communities Grants; and
- cost and resource obligation to the Government on keeping the Biloela family on Christmas Island.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Tuesday 23 March 2021 in the Main Committee Room.