



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee  
Additional Estimates 2023–24  
Monday, 12 February 2024  
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 10.59pm.

The committee called the:

Department of Home Affairs (Incl. Australian Border Force) for cross-portfolio, corporate, and general matters; Outcome 1; Outcome 2; and Outcome 3; National Emergency Management Agency; Australian Security Intelligence Organisation; Office of the Special Investigator; Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security; and Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

Department of Home Affairs – Cross-portfolio, corporate, and general matters

- Advice provided to government regarding High Court decision in *NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs & Anor*;
- Acting arrangements within Senior Executive Service level of the Department of Home Affairs; and
- *Review of Integrity Concerns and Governance Arrangements for the Management of Regional Processing Administration by the Department of Home Affairs* by Mr Dennis Richardson AC, 12 February 2024.

Department of Home Affairs – Outcome 1

- Australian Victim of Terrorism Overseas Payment scheme, and payments made to victims of October 7 terrorist attack;
- Cyber security, including legislative reform agenda, key cyber threats and responses to data breaches and cyber security incidents at HWL Ebsworth, Medibank and St Vincents Health Australia;
- Critical infrastructure vulnerabilities, including the use of solar inverters manufactured by certain international companies;
- Vera-2r training; and
- TikTok Ban.

Department of Home Affairs – Outcome 2

- Initiatives to support social cohesion impacts of the Israel Hamas conflict on the Australian community;
- funding arrangements to support Papua New Guinea's independent management of the residual regional processing caseload;
- Information relating to the processing of asylum seekers on Nauru;
- Visa application statistics; and
- Rapid Review into the Exploitation of Australia's Visa System - Findings of the Nixon review.

### Department of Home Affairs – Outcome 3

- The High Court NZYQ case, community safety associated with those who were released from immigration detention as a result, as well as statistics related to detention numbers;
- Bridging Visa Conditions Bill 2023; and
- Preventative detention regime.

### National Emergency Management Agency

- Disaster recovery funding arrangements;
- The treatment of Queensland disaster support;
- Channels of warning for severe weather events;
- Hazard reduction burning;
- Progress of the Fitzroy River Bridge; and
- Collaboration with mobile telecommunication companies.

### Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

- Diversity Inclusion Strategy and training.

### Office of the Special Investigator

- Progress of investigations and the laying of charges.

### Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions

- Prosecution of a 14-year-old boy in relation to radicalisation.

The committee will next meet at 9.00am on Tuesday, 13 February 2024 in the Main Committee Room, for further examination of the Attorney-General's portfolio.