



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2023–24
Tuesday, 13 February 2024
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 11.00pm.

The committee called the:

- Attorney-General's Department;
- Australian Human Rights Commission; and
- Australian Federal Police.

The Federal Court, Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia, Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (including the Australian Institute of Criminology), National Anti-Corruption Commission, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner, Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Independent National Security Legislation Monitor, Australian Law Reform Commission and Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman were released.

Topics discussed by the committee included:

Attorney-General's Department

Cross-portfolio, corporate and general matters

- Appointment processes for the position of Deputy Commissioner of the National Anti-Corruption Commission in November to December 2023 and December 2023 to January 2024; and
- The Standing Council of Attorneys-General.

Justice and Communities Group

- The minimum age of criminal responsibility;
- Administrative Review Tribunal Bill 2023;
- Matters relating to the High Court decision in *NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*;
- Justice reinvestment programs; and
- The North Australian Aboriginal Justice Agency.

National Security and Criminal Justice Group

- Abdul Nacer Benbrika;
- David McBride;
- Matters relating to the High Court decision in *NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*, including persons released following decision;
- National Firearms Register; and

- Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism finance, including challenges posed by cryptocurrency and 'Tranche 2' and 'Know your customer' reforms.

Integrity and International Group

- United Nations Human Rights Commission report on Human rights abuses in Xinjiang Province of China and the application of Magnitsky sanctions;
- Australian Human Rights Commission intervention in *NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*;
- National implementation of the National Preventative Mechanism under the Optional Protocol to the United Nations Convention against Torture;
- Foreign Influence Transparency Scheme;
- The *Brett Cattle Company v Minister for Agriculture* litigation;
- Whistleblowing reforms; and
- Julian Assange.

Australian Human Rights Commission

- Antisemitism;
- The *Independent Review of the NDIS* recommendations regarding changes to the budget setting process for Housing and reforms to the NDIS;
- Discrimination against people with disability by airlines;
- Departure of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner;
- Complaints from staff of the AHRC about the Commission's handling of the Israel/Gaza conflict; and
- AHRC intervention in Federal Court case, *Roxanne Tickle v Giggle for Girls Pty Ltd & Anor*.

Australian Federal Police

- Operation AEGIS, a joint operation with the Australian Border Force following the High Court's decision in *NZYQ v Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs*;
- Operation regarding 'Thomas Carrick', a 13 year old boy;
- Operation Regatta regarding foreign bribery charges;
- Operation Alesia into the alleged disclosure of confidential information by a former partner of PwC;
- Consultancy contracts entered into by the AFP;
- The National Firearms Register; and
- AFP's bilateral and regional partnerships.