



Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025–26
Monday, 1 December 2025
Daily summary

The committee met from 9.00am until 10.30pm.

The committee called the Attorney-General's Department Portfolio and discussed the following topics:

Attorney-General's Department

Cross portfolio and General Matters.

- Working With Vulnerable People reform discussions at meeting of the Standing Council of Attorneys-General;
- Department's performance in determining Freedom of Information requests;
- R v Clarke supreme court Queensland; and
- Data on Office of the Australian Information Commissioner reviews in relation to Freedom of Information requests.

Justice and Communities Group

- Bail and remand reform and Standing Council of Attorneys-General working group report;
- Justice reinvestment programs;
- Youth incarceration;
- Justice Policy Partnership and closing the gap outcomes;
- Copyright Amendment Bill 2025 consultation process;
- Sexual violence special legal services requirements;
- Age of criminal responsibility and minimum standards for youth detention;
- Development of artificial intelligence large language models and copyrighted material;
- Funding for the National Access to Justice Partnership to support victims of gender-based violence;
- Recommendations from the *Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody* report;
- Court transcripts and judicial commission;
- Use of technology for the identification of perpetrators when conducting working with vulnerable people checks;
- Automated decision-making project;
- Government policy on access to justice; and
- Department's use of artificial intelligence.

Integrity and Security Group

- Treatment of former Senator Linda Reynolds throughout defamation case;
- Court findings on case in relation to Fiona Brown;
- Whistleblower reforms;
- *Freedom of Information Act 1982* reforms;

- Services of Justin Gleeson SC and Kate Eastman SC potentially employed for proceedings related to former Senator Linda Reynolds and Fiona Brown;
- International Court of Justice advisory opinion on climate change impacts;
- Commissioner Holmes commentary on Section 34 of *Freedom of Information Act 1982*;
- Crown v Clarke No.9 court case;
- Humanitarian Aid Code and amendments to related laws;
- Legislative response to the *Modern Slavery Act 2018 Review*;
- Complaints against departments regarding Model Litigant Obligations; and
- Settlement of non-disclosure agreements.

Australian Human Rights Commission

- Role of the Sex Discrimination Commissioner;
- Australia's response to youth crime;
- Complaints of discrimination received by the Commission;
- National Anti-Racism Framework 2018;
- Commission's submission to the Independent National Security Legislation Monitor;
- Anti-immigration rhetoric and its relation to racial discrimination;
- Review on solitary confinement;
- Help Way Earlier! Report recommendations; and
- Women in immigration detention centres and Villawood Immigration Detention Centre.

National Anti-Corruption Commission (NACC)

- NACC's relationship with TransPerfect;
- Commissioner Brereton's meetings with the Inspector-General of the Australian Defence Force;
- NACC inquiry into Robodebt scheme; and
- Declarations of conflicts of interest by members of the NACC.

Office of the Australian Commissioner (OAIC)

- Second tranche of reforms to the *Privacy Act 1988*;
- Age verification as part of Online Safety Amendment (Social Media Minimum Age) Bill 2024;
- Data protection and enforcement mechanisms;
- Propic.Ai, Master Wealth Control Pty Ltd and Property Lovers Pty Ltd;
- Children's online privacy code consultation;

Administrative Review Tribunal (ART)

- ART management of workload;
- Correspondence with Department of Home Affairs; and
- Applicants for protection visas.

Federal Circuit and Family Court of Australia

- Management of caseload;
- Lighthouse project;
- Cases involving high-risk factors;
- Concerns about accuracy of court transcripts;

Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP)

- Internal reviews conducted by the CDPP.

The committee will resume its examination of Supplementary Budget Estimates 2025–26 with the Home Affairs portfolio at 9:00am on Tuesday, 2 December 2025.

Please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 3560 or LegalCon.Sen@aph.gov.au if you have any questions.