

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security

Attorney-General's Department

Hearing date: 13 January 2026

Hansard page:

IQ26-000001

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: Can I get a list that both agencies have interacted with?

A: We will need to take that on notice. Consultations occurred in confidence we will take that on notice and see what we can provide

IQ26-000002

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: in terms of the departments role on consultation. how many stakeholders has the Attorney-General's Department consulted with?

A: We will need to take that on notice.

IQ26-000003

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: did the Attorney-General's Department organise any consultation with Jewish representative groups as a standalone from consultation with the Attorney or her office?

A: we will take it on notice and confirm

IQ26-000004

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: what date did this consultation start?

A: we need to take that on notice

Q: Was it in 2025?

A: we will need to take that on notice

IQ26-000005

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: in terms of those who have been consulted beyond Jewish groups who was on the formal departmental consultation list and who was on the unofficial consultation list of the minister?

If we can have those that would be helpful

A: I'll take it on notice and I'll see what we are able to provide you

IQ26-000006

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: there are religious groups who have been consulted on the draft provisions. Were all religious groups consulted on that provision?

A: I'd have to take that on notice

IQ26-000008

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: how many stakeholders across Australia were provided with a complete copy of the legislation that we are looking at

A: I'll take that on notice

IQ26-000009

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: if you could provide this on notice. For each stakeholder that you consulted with what provisions were they provided with? if they were not provided with the whole bill how were they meant to comment on those provisions as they relate to the whole bill? Can you please take that on notice?

A: yes I'll take that on notice.

IQ26-0000010

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: Section 80.2BF [4]. In terms of the exact text of the bill that we have in front of us that we are inquiring how many stakeholders were shown that exact text?

A: Take on notice

IQ26-000011

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: Was Sheikh Shady Alsuleiman provided with a copy of the defence prior to it being finalised?

A: We will take that on notice

Q: Was Sheikh Shady Alsuleiman allowed to consult on this particular section of the act?

A: I'll take that on notice. I indicated that consultations were confidential.

IQ26-000012

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: We are now being told that the Australian public and in particular the Jewish community across Australia are not entitled to know who was consulted. I have to ask the question, what is the government hiding? Why can you not tell us here and now did Sheikh Shady Alsuleiman provided with a copy of this particular text?

A: Our consultation included Jewish community representatives as well as Christian and Muslim representatives and legal experts. Beyond that I'll take on notice

IQ26-000013

Michaelia Cash asked the following question:

Q: Why cant you tell a public hearing who these stakeholders are?

A: because they were consulted in confidence I need to take that on notice and see what we can provide

IQ26-000014

Susan McDonald asked the following question:

Q: Did any of the stakeholder groups that you engaged with provide any written material that assisted the department in briefing and drafting efforts?

A: We received written comments.

Q: Are you able to provide those to this committee?

A: I will take that on notice as these were provided directly for the purpose of consultation

IQ26-000015

Susan McDonald asked the following question:

Q: Was there any feedback from stakeholders provided relating to the thresholds in 114.A5?

A: I'll have to take that on notice.

The response to the above questions is as follows:

- The department was involved in consultations and briefings with 9 non-Government stakeholders between 29 December 2025 and 13 January 2026.
- The department was involved in meetings with states and territories on 4 occasions between 22 December 2025 and 9 January 2026.
- The details below relate only to the consultations and briefings the department was involved in. The department is aware that ministers and their offices also engaged with stakeholders separately to the consultations and briefings in which the department was involved, but the department does not have details of that engagement. The department would not necessarily be aware of whether draft provisions were provided separately.
- It would not be appropriate to provide information on the content of discussions or views expressed by stakeholders.

Details of non-government consultations and briefings

- 29 December 2025: Executive Council of Australian Jewry (ECAJ) and Office of Australia's Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism. Draft provisions were not provided.
- 8 January 2026: ECAJ and Special Envoy to Combat Antisemitism and her Office. Draft provisions were provided.
- 8 January 2026: Law Council of Australia. Draft provisions were provided.
- 9 January 2026: Law Council of Australia. Draft provisions were provided.
- 9 January 2026: Australian Catholic Bishops Conference. Draft provisions were provided.
- 11 January 2026: Australian National Imams Council. Draft provisions were not provided.
- 13 January 2026: Jewish Council of Australia. The Bill was public.
- 13 January 2026: National Council of Churches and Anglican Church Diocese. The Bill was public.
- 13 January 2026: Equality Australia. The Bill was public.

Details of State and Territory engagement

- 22 December 2025: Police Ministers Council/Standing Council of Attorneys-General (PMC/SCAG) Senior Officers Group
- 5 January 2026 - PMC/SCAG Senior Officers Group
- 7 January 2026 - SCAG Senior Officers Meeting
- 9 January 2026 - Joint PMC/SCAG
- Draft provisions were not provided at these meetings.

IQ26-000007

Jonathon Duniam asked the following question:

Q: what was the first date of interaction between ASIO and the AFP occurred?

A: We would need to take that on notice

Q: Do you know whether it was 2025 or 2026?

A: we will take that on notice.

The response to the question is as follows:

The department regularly interacts with the AFP and ASIO on legislative issues including criminal laws relating to hate and extremism.

The department engaged with both agencies on the development of the bill in 2025 following the Prime Minister's announcement of the development of legislation on 18 December 2025.