

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO

Program: Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

Question No. SBE16/099

Senator Pratt asked the following question at the hearing on 18 October 2016:

1. In relation to the visit to Iraq by the former Member for Longman, Wyatt Roy, please confirm whether Mr Roy breached any laws by visiting a conflict area near Mosul and the Syrian border?
2. Did the Attorney-General's Department provide any support for Mr Roy's visit?
3. Was ASIO aware of Mr Roy's visit?
4. Are you aware of any support from any other Australian agency for Mr Roy's visit?
5. Are you aware of any support from any other government for Mr Roy's visit?
6. Is Mr Roy receiving any form of parliamentary entitlement, Government benefit (financial or otherwise)? Was he during his trip to the conflict area
7. Did Mr Roy's visit put any Australian lives at risk, or those of our allies?
8. Has the Department provided any advice on Mr Roy's suggestion that Australia should deal directly with the Peshmerga in its fight with IS?
9. At what stage did the Attorney-General or members of the Government become aware that Mr Roy was planning to visit Iraq?
10. What assistance did the Attorney-General or any member of the Government provide to Mr Roy?
11. Is it common for former members of the LNP to travel to conflict areas?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. ASIO notes that law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies are responsible for determining whether the conduct of an individual may amount to a criminal offence.
2. No.
3. ASIO is aware of media reporting in September and October 2016 of former Member of Parliament, the Hon Wyatt Roy MP travelling to Iraq. However, as is long standing practice, ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.
4. ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.
5. ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.
6. ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.
7. ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.
8. No.
9. ASIO directs the Senator's question to the Attorney-General.
10. ASIO directs the Senator's question to the Attorney-General.
11. ASIO does not comment on individuals or operational matters.