

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
[ADDITIONAL ESTIMATES 2010-2011]

[Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio]

Department/Agency: Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security
Outcome/Program: Outcome 1
Topic: Whistleblowers

Senator: Trood

Question reference number: 47

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 15 April 2011

Number of pages: 1

Question:

1. Pages 194-195 of the Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook 2010-11 states that the Government will provide the Office of the Inspector General of Intelligence (OIGIS) with additional funds of \$300 000 over three years to authorise OIGIS to undertake investigation, monitoring and reporting functions for public interest disclosures in Commonwealth agencies. The OIGIS will have responsibilities relating to intelligence and security agencies.
 - a. How does OIGIS intend to allocate these funds?
 - b. Will additional staff be employed?
 - c. Have any inquiries begun?

Answer:

The funds will be used to cover the cost of additional staffing and related IT costs.

There will be one additional staff member employed by the OIGIS to cover the additional workload anticipated as a result of the new Whistleblower legislation.

There have been no inquiries initiated yet as the Public Interest Disclosure Bill has not yet been passed.