Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE Budget Estimates Hearing October 2015 Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

Department/Agency: Office of the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security

Outcome/Program: Outcome 1

Topic: Staffing, oversight and overhaul

Senator: Xenophon

Question reference number: 243

Type of question: Written

Date set by the committee for the

return of answer: 4 December 2015

Number of pages: 1

Question:

I refer to the IGIS inquiry into an incident in which a Special Forces soldier allegedly pulled a gun on a female ASIS agent during a drinking session.

I understand the report was completed in December 2014 and ASIS agreed to all thirteen of the report's recommendations. In the IGIS annual report it is stated that:

During 2014–15 the Inspector-General completed one inquiry that had commenced in June 2014 into the management of weapons by ASIS in a particular location. It is not possible to publish further details of this inquiry as to do so could prejudice security or Australia's relations with other countries. ASIS agreed to all thirteen of the report's recommendations. ASIS reported its progress in implementation of the recommendations and the Inspector-General was satisfied that senior management had taken actions that demonstrated a strong commitment to reform.

I understand at the end of the reporting period the IGIS was satisfied these recommendations have either already been implemented or are in the process of being implemented.

Have all recommendations now been implemented? If not, can IGIS provide an update on the status of implementation of recommendations?

Answer:

As at 27 November 2015, eight of the thirteen recommendations have been implemented. Implementation of the remaining five recommendations is on track to be completed within identified time frames.