



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

Secretary



14/694

13 March 2014

Chair
Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Chair

Question on Notice – Work undertaken by the Department on Data Retention since 7 September 2013

At the Additional Estimates hearing on 24 February 2014, Senator Ludlam asked “Can you update us on what work the department has done on data retention and matters attendant on that since the election?”

Having consulted broadly within the Department, I can advise that the Department has undertaken the following work on data retention since the election on 7 September 2013:

- Governmental briefings, including Question Time and Senate Estimate briefs
- Responding to Freedom of Information requests and media inquiries
- Briefing Commonwealth, State and Territory agencies on the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (PJCIS) recommendations
- Consideration of policy options in relation to the telecommunications interception regime and recommendations from the PJCIS, and
- Drafting a submission for the new Senate Inquiry in the revision of the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*.

Yours sincerely

Roger Wilkins AO