



**Australian Government**  
**Australian Security Intelligence Organisation**

Deputy Director-General

14 March 2017  
Ref: A13480159

Ms Toni Matulick  
Committee Secretary  
Senate Standing Committee on Legal  
and Constitutional Affairs  
PO Box 6100  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Ms Matulick

**Clarifications to Hansard**

I write to you concerning evidence provided to the Senate Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs during the Additional Senate Estimates hearing on 28 February 2017.

The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation has identified the following clarification:

Evidence of Mr Duncan Lewis AO DSC CSC, Director-General, Australian Security Intelligence Organisation

On page 78 of the transcript, in exchanges with Senator McKim, Mr Lewis stated:

**Mr Lewis:** Yes, the people involved in the four attacks and the people involved in the disruptions were all inspired adherents to this violent extremist interpretation of Sunni philosophy.

The Australian Security Intelligence Organisation wishes to clarify all four of the terrorist attacks in Australia since the threat level was raised in September 2014 were undertaken by individuals motivated by a violent extremist interpretation of Sunni Islam. Of the twelve major counter-terrorism disruption operations in response to imminent attack planning in Australia, eleven disruptions involved individuals or groups of individuals motivated by Islamic extremist ideology, and one involved an individual motivated by extreme right-wing ideology. For all of the cases associated with Islamic extremist ideology, it is correct to note that the individuals involved were motivated by a violent extremist interpretation of Sunni Islam.

Please contact the Office of the Senior Executive on (02) 6249 8381 should further information be required.

Deputy Director-General