

Department/Agency: Department of the Senate

Topic: Protective security policy framework

Senator: Senator Ryan

Question reference number: 73

Type of question: Written

Question

Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures.

Answer

The Parliamentary Precincts Act 1988 vests responsibility for the control and management of the parliamentary precincts in the Presiding Officers. The Presiding Officers jointly determine security arrangements and policies within Parliament House.

The Security Management Board which advises the Presiding Officers on security policy and the management of security measures, for Parliament House is established under the Parliamentary Service Act. The board has proposed that the parliamentary departments develop a whole-of-Parliament House protective security policy and supporting procedures. The policy will address the mandatory requirements of the Protective Security Policy Framework, where applicable, and is currently being drafted.

The department's Risk Management Policy and Risk Management Plan are the overarching documents for departmental staff to use in managing risk.

Currently, the department has a number of security policies and procedures, although there are also common operating policies and procedures relating to physical security which operate across all parliamentary departments (and are administered by DPS). These policies reflect the requirements of the Protective Security Policy Manual (superseded by the Protective Security Policy Framework), as they apply to the parliamentary operating environment.

Senate Department Specific Security Policies and Procedures:

Parliamentary Information Security Advice No 1

Departmental Information Security Advice No. 2

Senate Security Policy (Draft) – To be superseded by whole of parliament security policy

Senate IT Security Policy - To be superseded by whole of parliament security policy

Security arrangements for Committee Hearings (including Witness access)

Security Authorisations

Parliamentary Information Harm Table (provides impact assessments of the potential harm caused by unauthorised disclosure or access parliamentary information).