

DPS ref: D25/13197

Senator Matt O'Sullivan Senator for Western Australia

Via email:

Senator.Matt.O'Sullivan@aph.gov.au

Dear Senator,

Thank you for your recent letter sent to the Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police and copied to the previous Secretary of the Department of Parliamentary Services (DPS).

As Acting Secretary of DPS, I am writing to provide you with assurance that the department takes cyber security and the protection of Parliamentary and parliamentarian Information and Communications Technology (ICT) assets seriously.

The current cyber threat environment is pervasive and malicious. All users, including parliamentarians, should continue to remain vigilant and follow cyber security advice.

DPS provides secure ICT systems that are designed and implemented in accordance with the Australian Government's Protective Security Policy Framework and the Australian Cyber Security Centre's Essential 8 Maturity Model.

DPS utilise a layered defence model to provide various protections to all users of the parliamentary networks that provides a balance between cyber security and the functionality that parliamentarians require to undertake their roles. This model and the systems it supports remain, to date, effective against a range of cyber security threats.

If you have any further questions or would like the DPS cyber security teams to provide information sessions for you or your office, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Jaala Hinchcliffe Acting Secretary

13 February 2025