

**AE21-114 - Alleged assault at Parliament House – contact with former Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Dutton, or his office**

Senator Kristina Keneally asked:

1. On what date did the AFP first have contact with the former Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Dutton, or his office about an incident in Senator Reynolds' office on 23 March 2019.
  - a. What was the purpose of that contact.
  - b. Who participated in that contact.
  - c. What information did the AFP receive.
  - d. What information did the AFP provide.
  - e. Did the AFP take any action in response to that contact. If so, what was that action.
2. Since the AFP's initial contact with the former Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Dutton, or his office about an incident in Senator Reynolds' office on 23 March 2019, has the AFP had any other contact with the former Minister for Home Affairs, Mr Dutton, or his office about the incident. If so:
  - a. on what date/s
  - b. who was engaged in the contact/s
  - c. what was the purpose of the contact/s
  - d. what information did the AFP receive and
  - e. what information did the AFP provide.

*Answer:*

1. In accordance with routine practices, in October 2019 AFP Media notified the then Minister's office in relation to a media enquiry received by ACT Policing, about an alleged sexual assault at Parliament House.
  - a. To inform the Minister's office that a media inquiry had been received and that ACT Policing was responding.
  - b. The AFP Media team, to officers in the office of the then Minister for Home Affairs.
  - c. Nil.
  - d. Notification that a media inquiry had been received and responded to by ACT Policing.
  - e. N/A
2. The first recorded contact with the then Minister for Home Affairs was 11 February 2021. The AFP Commissioner had a discussion with the then Minister about the matter. In accordance with routine practices, AFP Media has informed the Minister's office about media inquiries received in relation to this matter during 2021.