



PRIME MINISTER

Reference: MS18-000300

20 FEB 2018

Mr Andrew Hastie MP
Chair
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Chair *Andrew*

I would like to thank the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (the Committee) for its comprehensive Advisory Report on the Home Affairs and Integrity Agencies Legislation Amendment Bill 2017 (the Home Affairs Bill), which was tabled on 26 February 2018.

The Government has considered the Committee's report and accepts its four recommendations in full.

At the earliest opportunity, the Government will move amendments to the Home Affairs Bill, to implement Recommendations one to three. Consistent with Recommendation three and the Committee's view that any further amendments necessary to make this Machinery of Government (MoG) change clear on the face of legislation should be introduced to the Parliament as soon as possible (at paragraph 2.61), the Government amendments will include changes to a further 33 Acts. Together with the items in Schedule 1 of the Home Affairs Bill, these amendments will make Ministerial and Departmental functions and powers clear on the face of legislation directly affected by the MoG changes to establish the Home Affairs portfolio and related changes to strengthen the Attorney-General's oversight of intelligence, security and law enforcement agencies.

I look forward to the Bill's passage, consistent with Recommendation four of the Committee's report.

Yours sincerely

MALCOLM TURNBULL