

UNCLASSIFIED



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Defence**  
Strategic Policy and Intelligence Group

MINUTE

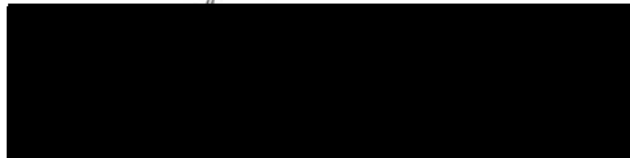


DEPSEC SP&I/OUT/2020/

**Addressee** Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security

**STRATEGIC POLICY AND INTELLIGENCE GROUP'S UNCLASSIFIED OVERVIEW  
STATEMENT FOR THE PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE  
AND SECURITY'S ADMINISTRATION AND EXPENDITURE REVIEW NO. 18**

1. The Deputy Secretary (DEPSEC) Strategic Policy and Intelligence (SP&I), Mr Peter Tesch, has the stewardship of the Australian Geospatial-Intelligence Organisation (AGO) and the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO). DEPSEC SP&I also has lead responsibility for Defence's strategic, international and industry policy areas.
2. Collection and assessment by Australia's international intelligence and security partners continues to benefit Defence. In turn, Australia's collection and assessment is valued by its partners. The relationships between Australia and its partners remain strong and are critical to the maintenance of our national security.
3. The Defence Intelligence Agencies are committed to attracting, developing and retaining highly skilled APS and ADF personnel. To counter the intense competition for talent, innovative recruitment and retention strategies are being implemented, including increased work flexibility, incentives for high priority technical skills and targeted university recruitment.
4. Following the establishment of the Office of National Intelligence (ONI) in December 2018, AGO and DIO have worked closely with ONI during the 2018-2019 reporting period in the implementation of the new National Intelligence Community (NIC) framework led by ONI.
5. Throughout the 2018-2019 reporting period AGO continued to provide timely and tailored geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) analysis and precision foundational, hydrographic, METOC and mapping products and services in support of Australia's defence and national interests.
6. DIO continued to provide valuable and timely all-source analytical support to the ADF, Defence policy formulation and whole-of-Government decision making throughout the 2018-2019 reporting period.



Acting Deputy Secretary Strategic Policy and Intelligence

13 February 2020

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