

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security

Attorney-General's Department

Hearing date: 12 December 2023

Question date: 22 December 2023

Mr Luke Gosling OAM MP asked the following question:

The Bill as presently drafted does not provide for the IGIS or this Committee to have direct oversight of the Australian Border Force. Was it the intention to place the intelligence functions of the Australian Border Force under the oversight of the IGIS and this Committee?

The response to the question is as follows:

The Intelligence Services Legislation Amendment Bill 2023 would define the Department of Home Affairs' (Home Affairs) 'intelligence functions' under regulations made under the *Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Act 1986*. The Government's intent is to progress regulations which define Home Affairs' intelligence functions by reference to the 'Intelligence Division' within Home Affairs as the intelligence functions of the Department of Home Affairs (inclusive of the Australian Border Force) are confined to the 'Intelligence Division'. This will ensure the intelligence functions of Home Affairs (which includes the Australian Border Force) will be subject to oversight from the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security and the Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security.