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Auditor-General for Australia



14 July 2023

Mr Julian Hill MP
Chair
Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit
By email: jcpaa@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Hill

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit Report 494: *Inquiry into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's crisis management arrangements*

I am writing in relation to the recommendation directed to the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) contained in the JCPAA Report 494: *Inquiry into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's crisis management arrangements*.

Recommendation 4

The Committee recommends that the Auditor-General consider undertaking a performance audit of the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework and include within the audit scope whether the updated framework adequately reflects lessons learned from COVID-19.

ANAO Response:

ANAO published the 2023-24 Annual Audit Work Program (AAWP) on 6 July 2023. The AAWP is designed to reflect the ANAO's audit strategy and inform the Parliament, government entities and the public of the planned audit coverage for the Australian Government sector. A potential audit topic of COVID-19 (Phase 3): Australian Government Crisis Management Framework has been included in the 2023-24 AAWP and if commenced it would assess the effectiveness of the Australian Government Crisis Management Framework (the framework) in facilitating the Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Hehir'.

Grant Hehir

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