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11 February 2022

Submission to:

**Review of Administration and Expenditure No. 20 (2020–21)**  
**– Australian Intelligence Agencies**

Civil Liberties Australia thanks the committee for the opportunity to contribute this review.

Our submission is in two parts:

1. This cover letter, and
2. A copy of our submission to the **Review of the *National Security Legislation Amendment (Comprehensive and Other Measures No.1) Bill 2021***  
...which you already hold (lodged with you by email on 10 Feb 2022).

In relation to No.2, our earlier submission contains critique of the plethora of expanding intelligence agencies and functions, and we ask that relevant segments of our comments in that document be taken into account in this review.

1. In relation to No. 1, we submit that the PJCIS – before finalising this review – should
  - a. commission six months research by the Productivity Commission (PC) to identify, for public release, growth in the intelligence community between 1 July 2001 and 30 June 2021.
  - b. release that document for public consideration and debate before re-convening this review process with an informed public able to better contribute to the work of the committee.

We envisage the PC project – covering the 20 years from just before "9/11" to mid-2021, and therefore largely able to be done quickly on the basis of annual reports – would identify:

- Number of agencies/staffing and staffing levels then and now (including the now-current gender, bullying and culture concerns),
- Responsibility/accountability charts and formal reporting requirements,
- Budgets over the period, including for staff, consultants, training, etc,
- Capital costs of buildings/leases, equipment, weaponry, and
- Any formal or informal inter-relationships on a regular basis with which overseas equivalent entities, in what manner, how often and to what effect (positive/and/or negative).

Yours truly,

Dr Kristine Klugman  
President