

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS  
AUSTRALIAN SECURITY INTELLIGENCE ORGANISATION

**Question No. AE16/060**

**Senator Xenophon asked the following question at the hearing on 9 February 2016:**

1. Have any federal politicians been the subject of an ASIO initiated metadata domestic preservation order in the last 12 months? If so, how many?
2. Have any federal politicians phone or internet metadata been accessed by the ASIO in the last 12 months? If so, how many?
3. Have any federal political staffers been the subject of an ASIO initiated metadata domestic preservation order in the last 12 months? If so, how many?
4. Have any federal political staffer's phone or internet metadata been accessed by the ASIO in the last 12 months? If so, how many?
5. Have any journalist information warrants been requested by the ASIO within the last 12 months? If so, how many?
6. Have any journalist information warrants been granted to the ASIO within the last 12 months? If so, how many?

**The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:**

For reasons of national security ASIO does not comment on operations or investigations.

The *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Amendment (Data Retention) Act 2015* amended section 94 of the ASIO Act to introduce additional reporting requirements, including a requirement to include in its classified annual report the number of telecommunications data authorisations made during the reporting period, the purposes for which those authorisations were made, and the number of journalist information warrants issued to ASIO. These amendments commenced on 13 October 2015 and the additional reporting requirements will be met in relation to the period 13 October 2015 to 30 June 2016 in ASIO's 2015-16 classified annual report.