OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL OF INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY

Review of Administration and Expenditure No. 24 (2024–25)

Sanitised submission to the
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security

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Introduction

The Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security (the IGIS) welcomes the opportunity to make this submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Intelligence and Security (the Committee) to assist the Committee's 2024-25 review of the administration and expenditure of the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), the Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS), the Australian Geospatial-Intelligence Organisation (AGO), the Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO), the Australian Signals Directorate (ASD), and the Office of National Intelligence (ONI). (O)

The overarching purpose of the IGIS's activities is to provide assurance to ministers, the parliament and the public that each agency acts legally and with propriety, complies with ministerial guidelines and directives, and acts consistently with human rights. In 2024–25, the IGIS completed 74 inspections across the 6 agencies in our jurisdiction, including the AFP's and ACIC's use of network activity warrants. (O)

In addition, we independently reviewed 42 compliance incidents notified to the IGIS by the agencies and commenced one own-motion preliminary inquiry focused on the use and management of Exceptionally Compartmented Information across all six agencies. This preliminary inquiry remained ongoing as at 30 June 2025. (O)

The IGIS also received 64 complaints within the jurisdiction of the *Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Act 1986* (IGIS Act), 6 public interest disclosures within the meaning of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013* (PID Act), 30 complaints in relation to visa and citizenship matters and 358 matters which did not engage either the IGIS Act or the PID Act. (O)

In 2024-25 the IGIS commenced two inspections that focussed on multiple agencies, known as cross -agency inspections, completing one. Where appropriate, relevant findings and recommendations from those inspections are included in the agency sections below. (O)

Significant findings for 2024-25

Significant Inspection Outcomes

The below listed inspection outcomes reflect areas of concern identified by the office through the course of the 2024-25 inspection program. The listed outcomes are non-exhaustive and further details are provided at other parts of this submission. For clarity, the absence of findings below does not indicate that no findings were made in respect of a particular agency, nor that those findings identified elsewhere were not serious. (o)

Respect@Work

The IGIS conducted a cross-agency inspection focusing on compliance by the 6 agencies in IGIS jurisdiction with the positive duty obligations introduced by the *Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Legislation Amendment (Respect@Work) Act 2022.* (O)

The IGIS concluded 4 of the 6 agency inspections in the 2024-25 year with the remaining 2 concluding in 2025-26. (o)

The IGIS made propriety findings in respect of both ASIO and ONI's implementation of their Respect@Work obligations. Detailed findings are provided in the respective agency section of this submission. (o)

Australian Signals Directorate

The IGIS undertook an inspection of ASD's human rights assessments (HRAs) conducted in support of international relationships, including HRA's produced prior to releasing intelligence to foreign partners. ASD's policies and procedures relating to the conduct of HRAs were reviewed together with the records produced to support the consideration of human rights risks for specific relationships. (O)

Further details on the outcomes of this inspection are available in the ASD section of this submission. (o)

Australian Secret Intelligence Service

The IGIS identified one propriety concern in relation to ASIS's governance framework for a specific intelligence program in an inspection that commenced in 2023-24. While the IGIS identified no legality concerns, it is the IGIS's position that the lack of clarity, specificity, and the level of informality in the program's governance framework amounted to a propriety concern. The IGIS made a number of recommendations in support of this finding, as well as other compliance observations. ASIS has advised the IGIS that implementation of all recommendations is underway. (o)

Complaints Jurisdiction

The overall number of complaints to the IGIS is relatively stable across the current and previous reporting period. However, more recently received complaints are typically requiring significantly more resources and expertise to investigate compared to previous complaints, potentially aligning with the growth and complexity of the agencies we oversee. This applies to complaints received from current and former staff of the intelligence agencies and members of the public. (o)

Areas of focus raised by PJCIS

Policies and processes for managing real or perceived conflicts of interest in recruitment, procurement and operations.

Where required in the handling of complaints and disclosures, conflict of interest policies and processes as well as PID related policies are considered by the IGIS. (O)

Policies and processes for dealing with concerns raised by whistle-blowers, and reporting on any internal or external investigations during the period.

Regarding the PIDs which were investigated during the reporting period, the intelligence agencies identified no claims or evidence of detrimental action taken against the discloser in their section 51 reports (final reports). (O)

Overseeing the operation of the PID scheme in intelligence agencies

The Inspector-General also has statutory responsibilities for assisting intelligence agency staff in their obligations under the PID Act and for conducting education and awareness-raising exercises. During the reporting period, the Office provided assistance and guidance to officials within the intelligence agencies about the operation of the scheme. This included the Office hosting a community of practice forum for officials within the intelligence agencies to facilitate sharing of expertise. (O)

Processes and policies in relation to PIDs

Staff assisting the Inspector-General coordinated intelligence agencies' input to the Ombudsman's 6 monthly and annual reports about the operation of the PID Act. This included collecting and providing information on the following:

- the steps each agency takes to encourage and support public officials who make or are considering making a PID
- procedures that relate to the support of disclosers and/or the assessment and management of risk reprisal (O)

Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

Due to the breadth of ASIO's functions, as set out in s 17 of the *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation 1979* (ASIO Act), the IGIS implements a risk-based approach to its inspections. In 2024–25, the IGIS undertook 22 ASIO inspections. Of these 22 inspections, 4 were ongoing as at 30 June 2025. In addition, the IGIS completed 3 inspections that commenced in 2023-24. (O)

The IGIS did not identify any legality or propriety concerns in 19 of the 21 inspections completed in 2024-25. The IGIS identified legality or propriety concerns in 2 inspections, which are discussed below. (O)

The IGIS continued to independently review all compliance incident reports relating to breaches of legislation or the Minister's Guidelines. In 2024–25, ASIO provided 30 compliance notifications to the IGIS. (O)

In 2024-25 the IGIS received 42 complaints in relation to ASIO which was one more than 2023-24 (41). In addition, 30 complaints relating to visa or citizenship delays were received. Of these visa and citizenship complaints, one complaint was assessed to be within the IGIS's jurisdiction (i.e., the matter had been referred to ASIO) and to meet the IGIS's criteria for further investigation. (O)

Senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and ASIO senior executives continued through 2024–25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of ASIO over the year 2024-25 are set out below.

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, ASIO provided the IGIS with appropriate direct access to ASIO systems and facilities to support its oversight work. Overall, for individual inspections and inquiries ASIO provided access to appropriate personnel and information in a timely manner to enable the IGIS's oversight activities. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

The Inspector-General commenced 3 inquiries in relation to ASIO during the reporting period. (O)

The Inspector-General commenced one own motion preliminary inquiry in relation to all agencies within the IGIS's jurisdiction during the previous reporting period. The preliminary inquiry remains ongoing and is discussed earlier in this submission. (O)

Finalised own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

The IGIS did not finalise any inquiries in relation to ASIO in 2024-25. One inquiry, commenced in 2023-24 relating to a complaint, was close to being finalised at the end of the reporting period. (O)

Section 25B reports

After making a preliminary inquiry, the Inspector-General may prepare a report to an agency, including conclusions and recommendations under section 25B of the IGIS Act. (O)

During this reporting period, the Inspector-General prepared one report to ASIO under Section 25B of the IGIS Act at the conclusion of a preliminary inquiry into allegations which related to ASIO having acted in a way that negatively affected the complainant's ability to travel to a number of foreign counties. The Inspector-General issued a report to ASIO and made 3 recommendations regarding their internal processes. ASIO has accepted and actioned, or had undertaken to action, each of the recommendations by the end of the reporting period. (O)

Inspections where matters of legality or propriety were identified

Industry assistance and access

The scope of this inspection included ASIO's use of device access orders under section 34AAD of the ASIO Act, notices provided under section 313 of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* and industry assistance requests issued under Part 15 of that Act. (O)

The inspection is conducted annually. The IGIS had made recommendations in previous inspections relating to:

- the accuracy of reporting provided to the Attorney-General about the execution of a device access order,
- amendments to ASIO's device access orders policy,
- additional guidance and development of a standard template for section 313 notices, and
- ASIO's compliance with section 3.5 of the Minister's Guidelines relating to the consideration of the proportionality of immunities. (O)

In this inspection, the IGIS did not identify any legality or propriety concerns which fell within the outlined scope of the inspection. The IGIS did make one legality finding in parallel to the inspection regarding non-compliance with section 24(3A) of the ASIO Act. The legality finding was made following review of material related to, but not within, the formal scope of the inspection. Section 24(3A) requires the Director-General, as soon as practicable, to cause one or more written records to be made identifying each person who exercised the authority conferred by the relevant warrant. The IGIS identified one instance where the required record did not identify each person who exercised the authority of the warrant. (O)

Respect@Work

The IGIS conducted a cross-agency inspection focusing on compliance by the 6 agencies in IGIS jurisdiction with the positive duty obligations introduced by the *Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Legislation Amendment (Respect@Work) Act 2022*. (O)

The IGIS identified that ASIO had a strong commitment to ensuring a diverse and inclusive workforce, had committed to complying with the Australian Human Rights Commission (AHRC) Good Practice Indicators Framework for Preventing and Responding to Workplace Sexual Harassment (Good Practice Framework) and had implemented additional measures to address the positive duty. (O)

The IGIS made a propriety finding about the extent to which ASIO had met the AHRC's key expectations in 4 of the 7 standards identified in the Good Practice Framework. The IGIS made 8 recommendations directed to areas where ASIO could take action to more fully meet its positive duty obligations. ASIO accepted all recommendations and is appropriately remediating. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

Internal security

The IGIS conducts periodic inspections to assess whether ASIO manages internal security investigations into its officers appropriately, including cases where the investigation could result in the officer having their security clearance revoked (a precondition for employment at ASIO). In 2024-25, the IGIS finalised an inspection commenced the previous year. The IGIS did not identify any legality of propriety concerns. (O)

Other reviews

In addition to its regular inspection program, the IGIS reviews ASIO's use of certain powers under the ASIO Act following notification to the Inspector-General. (O)

Special intelligence operations

SIO powers allow ASIO to seek authorisation from the Attorney-General to undertake activities, in support of its functions, that would otherwise be unlawful. The ASIO Act requires ASIO to notify the Inspector-General as soon as practicable after an authority is given. During 2024-25, in all instances the Inspector-General was notified within 24 hours of the Attorney-General granting approval for a SIO. The ASIO Act also requires ASIO to provide the Attorney-General and the Inspector-General a written report on each SIO. ASIO provided all required reports to the Inspector-General. (O)

In June 2025, the Inspector-General commenced an own motion inquiry into matters relating to a SIO. (O)

Compulsory questioning

ASIO's compulsory questioning powers, including provisions relating to the IGIS's oversight of the questioning or apprehension of a person, are contained in Part III Division 3 of the ASIO Act. The IGIS was not notified of any use of ASIO's compulsory questioning powers and therefore the Inspector-General did not attend any questioning sessions during 2024–25. (O)

Use of force

Warrants issued under the ASIO Act must explicitly authorise the use of force necessary and reasonable to undertake the actions specified in the warrant. Under s 31A of the ASIO Act, when force is used against a person in the execution of a warrant, ASIO must notify the Inspector-General in writing and as soon as practicable. The IGIS did not receive any use of force notifications in 2024-25. (O)

Complaints relating to processing of visa and citizenship applications

The IGIS receives complaints concerning the processing of visa and citizenship applications, particularly regarding the length of time taken to finalise applications beyond the indicative timeframes listed on the Department of Home Affairs website. The IGIS's jurisdiction extends to where those delays are a result of processes or practices within the intelligence agencies.
In 2024–25, the IGIS conducted one inspection of visa and citizenship complaints received by the IGIS. No issues of legality or propriety were identified in the inspection. (O)

Compliance incidents

As noted above, ASIO provided 30 compliance notifications to the IGIS in 2024–25. The matters reported involved potential or actual non-compliance with the following legislation:

- *Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Act 1979*
- *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*
- *Crimes Act 1914*
- *Criminal Code Act 1995*
- *State surveillance legislation*.(O)

In addition, ASIO provided notifications relating to non-compliance with the Minister's Guidelines issued under s 8A of the ASIO Act. (O)

ASIO provides the IGIS with its final compliance incident report when its investigation of each incident is completed. When these reports are received, the IGIS reviews ASIO's assessment of the incident and proposed remediation action. For all matters finalised during 2024–25, the IGIS was satisfied with ASIO's assessment and remediation. In addition to its case-by-case review of compliance incidents, the IGIS conducts a bi-annual inspection to provide assurance of ASIO's implementation of remediation action arising from both inspections and compliance incidents. Full details of the compliance incidents reported to the IGIS are in the IGIS's 2024–25 Annual Report. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

The IGIS may identify findings directly or indirectly relevant to the PJCIS' jurisdiction when undertaking its inspection and inquiry activities. Information regarding such findings is presented under relevant headings below. (O)

Record keeping
Nil

Security management
The IGIS's inspections relating to ASIO security management are limited to the Internal Security inspection discussed above in the "Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure Jurisdiction" section. (O)

ASIO's complaints and Public Interest Disclosures management
Nil

Policy management
The IGIS's inspection findings often include comment about the completeness and effectiveness of ASIO's internal operational and analytical policies and procedures, including recommendations to improve clarity and consistency in these documents. The IGIS has found ASIO to be responsive to suggestions for improvement. (O)

Financial management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

People management
Findings were made in respect of ASIO's implementation of the Respect@Work requirements as outline above. (O)

Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

Due to the breadth of ASIS's functions, as set out in section 6 of the *Intelligence Services Act 2001* (the IS Act), the IGIS implements a risk-based approach to its inspections. The IGIS undertook 18 inspections of ASIS activities in 2024-25. Of these 18 inspections, 3 inspections that commenced in 2024-25 remain underway, including inspections of specific intelligence activities in a geographic location, specified operations, and one cross-agency inspection involving ASIS, ASD, and ASIO. The IGIS's findings on these inspections will be reported in 2025-26. One inspection of ASIS's activities was rescheduled to 2025-26 and is detailed below. In addition, the IGIS completed another 3 inspections that commenced in 2023-24. Of the 17 completed inspections, the IGIS identified no matters of legality or propriety in 14 inspections. The IGIS identified propriety issues in 3 inspections, which are discussed below. The remaining 3 inspections were ongoing as at 30 June 2025. (O)

The IGIS continued to independently review all compliance incident reports it received relating to breaches of legislation, ASIS's *Rules to Protect the Privacy of Australians* (the Privacy Rules), the Minister's Directions, or relating to non-compliance with ASIS's internal policies and procedures. In 2024–25, ASIS provided 2 compliance reports to the IGIS. (O)

The IGIS made one legality finding in relation to ASIS's obligations under Schedule 3 of the IS Act, which was identified independently of the associated inspection. Similarly, the IGIS made one legality finding relating to ASIS's engagement with section 63 of the *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* (the TIA Act). (O)

In 2024-25 the IGIS received 10 complaints in relation to ASIS which was 3 more than 2023-24. One inquiry into ASIS was completed in this reporting period and is detailed later in this submission. (O)

Senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and ASIS senior executives continued through 2024-25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of ASIS over the year 2024-25 are set out below. (O)

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, ASIS provided the IGIS with appropriate facilities and systems access to enable oversight activities. Overall, for individual inspections ASIS provided access to appropriate personnel and information in a timely manner to enable the IGIS's oversight activities. Where timeliness issues arose in individual inspection activities, these were noted in inspection findings; ASIS and the IGIS have worked collaboratively to implement mitigations. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

The IGIS conducted one cross-agency own motion preliminary inquiry during the reporting period, which is discussed earlier in this submission. (O)

During the reporting period, the Inspector-General completed an inquiry into a public interest disclosure (PID) made by a former public official in relation to ASIS. This matter was allocated to the IGIS during the 2023-24 reporting period, and it was decided to further investigate the disclosure under the inquiry provisions of the IGIS Act. There were 2 elements to the disclosure. In relation to the first of the 2 elements, the Inspector-General found that there had been no disclosable conduct as alleged by the discloser. Under the second element of the disclosure, the Inspector-General

decided not to further inquire into this element pursuant to paragraph 11(2)(c) of the IGIS Act because the first element of the disclosure was not substantiated. (O)

An additional inquiry in response to a complaint was ongoing as at the end of the reporting period. (O)

Section 25B reports

After making a preliminary inquiry, the Inspector-General may prepare a report to an agency, including conclusions and recommendations under section 25B of the IGIS Act. (O)

During this reporting period, the Inspector-General issued a section 25B report to ASIS which made 5 recommendations. The complaint included allegations regarding processes around a code of conduct investigation. The IGIS made recommendations in relation to the specific matter as well as more general recommendations regarding how ASIS could improve its record keeping and administration in relation to such processes. By the end of this reporting period, ASIS had committed to either action, or consider, the 5 recommendations made in the report. (O)

Inspections where matters of legality or propriety were identified

Ministerial Directions under section 6(1)(e) of the IS Act

The IGIS reviewed ASIS's activities directed by the Foreign Minister under section 6(1)(e) and the correlating governance directions under section 8(2)(a) of the IS Act. Under these legislative provisions, the Foreign Minister may direct ASIS to undertake activities relating to the capabilities, intentions, or activities or people or organisation outside Australia. (O)

In 2022-23, the IGIS reviewed these activities and the supporting legal framework. The IGIS found that ASIS was conducting activities that amounted to an impermissible attempt to delegate the function entrusted to the Foreign Minister. Since that inspection, legislative amendments of the IS Act have occurred and ASIS has implemented new arrangements for activities conducted under a ministerial direction. (O)

In 2024-25, the IGIS reviewed ASIS's activities under section 6(1)(e) and the relevant governance direction. The IGIS identified one propriety finding in relation to the governance directions under section 8(2)(a). The IGIS was satisfied that this was administrative in nature and identified no concerns relating to ASIS's operational activities nor any legality concerns. The IGIS will continue to review these activities annually. (O)

Operational files related to a specific intelligence program

The IGIS identified one propriety concern in relation to ASIS's governance framework for a specific intelligence program in an inspection that commenced in 2023-24. While the IGIS identified no legality concerns, it is the IGIS's position that the lack of clarity, specificity, and the level of informality in the program's governance framework amounted to a propriety concern. The IGIS made a number of recommendations in support of this finding, as well as other compliance observations. ASIS has advised the IGIS that implementation of recommendations is underway. (O)

ASIS's activities in relation to section 13B of the IS Act

The IGIS undertakes an annual review of ASIS's activities in relation to section 13B of the IS Act. In doing so, the IGIS considers if ASIS is operating in accordance with its legislated functions, with policy requirements, and with regard to human rights. In the course of this inspection, the IGIS made one propriety finding relating to non-recording of ASIS's Privacy Rules. The IGIS also identified a compliance omission wherein ASIS did not record de-tasking of activities in a timely manner, as

required by ASIS internal policy. As this was a single incident, the IGIS did not consider this omission indicative of systemic issues and did not consider it amounted to a propriety concern. (O)

Rescheduled inspection: Activities in relation to section 13A of the IS Act

The IGIS was not able to complete an inspection of ASIS's activities in relation to section 13A of the IS Act and rescheduled this inspection to 2025-26. Section 13A enables ASIS to cooperate and assist intelligence agencies in connection with performance of their functions. The purpose of the inspection is to provide assurance that ASIS's activities under section 13A are lawful and conducted with propriety, and to ensure that ASIS has effective and appropriate policies and procedures to manage such cooperation. (O)

ASIS was not able to provide the IGIS with the records or information to complete this inspection and provide reasonable assurance of ASIS's activities. Therefore, the IGIS concluded that it was not possible to conduct the inspection as planned and it has been rescheduled for 2025-26. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

In 2024–25, the IGIS undertook no inspections directly relevant to the administration and expenditure of ASIS. (O)

Compliance incidents

ASIS provided 2 compliance notifications to the IGIS in 2024–25, all of which were reviewed by the IGIS. The matters reported involved potential or actual non-compliance with the IS Act, ASIS's Privacy Rules, and/or ASIS internal policy. (O)

Of the 2 reports, one remains under investigation. The IGIS's review of 4 compliance incident notifications provided in 2023-24 also concluded in 2024-25; all 5 of the finalised compliance incidents identified legislative or propriety concerns. The 5 incidents the IGIS reviewed that resulted in non-compliance concerned:

- One instance of non-compliance with section 41 of the IS Act, wherein ASIS had a historical practice that resulted in at least one incident where ASIS disclosed information to a liaison partner not in accordance with section 41.
- One instance of non-compliance with Schedule 2, section 2.1 and Appendix A of the *Legal Services Directions 2017* (LSDs), wherein ASIS self-identified that it was seeking certain types of international law advice outside of the directed providers in the LSDs.
- One instance of non-compliance with section 10A(2) of the IS Act, wherein ASIS failed to report to the Foreign Minister on the operational activity conducted under a ministerial authorisation issued under section 9 of the IS Act within 3 months of the day on which the authorisation ceased to have effect:
    - the IGIS also made 2 propriety findings in relation to this incident.
- One instance of non-compliance with section 15(1A) of the IS Act when ASIS failed to apply the Privacy Rules when communicating information concerning Australian persons.
- One instance of non-recording of the application of the ASIS Privacy Rules, in contravention of ASIS internal policy. (O)

ASIS provided the IGIS with its finalised compliance reports for the above matters. Generally, where ASIS identifies incidents like these, remediation action is taken internally, including the review of relevant policies and procedures. The IGIS considered both the incident and the actions taken and proposed additional recommendations if required. (O)

Other reviews

Schedule 3 of the IS Act

The Director-General of ASIS is required to provide a report to the IGIS in accordance with Schedule 3, clause 1(11) of the IS Act, outlining the actions taken in the Foreign Minister's annual review of approvals made under Schedule 3. While the Director-General has provided the 2024 report to the IGIS, the report for 2023 was not provided, amounting to one instance of non-compliance with legislation. (O)

Section 63 of the TIA Act

Following the IGIS's cross-agency inspection of the use of foreign intelligence collection data by AGO, ASD, ASIO, and ASIS, the IGIS identified that ASIS's engagement with section 63 of the TIA Act differed from the other agencies. The IGIS found that ASIS's was not notifying the IGIS of non-compliance with section 63(1) of the TIA Act, amounting to non-compliance with legislation. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

Record keeping
The IGIS identified record keeping issues relating to both policy and procedural compliance during 2024–25. ASIS is continuing work to update the relevant policies and guidance it provides to staff on these matters. The IGIS will review these updates in similar inspections in the 2025–26 reporting period. (O)

Security management
Nil for 2024-25. (O)

ASIS's complaints and Public Interest Disclosures management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Policy management
While ASIS maintains a suite of internal policies and procedures, the IGIS has on occasion identified areas where this policy advice is unclear, does not provide sufficient guidance, or requires development. When this is identified, ASIS is informed via inspection findings and recommendations and develops a plan to review the policy. (O)

Financial management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

People management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Australian Signals Directorate (ASD)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

Due to the breadth of ASD's functions, the IGIS implements a risk-based approach to its inspection of ASD activities. In 2024–25, the IGIS completed 17 inspections of ASD activities. The IGIS identified no legality or propriety concerns in 16 inspections. In the remaining inspection, which related to ASD's conduct of human rights assessments conducted in support of international partnerships, the IGIS identified a range of concerns which are discussed below. (O)

In several the 16 inspections where no legality or propriety concerns were identified, the IGIS made some compliance observations directed at improving the clarity of, and compliance with, ASD's internal policies and procedures, or to promote strong compliance practices, particularly regarding improving the quality of record keeping. (O)

The IGIS independently reviews all reports concerning potential compliance incidents relating to non-compliance with legislation, Ministerial Directions and Ministerial Authorisations. In 2024–25, ASD provided 8 new notifications of potential compliance incidents at the start of ASD's internal investigation. In addition, ASD provided 16 reports at the conclusion of ASD's investigation of an incident. This included potential incidents initially notified to the IGIS in previous years, where the incident was concluded during the reporting period. (O)

In 2024-25 the IGIS received 10 complaints in relation to ASD which is lower than the number received in 2023-24 (15). (O)

To support its knowledge and understanding of ASD's priorities and activities, senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and ASD senior executives continued through 2024–25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of ASD over the year 2024-25 are set out below.

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, ASD provided the IGIS with appropriate direct access to ASD systems and facilities to support its oversight work. Overall, for individual inspections and inquiries ASD provided access to appropriate personnel and information in a timely manner to enable the IGIS's oversight activities. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

One inquiry was commenced in 2024-25 on an own-motion basis. This inquiry was not finalised at the end of the reporting period, and its outcomes will be reported at the conclusion of the 2025-26 reporting period. (O)

The IGIS also commenced one cross-agency own motion preliminary inquiry relating to ASD, which is discussed earlier in this submission. There is an additional own motion preliminary inquiry which is discussed in detail below. (O)

Section 25B reports

After making a preliminary inquiry, the Inspector-General may prepare a report to an agency, including conclusions and recommendations under section 25B of the IGIS Act. (O)

The Inspector-General prepared 3 reports to ASD under section 25B of the IGIS Act at the conclusion of 3 preliminary inquiries, which included one own-motion preliminary inquiry. Two of the reports concerned allegations regarding organisational suitability assessments, with the third report relating to an own-motion preliminary inquiry which examined ASD's administration of public interest disclosures (PIDs). (O)

In total, across the three reports, the Inspector-General made 12 recommendations, all of which were accepted by ASD, with 9 actioned by the end of the reporting period and 3 on track to be completed. Further detail on the own-motion preliminary inquiry is included below. (O)

Preliminary inquiry: Public Interest Disclosure (PID) management

On 23 January 2023, the Inspector-General, by his own motion, commenced a preliminary inquiry into ASD's administration of PIDs under the *Public Interest Disclosure Act (2013*). The preliminary inquiry followed receipt of a number of complaints made to the IGIS during the 2022-23 and previous reporting periods, which raised concerns about ASD's handing of PIDs. The purpose of the preliminary inquiry was to determine whether the Inspector-General should inquire further into ASD's administration of the PID scheme. (O)

The Inspector-General found that ASD had suitable PID procedures and policies and that its actions in handling PIDs were timely and appropriate. The Inspector-General made 5 recommendations in relation to ASD clarifying or amending certain policies and procedures. By the end of 2024-25, ASD had accepted each recommendation, actioned 2 of the recommendations and was on track to complete the remaining 3 recommendations. (O)

Inspections where matters of legality or propriety were identified

Human Rights Assessments

The IGIS undertook an inspection of ASD's human rights assessments (HRAs) conducted in support of international relationships, including HRA's produced prior to releasing intelligence to foreign partners. ASD's policies and procedures relating to the conduct of HRAs were reviewed together with the records produced to support the consideration of human rights risks for specific relationships. (O)

The IGIS reviewed ASD's release of intelligence to foreign partners, focusing on how ASD considered the risk of human rights violations occurring as a result of the disclosure. The IGIS noted ASD had recently updated policies and procedures guiding this process in response to an internal audit. As such, the IGIS made no findings regarding this process. (O)

The resulting IGIS recommendations included the need for ASD to review and update its policies and procedures to make clear ASD's expectations for when a HRA is required outside of the foreign release process. This included a specific recommendation that ASD clarify via policy when it is appropriate to adopt another Australian government agency's HRA. (O)

Other recommendations included ensuring HRAs are more accessible to staff, and a responsible officer or team is identified to ensure currency of each HRA. The IGIS will review ASD's HRAs conducted in support of international relationships in a future inspection. (O)

The IGIS notes that since receiving these findings, ASD has sought legal advice concerning the issue of potential legality, and has also obtained approval from the relevant Minister pursuant to paragraph 13(1)(c) of the IS Act to cooperate with the relevant authority of another country. The IGIS also notes that despite the identified areas of concern in ASD's consideration of human rights

risks, it did not observe any instances where ASD's deficient administrative practices resulted in ASD causing, contributing to, or condoning a human rights contravention. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

In 2024–25 the IGIS undertook no inspections directly relevant to the administration and expenditure of ASD. (O)

Other reviews

Overturned presumptions of nationality

The Minister for Defence issues written rules, ASD's *Rules to Protect the Privacy of Australians* (the ASD Privacy Rules), to regulate ASD's communication and retention of intelligence information about Australian persons. Among other things, ASD must report to the IGIS when ASD has revised its determination that a person previously presumed to be foreign is an Australian person. This is known as 'overturning a presumption of nationality,' and usually occurs when ASD obtains further information on an individual. If the initial presumption was reasonable based on the information available to ASD at the time, such incidents do not represent a breach of legislation or the ASD Privacy Rules. (O)

In 2024–25, the IGIS reviewed 14 reports in which the application of the ASD Privacy Rules resulted in a presumption of nationality being overturned. In each of these 14 cases, the IGIS assessed that the initial presumption was reasonable, and ASD took appropriate measures to protect the privacy of Australian persons. (O)

Compliance incidents

ASD reports to the IGIS where it identifies potential non-compliance with legislation, Ministerial Directions or Ministerial Authorisations. The IGIS reviews these reports and, where necessary, undertakes independent investigation of the incident. In doing so, the IGIS may seek additional information or undertake other investigative activities. Given the technical complexity of ASD's capabilities, some compliance incidents can involve lengthy review processes – particularly where independent legal advice is sought by ASD as part of its compliance investigation process. (O)

The IGIS's review of potential compliance incidents takes place at the end of ASD's internal investigation and includes reviewing incidents ASD has assessed to be compliant and those it has assessed to be non-compliant with legislation. As noted above, in 2024–25, ASD provided 8 new notifications of potential compliance incidents at the start of ASD's internal investigation. ASD also provided 16 reports at the end of ASD's investigation of an incident (o).

In 2024-25, the IGIS completed its review of 11 reports: 6 from the reporting period and 5 provided from the previous reporting period. These reports involved potential or actual non-compliance with the following legislation:

- *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979*
- *Intelligence Services Act 2001* (O)

Of the 11 reports reviewed, 8 were assessed by ASD and confirmed by the IGIS to be matters of legislative non-compliance. Where practical ASD either undertook remedial action or was in the process of doing so at the end of the reporting period. Some breaches related to simple human error whereby actual opportunity to remediate is limited. At the end of the reporting period, 10 reports of which ASD had concluded its investigation remained under review by the IGIS, and 12 potential compliance incidents continued to be assessed by ASD. (O)

Other reviews

ASD's conduct and management of organisational suitability assessments

In 2024-25, the IGIS undertook an inspection of the policies, procedures and practices surrounding the conduct of ASD's organisational suitability Assessment (OSA) process. This inspection was focused on the broader policy frameworks that ASD has in place that govern the OSA process. It did not consider, nor did it provide assurance that specific individual OSA outcomes adhered to the policies and procedures. (O)

Proposed updates to ASD's privacy rules

In addition to inspection activities, the IGIS was also consulted and provided input on potential changes to ASD's Privacy Rules. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

Record keeping

ASD generally has robust policy and governance frameworks that govern its internal practices and activities. However, on occasion, the IGIS has identified that record keeping practices do not meet expected standards. When raised with ASD, its response to these concerns has been appropriate and it has undertaken steps to mitigate these concerns, including conducting internal record keeping and compliance audits. (O)

Security management

Nil for 2024-25 (O)

ASD complaints and Public Interest Disclosures management

As noted previously, the IGIS has completed a preliminary inquiry into ASD's management of PIDs. (O)

Policy management

ASD maintains a large suite of internal operational and compliance policies and procedures. These policy documents are typically comprehensive and provide effective guidance to ASD staff regarding the conduct of activities in the performance of ASD's functions. ASD works to update these policies to ensure they are fit for purpose and reflective of the legislative and operational environment. (O)

Financial management

Nil for 2024-25 (O)

People management

Nil for 2024-25 (O)

Australian Geospatial-Intelligence Organisation (AGO)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

Due to the breadth of AGO's functions, as set out in section 6B of the *Intelligence Services Act 2001* (the IS Act), the IGIS implements a risk-based approach to its inspections. The IGIS undertook 8 inspections of AGO's activities in 2024-25. Of these 8 inspections, 2 inspections that commenced in 2024-25 remain underway, including a cross-agency inspection with DIO regarding compliance with the Respect@Work requirements and an inspection of AGO's governance and use of specified data. The IGIS's findings on these inspections will be reported in 2025-26. In addition, the IGIS completed one inspection that commenced in 2023-24. Of the 7 completed inspections, the IGIS identified no matters of legality or propriety in 5 inspections. The IGIS identified legality or propriety issues in 2 inspections, which are discussed below. The remaining 2 inspections were ongoing as of 30 June 2025. (O)

The IGIS did not receive any compliance incident reports relating to AGO in 2024-25. (O)

The IGIS also reviewed one instance of AGO's use of an emergency authorisation in relation to circumstances which involved an imminent risk to the safety of an Australian person who was outside Australia. The IGIS identified one instance of non-compliance with legislation related to the administrative requirements of section 9D of the IS Act. (O)

In 2024-25 the IGIS received one complaint, which is broadly consistent with the number of complaints received in 2023-24 (0). There were no public interest disclosures handled in relation to AGO. (O)

Senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and AGO senior executives continued through 2024–25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of AGO over the year 2024-25 are set out below. (O)

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, AGO provided the IGIS with appropriate direct access to AGO systems and facilities to support its oversight work. Overall, for individual inspections AGO provided access to appropriate personnel and information in a timely manner to enable the IGIS's oversight activities. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken during 2024–25

The IGIS conducted one cross-agency own motion preliminary inquiry relating to AGO which is discussed earlier in this submission. (O)

Inspections where issues were identified

AGO's cooperation with foreign authorities

The IGIS identified two issues relating to legality in an inspection reviewing AGO's cooperation with foreign authorities under the IS Act, all concerning administrative requirements under the IS Act. Section 13 of the IS Act permits AGO, subject to ministerial arrangement or direction, to cooperate with authorities of other countries in the performance of AGO's functions. Section 13(3B) requires Director AGO to provide the Minister for Defence and the IGIS a report, as soon as practicable after 30 June, about any significant cooperation conducted under section 13(3A). Director AGO has been required to do this as of financial year 2021-22. No reports were provided to the IGIS for 2021-22 or

2022-23, amounting to non-compliance with section 13(3B) of the IS Act. Additionally, the report for 2023-24 was not provided to the Minister or the IGIS until May 2025, amounting to non-compliance with section 13(3B) of the IS Act, as this did not amount to provision of the report 'as soon as practicable'. (O)

Adherence to policy on full knowledge and concurrence (O)

The IGIS undertook a review of the mechanisms in place for AGO to assure adherence to Australia's full knowledge and concurrence (FK&C) policy. This policy requires AGO to have a full and detailed understanding of any relevant capability or activity with a presence on Australian territory or making use of Australian assets. (O)

The IGIS identified one propriety finding regarding the mechanisms in place to assure adherence to the FK&C principles relating to one low-risk capability. (O)The IGIS recommended that AGO review the assurance mechanism for this capability and advise the IGIS once this had occurred. (O)

Compliance incidents

The IGIS independently reviews all compliance incidents reported by AGO relating to non-compliance with legislation or AGO internal policies and procedures; the IGIS did not receive any compliance incident reports relating to AGO in 2024-25. (O)

Other reviews

In accordance with section 9D of the IS Act, Director AGO authorised AGO to undertake activities, or a series of activities, for the specific purpose, or for purposes which include the specific purpose, of producing intelligence on Australian person who it outside Australia. Following such authorisation, the IGIS must consider whether the agency head has complied with the relevant legislative requirements. Paragraph 9D(8)(b) of the IS Act requires the Inspector-General to provide the responsible minister a report of the Inspector-General's views on the extent of the compliance by the relevant agency head with the requirements of section 9D and also provide a copy of the conclusions of the report to the PJCIS. This was provided to the Committee on 18 December 2024. (O)

The Inspector-General concluded that the Director of AGO complied with all requirements of section 9D of the IS Act when exercising this power, with one exception – AGO did not notify the Minister for Defence and the IGIS of the cancellation of the authorisation as soon as practicable, as is required under section 9D(13) of the IS Act. AGO accepted this finding and has adjusted processes to prevent reoccurrence of this error. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

In 2024–25, the IGIS undertook no inspections directly relevant to the administration and expenditure of AGO. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

Record keeping

The IGIS identified record keeping issues relating to both policy and procedural compliance during 2024–25. AGO is continuing work to update the relevant policies and guidance it provides to staff on these matters. The IGIS will review these updates in similar inspections in the 2025–26 reporting period. (O)

Security management

Nil for 2024-25. (O)

AGO complaints and Public Interest Disclosures management

Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Policy management

While AGO maintains a suite of internal policies and procedures, the IGIS has on occasion identified areas where this policy advice is unclear, does not provide sufficient guidance, or requires development. When this is identified, AGO is informed via inspection findings and recommendations and develops a plan to review the policy. (O)

Financial management

Nil for 2024–25. (O)

People management

Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Defence Intelligence Organisation (DIO)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

In 2024–25, the IGIS continued to take a risk-based approach to its inspection program for DIO. Due to DIO's primary role as an assessment agency, it generally presents fewer operational activities with significant legal and propriety risks when compared to other agencies under the Inspector-General's remit. As a result, the IGIS has historically undertaken fewer inspections of DIO compared to other agencies. (O)

In 2024–25, the IGIS undertook 4 inspections into DIO's activities. In the 4 completed inspections the IGIS did not identify any issues of legality or propriety. (O)

There were no complaints received about DIO in 2024-25. This was broadly consistent with the number of complaints received in 2023-24 (1). (O)

To support its knowledge and understanding of DIO's priorities and activities, senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and DIO senior executives continued through 2024–25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of DIO over the year 2024-25 are set out below.

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, DIO provided the IGIS with appropriate direct access to DIO systems and facilities to support its oversight work. Overall, for individual inspections DIO provided access to appropriate personnel and information in a timely manner to enable the IGIS's oversight activities. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

The Inspector-General conducted one cross-agency own motion preliminary inquiry relating to DIO which is discussed earlier in this submission. (O)

Inspections where matters of propriety were identified

Nil. (o)

Compliance incidents

The IGIS independently reviews all compliance incidents reported by DIO relating to non-compliance with legislation and DIO's Mandate. In 2024–25, no compliance incidents were reported by DIO. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

In 2024–25 the IGIS undertook no inspections directly relevant to the administration and expenditure of DIO. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

Record keeping

The IGIS identified record keeping issues relating to both policy and procedural compliance during 2024–25. Where appropriate, DIO has undertaken to update the relevant policies and guidance it provides to staff on these matters. The IGIS will review these updates in similar inspections in the 2025–26 reporting period. (O)

Security management
Nil for 2024-25. (O)

DIO complaints and Public Interest Disclosures management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Policy management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Financial management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

People management
Nil for 2024-25. (O)

Office of National Intelligence (ONI)

Oversight statistics and overarching observations

Due to the breadth of ONI's functions, as set out in the *Office of National Intelligence Act 2018* (ONI Act), the IGIS implements a risk-based approach to its inspections. As ONI is primarily an assessment and coordination agency, it presents fewer operational activities with significant legal and propriety risks when compared to other agencies under the Inspector-General's remit. Therefore, the IGIS has historically undertaken fewer inspections of ONI compared to other agencies. The IGIS undertook 4 inspections of ONI activities in 2024-25. Of these, one inspection remains underway and will be reported on in 2025-26. The IGIS identified propriety-related issues in one of the completed inspections. No issues of legality were identified. (O)

The IGIS received one complaint about ONI in 2024-25. This is broadly consistent with the number of complaints received in 2023-24 (0).

To support its knowledge and understanding of ONI's priorities and activities, senior-level meetings between the Inspector-General and his senior leadership team and ONI senior executives continued through 2024–25. (O)

More details of IGIS oversight of ONI over the year 2024-25 are set out below.

Access to systems, personnel and information

In 2024–25, ONI provided the IGIS with appropriate facilities and systems access to enable oversight activities. (O)

Own motion preliminary inquiries and inquiries undertaken

The IGIS conducted one cross-agency preliminary inquiry relating to ONI, which is discussed earlier in this submission. (O)

Public Interest Disclosures

The IGIS did not receive any public interest disclosures in relation to ONI in 2024-25. (o)

Inspections where matters of legality or propriety were identified in 2024–25

Respect@Work

The IGIS conducted a cross-agency inspection focusing on compliance by the 6 agencies in IGIS jurisdiction with the positive duty obligations introduced by the *Anti-Discrimination and Human Rights Legislation Amendment (Respect@Work) Act 2022.* (O)

The IGIS made a propriety finding regarding ONI's lack of training resources and proactive communication regarding implementation of the positive duty. During the course of, and following its conclusion, ONI had undertaken sufficient remediation such that IGIS concerns had been ameliorated. (O)

Inspections directly relevant to PJCIS Administration and Expenditure jurisdiction

Nil. (O)

Other reviews

Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Compliance incidents

ONI reported two compliance incidents to the IGIS in 2024–25. (O)

The first related to the disclosure of information to a foreign entity which had not been authorised for disclosure under s 13(1) of the *Office of National Intelligence Act 2018* (Cth). This matter constituted a legality finding. ONI agreed with this finding and addressed the error appropriately. (O)

The second related to a failure to undertake required auditing related to the use of Assumed Identities. This constituted a failure to comply with s15LG of the *Crimes Act 1914*. (O)

Areas of inspection findings relevant to the PJCIS

Record keeping
Nil for 2024-25 (O)

Security management
Nil for 2024-25 (O)

ONI's complaints and Public Interest Disclosure management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Policy management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

Financial management
Nil for 2024–25. (O)

People management
Findings were made in relation to ONI's implementation of Respect@Work requirements as outlined above. (O)

Complaints and disclosures

Complaints and disclosures received in 2024–25

In the 2024–25 reporting period, the Office received a total of 458 matters. This includes 64 complaints within the jurisdiction of the *Inspector-General of Intelligence and Security Act 1986* (IGIS Act) that did not relate to visa and citizenship matters, 30 complaints relating to visa and citizenship applications, 6 public interest disclosures (PID) within the meaning of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013* (PID Act), and 358 matters which did not engage either the IGIS Act or the PID Act. (O)

By comparison, in the 2023–24 reporting period the Office received a total of 760 matters. This includes 64 complaints within jurisdiction of the IGIS Act that did not relate to visa and citizenship matters, 40 visa and citizenship complaints, one PID, and 655 matters which did not engage either the IGIS Act or the PID Act. (O)

The number of non-visa and citizenship related complaints received in the 2024–25 period (64) is consistent with the 2023–24 period (64). A breakdown of the distribution of non-visa and citizenship complaints by agencies is included in Table 1 over page. (O)

There was a slight decrease in the number of visa and citizenship related complaints received in the 2024–25 period (30) compared to the 2023–24 period (40). The Office's handling of these matters is discussed in more detail in the ASIO oversight section of this submission. (O)

Agency [1]	2023-24 (O)	2024-25 (O)	Change between reporting periods (O)
ASIO	41	42	1 more
ASIS	7	10	3 more
ASD	15	10	5 less
AGO	0	1	1 more
ONI	0	1	1 more
DIO	1	0	1 less
AFP[2]	0	0	No change
ACIC	0	0	No change
Total (within jurisdiction)	64	64	No change
Outside jurisdiction	655	358	297 less

Table 1: Non-visa complaints: Comparison between periods 2023–24 and 2024–25 (O)

As Table 1 shows, the complaints within IGIS's jurisdiction over 2023–24 and 2024–25 are unevenly spread across the agencies. However, for all agencies the number of complaints is relatively consistent across the two reporting periods. (O)

The decrease in matters received which were outside of jurisdiction – from 655 in 2023-24 to 358 in 2024-25, appears to have coincided with greater clarity on our website regarding our jurisdiction, particularly in relation to visa and citizenship complaints (o).

[2] IGIS's jurisdiction in respect of the AFP and ACIC is limited to complaints relating to the 'intelligence function' of each agency, namely the AFP's and ACIC's use network activity warrants: IGIS Act s 8(3A). (O)

In response to the complaints received in the 2024-25 reporting period, the Inspector-General commenced 34 preliminary inquiries as well as one inquiry (into ASIO) which encompassed 8 related complaints. (O)

General nature of complaints 2024–25

The overall number of complaints to the IGIS is relatively stable across the two reporting periods. The Office did not identify any significant changes or trends in the nature of the complaints received in the 2024–25 reporting period. (o)

Number of formal inquiries and reports in relation to complaints

For complaints received in 2024–25 within IGIS's jurisdiction, the IGIS made no findings of illegality or impropriety. (o)

One inquiry into ASIS was completed in 2024-25. The ASIS oversight section of this submission provides further detail regarding this inquiry. Three inquiries (2 inquiries into ASIO and one inquiry into ASIS) were ongoing at the end of the reporting period. (o)

After making a preliminary inquiry, the Inspector-General may prepare a report to an agency, including conclusions and recommendations under section 25B of the IGIS Act. During the reporting period, the Inspector-General produced 4 section 25B reports regarding complaints made in relation to ASIO (one section 25B report), ASIS (one section 25B report), and ASD (2 section 25B reports). There was one additional section 25B report produced in relation into an own motion preliminary inquiry into ASD. The relevant agency oversight section provides further detail on these reports. (o)

Disclosures handled in 2024–25 by the Inspector-General

Under the PID Act, the Inspector-General can receive, allocate and where appropriate investigate disclosures about suspected wrongdoing in respect of ASIO, ASIS, ASD, ONI, DIO and AGO, as well as in relation to the intelligence functions of the AFP and ACIC. Disclosures can also be received, allocated and investigated by these agencies. (o)

During the 2024-25 FY, the Office also made decisions to not allocate a disclosure of information as a PID in 20 cases. In these cases, the reasons for making this decision were that: the conduct disclosed was not disclosable conduct, or because the conduct was considered more appropriately investigated under the IGIS Act. (O)

The types of disclosable conduct that were the subject of disclosures allocated by the IGIS, and allocated to the IGIS, in 2023-24 and 2024-25 are provided in Table 2. Each disclosure may contain multiple instances of alleged disclosable conduct. (O)

Disclosable conduct[3]	2023–24	2024-25
Maladministration	1	4
Contravention of a law of the Commonwealth, State or Territory	-	3
Could lead to disciplinary action against a public official	-	2
Conduct that involves or is engaged in for the purpose of a public official abusing their position as a public official	-	2
Danger to health or safety	2	2
Conduct that involves corruption	-	1

[3] One PID may relate to one or more agencies, and one or more kinds of disclosable conduct. (O)

Classification: (O)

Table 2: Types of disclosable conduct 2023–24 and 2024–25 (O)

Overseeing the operation of the PID Scheme in the intelligence agencies

In accordance with section 44(1A)(b) of the PID Act, intelligence agencies (which includes the ACIC and the AFP in relation to their intelligence functions regarding NAWs) are required to report to the Inspector-General about PIDs. This includes informing the Inspector-General when a PID is allocated to an intelligence agency for investigation and when an investigation is completed. (O)

The agencies advised the Inspector-General of the actions taken in each matter and discussed PID-related issues with IGIS staff as necessary. (O)

Regarding the PIDs which were investigated during the reporting period, the agencies identified no claims or evidence of detrimental action taken against the discloser in their section 51 reports (final reports). (O)

The Inspector-General also has statutory responsibilities for assisting intelligence agency staff in their obligations under the PID Act and for conducting education and awareness-raising exercises. During the reporting period, the Office provided assistance and guidance to officials within the intelligence agencies about the operation of the scheme. This included the Office hosting a community of practice forum for officials within the intelligence agencies to facilitate sharing of expertise. In the context of a broad range of education and engagement activities the Inspector-General's staff also discussed its role in the PID scheme and alerted agencies to PID-related training courses and relevant fora that may be of interest to their officials. (O)

The Inspector-General's staff engaged with staff from the Office of the Commonwealth Ombudsman) about the PID scheme and assisted the Ombudsman in relation to its functions under the PID Act throughout the reporting period. Staff assisting the Inspector-General coordinated intelligence agencies' input to the Ombudsman's 6 monthly and annual reports about the operation of the PID Act. (O)