

Portfolio Overview

Home Affairs Portfolio overview

Ministers and Portfolio responsibilities

The Home Affairs Portfolio (the Portfolio) has three Ministers:

- The Hon Clare O’Neil MP, Minister for Home Affairs and Minister for Cyber Security
- Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for Emergency Management
- The Hon Andrew Giles MP, Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs.

The Portfolio comprises the Department of Home Affairs (the Department), including the Australian Border Force (ABF), the Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO), and the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA).

The Portfolio has diverse responsibilities in supporting a secure, prosperous, and united Australia, comprising a range of national security and national resilience functions. These include managing Australia’s migration program, cyber security policy and the protection of critical infrastructure, protecting Australia and Australians from threats to their security, countering terrorism and foreign interference, emergency management, disaster preparedness, response and recovery, social cohesion and democratic resilience, the protection of Australia’s sovereignty, and facilitating legitimate trade and travel while maintaining the integrity of the border. A strategy-led and coordinated approach ensures the Portfolio delivers outcomes for Australia’s businesses, organisations and communities on behalf of the Australian Government.

The Minister for Home Affairs has established key strategic priorities and reforms that include reforming Australia’s approach to migration to ensure it meets the challenges of the coming decades; a new cyber security strategy and approaches that better protect all Australians in the digital economy; enhancing key elements of national security including national resilience and strengthening our democracy; whilst contributing to budget repair.

The Portfolio remains central to Australia’s economic recovery from COVID-19 and our subsequent goals to build sovereign capability and address labour and skills shortages. The Portfolio will continue to support Australia’s regions and drive economic growth by facilitating the flow of travellers through the international border and promoting Australia as a competitive destination for migrants, tourists and students.

Working with domestic and international partners, the Portfolio protects Australia from diverse and evolving threats from within and outside our border. The Portfolio provides operational and intelligence capabilities, underpinning the systems and frameworks that enable coordinated national efforts to mitigate risks to the community, democratic institutions, businesses and critical infrastructure.

Figure 1: Home Affairs portfolio structure and outcomes

<p>Minister for Home Affairs, Minister for Cyber Security The Hon Clare O'Neil MP</p> <p>Minister for Emergency Management Senator the Hon Murray Watt</p> <p>Minister for Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs The Hon Andrew Giles MP</p>	
<p>Department of Home Affairs Secretary: Mr Michael Pezzullo AO</p> <p>Australian Border Force Commissioner: Mr Michael Outram APM</p> <p>Outcome 1 Protect Australia from national security and criminal threats, and support national resilience, through effective national coordination, policy and strategy development, and regional cooperation.</p> <p>Outcome 2 Support a prosperous and united Australia through effective coordination and delivery of immigration and social cohesion policies and programs.</p> <p>Outcome 3 Advance a prosperous and secure Australia through trade and travel facilitation and modernisation, and effective customs, immigration, maritime and enforcement activities across the border continuum.</p>	
<p>Australian Security Intelligence Organisation Director-General of Security: Mr Mike Burgess</p> <p>Outcome 1 To protect Australia, its people and its interests from threats to security through intelligence collection, assessment and advice to Government.</p>	
<p>National Emergency Management Agency Director-General: Mr Brendan Moon AM</p> <p>Outcome 1 To develop, lead and coordinate the Commonwealth's approach to emergency management, including the support of activities relating to preparedness, response, relief, recovery, reconstruction, risk reduction and resilience for all-hazard emergencies and disasters.</p>	