

Commonwealth Agency Update

November 2013

The Coalition Government has implemented changes to the structure and composition of certain Commonwealth agencies.

The Government announced that AusAID, Australia's overseas aid agency, will be integrated into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT). AusAID Deputy Director General Ewen McDonald will act as the agency's head during the merger process.

The Government also announced that the Climate Commission, which was established to provide public information on the effects of and potential solutions to global warming, will be abolished. This work will now be undertaken by the Department of the Environment.

A list of selected Commonwealth agencies and their management is on the next page.

The full list of Commonwealth agencies, bodies and Departments, including a chart of 108 Agencies under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997* and the 85 bodies under the *Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997*, is available on pages 3 and 4.

Administrative arrangements

The Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the first Abbott Ministry is available [here](#), and the Hawker Britton Occasional Paper on the appointment of Commonwealth Departmental Secretaries is available [here](#).

The Administrative Arrangements Order, which assigns policy responsibility and the administration of legislation to specific departments, was released on 18 September and can be accessed [here](#).

Hawker Britton Agency Snapshots

An updated Agency Snapshot on the Productivity Commission is available [here](#).

An updated Agency Snapshot on Infrastructure Australia is available [here](#).

An Agency Snapshot on the National Preventative Health Authority is available [here](#).



List of Selected Commonwealth Agencies

Agency	Head
ABC (Australian Broadcasting Corporation)	Mr Mark Scott (Managing Director)
Airservices Australia	Ms Margaret Staib (CEO)
AusAID - Overseas Aid (to be integrated into the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade)	Mr Ewen McDonald (Acting Director General)
Austrade (Australian Trade Commission)	Mr Bruce Gosper (CEO)
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)	Mr Brian Pink (Australian Statistician)
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)	Mr Rod Sims (Chairman)
Australian Crime Commission (ACC)	Mr John Lawler AM APM (CEO)
Australian Customs and Border Protection Service	Mr Michael Pezzullo (CEO)
Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)	The Hon. Peter Heerey AM QC (Chairman)
Australian Energy Regulator (AER)	Mr Andrew Reeves (Chairman)
Australian Federal Police (AFP)	Commissioner Tony Negus APM
Australian Government Solicitor (AGS)	Mr Ian Govey (CEO)
Australian Human Rights Commission	Prof. Gillian Triggs (President)
Australian Law Reform Commission (ALRC)	Prof. Rosalind Croucher (President)
Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)	Mr Leo Zussino (Chairman)
Australian Secret Intelligence Service (ASIS)	Mr Nick Warner AO PSM (Director-General)
Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)	Mr Greg Medcraft
Australian Security Intelligence Organisation (ASIO)	Mr David Irvine (Director-General)
Australian Taxation Office (ATO)	Commissioner Chris Jordan AO
Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB)	Chief Commissioner Martin Dolan
Board of Taxation	Ms Teresa Dyson (Chair)
Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)	Mr Robert Bromwich SC (Director)
Commonwealth Ombudsman	Mr Colin Neave (Ombudsman)
Department of the House of Representatives	Mr Bernard Wright (Clerk) – retiring December 2013
Department of the Senate	Dr Rosemary Laing (Clerk)
DisabilityCare Australia	Mr Bruce Bonyhady AM (Chair)
Fair Work Building and Construction	Mr Brian Corney (Acting Director)
Fair Work Commission	Justice Iain Ross AO (President)
Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB)	Mr Brian Wilson (Chairman)
Future Fund	Mr David Gonski AC (Chairman)
Intellectual Property Australia	Mr Philip Noonan (Director General)
Infrastructure Australia	Sir Rod Eddington (Chairman) Mr Michael Deegan (Coordinator)
Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA)	Mr Robert Anderson (Chairman)
Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)	Mrs Rhondda Dickson (Chief Executive)
National Preventative Health Authority	Prof Christine Bennett (Chair)
National Transport Commission (NTC)	Mr Greg Martin PSM (Chairman)
National Water Commission (NWC)	Ms Karlene Maywald (Chair)
NBN Co Limited	Mr Michael Quigley (CEO) (retiring) Dr Ziggy Switkowski (Chair)
Productivity Commission	Mr Peter Harris (Chairman)
Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA)	Mr Glenn Stevens (Governor)

Chart of 108 Agencies under the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 (FMA Act)*

18 Departments of State [M] under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i>	68 prescribed agencies also encompass a "Statutory Agency" under the <i>Public Service Act 1999 (PS Act)</i>	4 Departments of the Parliament, under the <i>Parliamentary Service Act 1999</i>
1. Department of Agriculture 2. Attorney-General's Department 3. Department of Communications 4. Department of Defence * 5. Department of Education 6. Department of Employment 7. Department of Environment 8. Department of Finance 9. Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade 10. Department of Health 11. Department of Human Services <i>(part of the Social Services portfolio)</i> 12. Department of Immigration and Border Protection 13. Department of Industry 14. Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development 15. Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet 16. Department of Social Services 17. Department of the Treasury 18. Department of Veterans' Affairs † <i>(part of the Defence portfolio)</i> <i>There are 18 Departments of State within 16 portfolios</i>	Agriculture: 2/ 2 Australian Fisheries Management Authority † Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) † [I] Attorney-General's: 12/ 18 # Administrative Appeals Tribunal Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI) Australian Crime Commission [I] Australian Human Rights Commission † Australian Institute of Criminology [I] Australian Law Reform Commission Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre (AUSTRAC) Family Court and Federal Circuit Court [M] Federal Court of Australia * Office of the Australian Information Commissioner Office of Parliamentary Counsel Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions * Communications: 2/ 2 Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) † [M] Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency † Education: 2/ 2 Australian Research Council [M] Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Employment: 6/ 7 Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Equal Opportunity for Women in the Workplace Agency (Workplace Gender Equality Agency) Fair Work Commission Office of the Fair Work Building Industry Inspectorate (Fair Work Building and Construction) Office of the Fair Work Ombudsman Safe Work Australia [I] Environment: 5/ 6 Clean Energy Regulator † Climate Change Authority † Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority † [I] Murray-Darling Basin Authority † [I] National Water Commission [I] Finance: 3/ 3 Australian Electoral Commission * [M] ComSuper Future Fund Management Agency † [M] Foreign Affairs and Trade: 2/ 3 Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) [M] Health: 12/ 13 Australian National Preventive Health Agency (ANPHA) [I] Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (ARPANSA) Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority (ASADA) Cancer Australia	Department of the Senate Department of the House of Representatives Department of Parliamentary Services [M] Parliamentary Budget Office 5 prescribed agencies engage personnel under their own Act, and not the PS Act Attorney-General's: 2/ 18 # Australian Federal Police [M] [I] Australian Security Intelligence Organisation [M] Foreign Affairs and Trade: 1/ 3 Australian Secret Intelligence Service Prime Minister and Cabinet: 1/ 6 Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General Treasury: 1/ 14 Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) †
5 prescribed agencies are non-statutory and staffed through a Department of State Defence: 1/ 1 Defence Materiel Organisation [M] Industry: 2/ 4 Geoscience Australia IP Australia ^ Treasury: 2/ 14 Australian Office of Financial Management (AOFM) [M] Royal Australian Mint	6 prescribed agencies also encompass an "Executive Agency" under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> Attorney-General's: 4/ 18 # Insolvency and Trustee Service Australia (also known as Australian Financial Security Authority) † ^ Σ CrimTrac Agency [I] National Archives of Australia [M] Σ Old Parliament House Environment: 1/ 6 Bureau of Meteorology [M] Σ Health: 1/ 13 National Mental Health Commission	Key to Symbols FMA Act Agencies comprise all Departments of State, Departments of the Parliament and "prescribed Agencies" named in the FMA Regulations. These agencies are all able to receive appropriations in their own right. Also, note that all FMA Act Agencies are in the "General Government Sector". [M] 38 agencies are material entities. Material entities comprise 99% of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities. Note too, that all of the 18 Departments of State are "material in nature". † 17 agencies also encompass bodies corporate formed under statute. [I] 17 agencies are interjurisdictional in nature, eg. involving the States or Territories in their governance structure or establishment. * 11 agencies can engage personnel under enabling legislation as well as under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> . These include Defence, under the <i>Defence Act 1903</i> , the <i>Naval Defence Act 1910</i> and the <i>Air Force Act 1923</i> . Σ 3 Executive Agencies have statutory functions. Δ AFSA handles money other than public money. ^ IP Australia encompasses some office holders, ie. for registering patents, trademarks and designs. 14/ 18 – Indicates number of prescribed Agencies of that type (e.g. Statutory Agencies) out of the total prescribed Agencies in the portfolio. # The Attorney-General's portfolio includes the High Court of Australia, which is part of the Commonwealth, is an "agency" named in the annual Appropriation Acts and is in the "General Government Sector". However, it is not an Agency under the FMA Act, due to its status under its enabling legislation, which also sets its employment framework.



Chart of 85 bodies under the Commonwealth Authorities and Companies Act 1997 (CAC Act)

65 statutory authorities are Commonwealth authorities for CAC Act purposes		20 Commonwealth companies under the CAC Act		
Agriculture: 6 Cotton Research and Development Corporation Fisheries Research and Development Corporation Grains Research and Development Corporation [M] [P] Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation Wine Australia Corporation (Wine Australia)	Environment: 2# Director of National Parks [P] [R] Sydney Harbour Federation Trust [P] [I] Finance: 2 Albury-Wodonga Development Corporation (Albury-Wodonga Corporation) [M] [I] Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation Foreign Affairs and Trade: 2 Export Finance and Insurance Corporation [M] [P] ^ Tourism Australia [P]	Infrastructure and Regional Development: 4 Airservices Australia [M] Australian Maritime Safety Authority [P] Civil Aviation Safety Authority National Transport Commission [I] * Prime Minister and Cabinet: 9 Anindilyakwa Land Council Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies Central Land Council Indigenous Business Australia [M] Indigenous Land Corporation Northern Land Council Tiwi Land Council Torres Strait Regional Authority Wreck Bay Aboriginal Community Council Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
Attorney-General's: 10 Australian Government Solicitor [M] [R] Australia Council Australian Film, Television and Radio School Australian National Maritime Museum [P] National Film and Sound Archive of Australia National Gallery of Australia [M] [P] National Library of Australia [M] National Museum of Australia [M] [P] National Portrait Gallery of Australia Screen Australia *	Health: 6 Australian Institute of Health and Welfare [P] * Food Standards Australia New Zealand [I] Health Workforce Australia [I] Private Health Insurance Administration Council Australian Commission on Safety and Quality in Health Care [I] Australian Sports Commission (Australian Institute of Sport) [M] Human Services Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing) [M] Industry: 4 Australian Institute of Marine Science [P] [I] Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation [M] [P] Australian Renewable Energy Agency [M] [M] [M] Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation [M] [P]	Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
Communications: 3 Australian Broadcasting Corporation [M] Australian Postal Corporation [M] Special Broadcasting Service Corporation [M]	Human Services Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing) [M] Industry: 4 Australian Institute of Marine Science [P] [I] Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation [M] [P] Australian Renewable Energy Agency [M] [M] [M] Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation [M] [P]	Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
Defence: 7 Army and Air Force Canteen Service (Frontline Defence Services) Australian Military Forces Relief Trust Fund (Army Relief Trust Fund) Defence Housing Australia [M] Royal Australian Air Force Veterans' Residences Trust Fund Royal Australian Air Force Welfare Trust Fund Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board Royal Australian Navy Relief Trust Fund	Human Services Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing) [M] Industry: 4 Australian Institute of Marine Science [P] [I] Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation [M] [P] Australian Renewable Energy Agency [M] [M] [M] Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation [M] [P]	Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
Education: 2 Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority [I] Australian National University	Human Services Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing) [M] Industry: 4 Australian Institute of Marine Science [P] [I] Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation [M] [P] Australian Renewable Energy Agency [M] [M] [M] Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation [M] [P]	Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
Employment: 2 Coal Mining Industry (Long Service Leave Funding) Corporation [M] Comcare [M] [P] [R] *	Human Services Australian Hearing Services (Australian Hearing) [M] Industry: 4 Australian Institute of Marine Science [P] [I] Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation [M] [P] Australian Renewable Energy Agency [M] [M] [M] Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation [M] [P]	Social Services National Disability Insurance Scheme Launch Transition Agency (National Disability Insurance Agency) † Treasury: 3 Australian Reinsurance Pool Corporation [M] Clean Energy Finance Corporation [M] Reserve Bank of Australia [M] [P] Veterans' Affairs Australian War Memorial [M] [P]	12 limited by guarantee Corporations Act 2001 Attorney-General's: 2 Australia Business Arts Foundation Ltd Bundanon Trust Defence: 3 AAF Company Australian Strategic Policy Institute Limited RAAF Welfare Recreational Company Education Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership Limited [I] Environment Low Carbon Australia Limited Health: 2 Australian Sports Foundation Limited [M] General Practice Education and Training Limited Prime Minister and Cabinet: 2 Aboriginal Hostels Limited National Australia Day Council Limited Social Services Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency Ltd [P]	8 limited by shares Corporations Act 2001 Communications NBN Co Limited [M] [M] [M] Prime Minister and Cabinet Outback Stores Pty Ltd Finance: 3 Australian River Co. Limited ASC Pty Ltd [M] Medibank Private Limited [M] [M] [M] Industry IIF Investments Pty Limited Infrastructure and Regional Development: 2 Australian Rail Track Corporation Limited [M] Moorebank Intermodal Company Limited
17 bodies encompass a Statutory Agency under the Public Service Act 1999 (PS Act). 4 are marked * as they can engage personnel under their enabling Act along with the PS Act. # There is 1 statutory corporation, subject only to certain CAC Act provisions, that is a Statutory Agency under the PS Act and can employ its own staff (*).		10 Public Non-financial Corporations (PNFC). 5 Public Financial Corporations (PFC) - ^ EFIC also administers the National Interest Account, classified as GGS.		
6 Commonwealth authorities are established by regulations: comprising 5 of the 6 research and development corporations, plus both the Army and Air Force Canteen Service and the Royal Australian Navy Central Canteens Board.		2 Unclassified bodies (including 1 statutory corporation # which is subject only to certain CAC Act provisions). Ω 1 body that has PS Act staff made available to them by the Secretary of the Department.		
3 Commonwealth authorities and 5 Commonwealth companies are also government business enterprises (GBEs) under section 5 of the CAC Act.		[M] 28 CAC Act bodies are material entities (comprising 99% of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities). 26 are Commonwealth authorities and 4 are Commonwealth companies, limited by shares. [P] 17 Commonwealth authorities, 1 company are subject to procurement directions: section 47A of the CAC Act.		
2 Commonwealth authorities are exempt from being notified of general policies of the Australian Government, under sections 28 and 48A of the CAC Act.		[I] 10 entities are inter-jurisdictional in nature, e.g. involving the States or Territories or New Zealand in the governance structure or establishment.		
1 Commonwealth authority is partially exempt from ss 28 and 48A of the CAC Act.		[M] 3 Commonwealth companies are mentioned in statute.		
Wine Australia Corporation is a statutory marketing authority (SMA)		[R] 3 Commonwealth authorities have a single person at their apex, rather than a multi-member board.		
70 General Government Sector (GGS) bodies. The National Interest Account is also GGS, but is administered by EFIC which is a Public Financial Corporation.		# 1 statutory corporation is only subject to the provisions of the CAC Act mentioned beneath its entry.		
† National Disability Insurance Agency is the branded name, and also the branded name for the National Disability Insurance Scheme.				