



COO Committee Communique

Date: 12 March 2025

The Chief Operating Officers Committee met today at the Museum of Australian Democracy, Old Parliament House to discuss the following matters:

Election planning update (caretaker conventions)

The Committee noted the update provided by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet on the caretaker conventions.

APS Enterprise Resource Planning modernisation

The Committee noted that in December 2024, the Secretaries Digital and Data Committee agreed for the COO Committee to provide oversight and sequencing for the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) pipeline (supported by the Digital Transformation Agency) and the workforce recommendations resulting from the Transactional Processing Review.

The Committee considered joint activities to support the ERP modernisation pipeline oversight and capability building for HR, Finance and ERP systems.

Psychosocial hazards

The Committee received an update on the Psychosocial Hazards Project which considers psychosocial hazards within the public sector operating context.

Staff wellbeing

The Committee discussed ongoing approaches to support staff wellbeing following the discussion on psychosocial hazards.

Review of current Senior Executive Service recruitment practices

The Committee noted a review of the Australian Public Service Commissioner's role in SES recruitment is being undertaken by the Australian Public Service Commission. The purpose of this review is to ensure the role of the Commissioner in SES recruitment is fit for purpose.

Commonwealth Child Safe framework

The Committee noted that there has been an increase in non-corporate Commonwealth entities' compliance with requirement 4 of the Commonwealth Child Safe framework in 2024. The Committee agreed to continue proactive engagement with all non-corporate Commonwealth entities in their portfolio on the Framework's requirements ahead of the 2025 reporting deadline.

Australian National Audit Office – Audit report on conflicts of interest

The Committee noted key messages for all Australian Government entities outlined in a recent performance audit report on the management of conflicts of interest by several Commonwealth entities, which was conducted by the Australian National Audit Office. The Committee also agreed to share the key messages with other government bodies within portfolios.

APS Learning and Development strategy action plan – Adapt horizon

The Committee noted the draft APS L&D Action Plan. The Action Plan is the third horizon (Adapt) of the L&D Strategy and builds on the actions taken through the first and second horizons (Activate and Elevate).

Next meeting

The next COO Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 7 May 2025.