



COO Committee Communique

Date: 28 November 2025

Below is a summary of major items considered out of session by the COO Committee during 2025.

Proposed new arrangements for APS employees working parliamentarians' offices

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Australian Public Service Commission proposed amendments to the *Australian Public Service Commissioner's Directions 2022* in relation to the APS Code of Conduct and Values which were endorsed by the Committee. (January 2025)

Commonwealth Risk Committee Membership

The Department of Finance provided an operational update on membership of the Commonwealth Risk Committee. (May 2025)

Contractor Integrity – CRIIS Conduct Removal Reasons

The Department of Finance provided an update on revisions to the Contractor Reporting, Integrity Information Solution (CRIIS) application of removal reasons, when contractors are removed from a contract. (July 2025)

Commissioner's Role in SES Recruitment – Review Recommendations

A review of the Commissioner's role in SES recruitment has been undertaken. The Committee endorsed the review recommendations which proposed changes to the criteria for who may act as a Commissioner's representative on a SES selection panel. (July 2025)

Examination of the Ethical Soundness of PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia

The Committee noted the finalisation of the Department of Finance's examination of the ethical soundness of PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia. (September 2025)

Review into Australian Government travel policies

The Department of Finance provided an update on the Review of Australian Government Travel Policies, Review Recommendations and the Airline Industry Consultation Paper, and invited COOs to consider nominating a representative to guide the development of the new Travel Policy. (September 2025)

Psychosocial Hazards Project

The Committee received the Psychosocial Hazards Playbook, Recommendations and Forward Work Plan, and the Closure Report. The COO Committee considered the Psychosocial Hazards project closed and looks forward to the implementation of the recommendations. (September 2025)

Management of APS Specialist Capability

The APSC, through the establishment of a temporary Specialists Reference Group, is exploring risks and opportunities in relation to the recruitment, development and retention of APS specialists. Committee members were asked to provide feedback, out of session, on key themes arising from recent analysis of workforce and labour market data. (November 2025)