



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

To: The Hon Michelle Rowland MP, Minister for Communications (for decision)

Subject: Misinformation and Disinformation Bill: s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)



4. That you **agree** to s22(1)(a)(ii) [redacted] with the governance arrangements to be developed as part of the two-stage targeted consultation process in recommendation 7.

s22(1)(a)(ii)



7. That you **agree** to a two-stage targeted consultation process ahead of the Bill's introduction in Parliament, with details of the specific stakeholders and the timing to be agreed with your office.

s22(1)(a)(ii)



The Hon Michelle Rowland MP

Date: 19 / 1 / 2024

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s22(1)(a)(ii)



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20. Two-stage consultation: The department proposes a two-stage targeted consultation process to allow consultation to begin prior to a completed draft Bill. Stage one will be to float broad concepts underpinning the proposed Bill to test stakeholder’s red line concerns. Stage two will test specific provisions s42 [redacted] The Department will finalise the details of the stages with your office as work progresses.

21. s42 [redacted] Similarly, there are cross-government consultation processes s22(1)(a)(ii) [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s42

[Redacted]

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Consultation: ACMA

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments:

Attachment A: Departmental briefing slides s22(1)(a)(ii)

Cleared By: Bridget Gannon

Contact Officer: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Position: A/g First Assistant Secretary

Branch: Platforms and News

Division: Online Safety, Platforms and News

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Tel: (02) 6136 s22(1)

Cleared Date: 17/01/2024

Instructions for MPS: Nil.

Responsible Adviser: Shervin Rafizadeh, s22(1)(a)(ii)

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, Samuel Grunhard, Bridget Gannon, Andrew Irwin, Andrew Hyles,

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

To: The Hon Michelle Rowland MP, Minister for Communications (for decision)

Subject: Misinformation and Disinformation Bill: s22(1)(a)(ii) targeted consultation on the proposed amendments

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Recommendation:

s22(1)(a)(ii)

2. That you **agree** for the Department to undertake targeted consultation with key stakeholders on the proposed changes to the draft Bill.

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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s22(1)(a)(ii)



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Targeted consultation with key stakeholders

3. The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) ^{s47C}
[Redacted] We
have also met with other stakeholders such as DIGI, digital platforms, the Australian Human
Rights Commission ^{s47F} ^{s47C}
[Redacted]

s22(1)(a)(ii)



6. ^{s42}
[Redacted] Similarly,
there are cross-government consultation processes ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)} that will be
required ^{s22(1)(a)(ii)}
[Redacted]

s22(1)(a)(ii)



s22(1)(a)(ii)

s42

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Consultation: ACMA

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachments:

s22(1)(a)(ii)

Attachment B: Post-consultation policy direction (slide pack)

Attachment C: Stakeholder consultation plan

Cleared By: James Penprase
Position: A/g First Assistant Secretary
Division: Online Safety, Platforms and News
Mob: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cleared Date: 7 December 2023

Contact Officer: Andrew Irwin
Branch: Platforms and News
Mob: s22(1)(a)(ii)

Instructions for MPS: Nil.

Responsible Adviser: Shervin Rafizadeh, s22(1)(a)(ii)

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, Richard Windeyer, James Penprase, Andrew Irwin, s22(1)(a)(ii)

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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Principles of the draft Bill

- **Transparency** – Australians should be able to see and understand the effectiveness of the measures taken by all parties to combat misinformation
- **Safety** – Australians should be able to access online services safely
- **Responsibility** – mis- and disinformation threats should be addressed by those parties best placed to manage risks
- **Freedom of speech** – Australians should remain free to speak their minds or express their genuinely held religious beliefs online
- **Accountability** – all parties should be recognised for their actions or answerable for their omissions to address misinformation threats



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ATTACHMENT C

Consultation Strategy: Misinformation and Disinformation Bill

Consultation objectives

Refine articulation of the policy arguments: we need to continue to collect better examples of the impact of mis- and disinformation, and get a better handle on what the platforms are currently or not currently doing.

Resolve drafting issues and address unintended consequences - this is focused on the technical issues of amending the Bill and resolving the various reasonable issues that have been raised.

Demonstrate that the Government will work collaboratively to refine the Bill and address concerns (to the extent it still achieves the policy intent) - this is about good process.

Myth busting/educating/persuading to address the mis- and disinformation about the Bill - this is about debunking and countering the information that is flying around, both genuine misunderstandings or deliberate mischief-making.

Build consensus for the Bill, noting that we need to get on board those who know there is a problem and that it needs to be addressed. They may not agree with the Bill in its current form, however, they are keen to work with us to refine it.

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MS24-000137



Australian Government

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,
Regional Development, Communications and the Arts**

To: The Hon Michelle Rowland MP, Minister for Communications (for decision)

s47C

Critical Date: Routine

Recommendation/s:

- 1. s47C

The Hon Michelle Rowland MP

14/2/24
Date:

Comments:

s22(1)(a)(ii)

s47C

s22(1)(a)(ii)

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MS24-000137

s22(1)(a)(ii)
[Redacted]

Stakeholder Implications:

3. In consultation with your office, we will undertake further targeted consultation on key proposed amendments to the Bill consistent with our previous advice (MS24-000090 refers).

Consultation: Australian Communications and Media Authority, Department of the Prime Minister & Cabinet

s22(1)(a)(ii)
[Redacted]

Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter to the Prime Minister

Cleared By: Andrew Hyles
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Mob: s22(1)(a)(ii)
Cleared Date: 6 February 2024

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Instructions for MPS: Nil

Do you require a signed hardcopy to be returned: No

Responsible Adviser: Shervin Rafizadeh, s22(1)(a)(ii)

PDMS Distribution List: Jim Betts, Samuel Grunhard, Bridget Gannon, Andrew Hyles, s22(1)(a)(ii)
s22(1)(a)(ii)

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