

SUMMARY OF SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE DSMA COMMITTEE COVERING ACTIVITIES DURING THE PERIOD 27 OCT 22 - 10 April 23

Defence and Security media advice was sought on 37 occasions during this reporting period, a decrease over the previous period (47) and below the recent Autumn / Winter trend (50 over the last 3 years). Ten requests were initiated by the media, 11 by Government officials and 16 from members of the public.

The number of requests for advice on particular topics included:

UK Special Forces	3	Counter-Terrorism	1
Intelligence Agencies	6	Physical Property & Assets	0
Cyber	0	DSMA Notice System	4
Current & Recent Military Ops	6	Historical	7
Military Equipment	2	Miscellaneous	8
Nuclear Weapons	0		

The Secretary briefed the Committee that the recently incorporated cyber amendments to the DSMA standing notices had not been used in formulating advice nor in the issuance of supplementary notices over the last 18 months.

National Security Bill: The Home Office member updated the Committee on the progress of the National Security Bill.

Relationship with Regulators. As directed, the Secretary briefed IMPRESS on the work of the Committee and offered briefings to editorial teams on the DSMA system and on national security implications of particular matters.

Incorporation of CT Policing within the DSMA Notice System. This item will be discussed at the Committee's next meeting Autumn 23.

During this period, the Committee's Secretariat:

- Briefed Australian Defence and Security officials
- Briefed members of the News and editorial team from BFPS.
- Participated in the annual Society of Editors Conference with the Deputy Secretary (1) on 15 March 23.
- Undertook 6 Briefings to Universities.