



AN OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE ORGANISATION THROUGH NEW DEPARTMENTAL STRUCTURE AND GREATER GOVERNANCE

Improvements to departmental structure and governance have now been fully implemented, with the new structure establishing clear lines of responsibility and accountability.

This new structure includes:

- three Deputy Secretaries (including an additional Deputy Secretary position);
- improved governance arrangements – in particular, a high-level Values and Standards Committee;
- a new Governance and Assurance Branch established to manage a significantly strengthened audit program and promote better governance practices;
- a national, principles-based, quality assurance framework which will provide guidance to DIMA's business groups in developing their own quality assurance processes; and
- a new Strategic Policy Group to monitor and report on the implementation of the Palmer program and to coordinate policy issues.

The department is reviewing its state and territory office arrangements, with a strong emphasis on appropriate funding levels for operations, training and support.

As recommended in the Palmer Report, there has been a particular focus on the detention and compliance areas of the department.

Two key senior executives have been recruited from other agencies to perform critical roles leading the new Detention Services Division and the Compliance Policy and Case Coordination Division.

The department's new executive structure includes the appointment of a National Communications Manager to increase engagement with the public, key clients and organisations.

This is critical to the department being more open and accountable.

The Immigration Detention Advisory Group (IDAG) will be expanded in membership and scope and will be provided with additional resources.

Engagement with agencies that have a role in external scrutiny will be boosted through a new Review Coordination Branch and external agencies and the community will be involved in the department's governance framework.

www.immi.gov.au/department/dima_improvements/index.htm