



Australian Government
Department of Immigration
and Citizenship



Dr Wendy Southern PSM biographical details

Wendy Southern is Deputy Secretary of the Policy and Management Group.

Previously, Wendy was acting Deputy Secretary Governance at the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) with corporate responsibility for internal budget, human resource management, information technology support and ensuring the smooth operation of the Cabinet and support arrangements for the Prime Minister, ministers and parliamentary secretaries. During her time at PM&C, Wendy also filled the roles of First Assistant Secretary Government Division and First Assistant Secretary Cabinet Division.

From July 2005 to May 2007, Wendy worked for the Department of Immigration and Citizenship initially as a member of the Change Management task force. She then established the Strategic Policy Group and later led the Compliance Policy and Case Coordination Division.

From September 2003 until July 2005, Wendy was an assistant secretary in the National Security Division at PM&C. In 2006 she was awarded a public service medal for her contribution to effective national counter-terrorism arrangements.

Before joining the APS Wendy worked in various research, teaching and consultancy positions at the Australian National University, Monash University and the University of the South Pacific.

In 2010, Wendy was awarded the Institute of Chartered Accountants' inaugural award for outstanding contribution to Australian administration.

Wendy was born in Plymouth in the United Kingdom and migrated to Australia with her family in 1970. She has studied at schools in both the UK and Melbourne. She has a PhD in geography from Australian National University

She is married with one daughter, currently at university.

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