

From: s 22(1)(a)(ii)
To:
Subject: FW: QB22-000115 - TikTok [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 9 December 2022 10:43:03 AM
Attachments: [QB22-000115.docx](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi s 22(1)(a)(ii)

s 22(1)(a)(ii) attached is a copy of the (no-longer-active) CIB on the Social Media Review. This was developed icw your team when originally commissioned and contains the public facing TPs on the review.

Regards s 22(1)(a)(ii)

TikTok

Current issue

- *The Minister for Home Affairs has directed her department to investigate data collection practices by social media companies.*

Brief talking points

- Protecting Australians' data from unauthorised access and interference is a key priority for my government.
- The Minister for Home Affairs has commissioned a review to investigate social media companies' use of data and to consider how to enhance Australians' data security.
- Concerns about the security of Australians' data on social media are well-known, and not limited to any one platform.
- We must ensure Australia's security and privacy settings remain fit for purpose in the digital age.

Key facts

- *The Minister for Home Affairs has directed the Department of Home Affairs to review the security risks associated with social media companies, including access to personal information of Australians.*

Sensitivities

- *This review risks being perceived as targeting Chinese companies. Government should maintain a country and vendor agnostic approach to reviewing social media application policy.*

Background

- *On 21 October 2022, Liberal Senator James Paterson wrote to you urging that legislative steps be taken to protect Australians online. This letter followed a Forbes report on the use of TikTok to monitor the physical location of US citizens.*
- *On 5 September 2022, media quoted Senator Paterson "[t]he government shouldn't rule out banning TikTok and other China-based social media companies."*
- *On 4 September 2022, media reported the Minister for Home Affairs had ordered her department to investigate "data harvesting by TikTok" amid growing concern that staff in China can access Australians' personal information. According to reporting, the Minister confirmed Government was not considering banning TikTok as part of the review.*

Contact Officer: § 22(1)(a)(ii)

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