



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

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Cover artwork

The cover artwork is by Greg Joseph, Yidinji nation — Where we started to where we are now.
We commissioned Greg to paint the artwork for our new building at 4 National Circuit, Barton.

Letter of transmittal



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

24 September 2013

Attorney-General

Dear Attorney-General

Attorney-General's Department Annual Report 2012–13

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Attorney-General's Department for the year ended 30 June 2013, in accordance with subsection 63(1) of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

This report has been prepared in accordance with section 63 of the Act, which requires that you table the report in Parliament. It reflects the *Requirements for Annual Reports for Departments, Executive Agencies and FMA Act Bodies* (as approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit, updated in June 2013).

The report includes the department's audited financial statements as required by section 57 of the *Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997*.

As required by the Australian Government Fraud Control Guidelines, I certify that I am satisfied that the department has in place appropriate fraud control mechanisms that meet the department's needs and comply with the guidelines applying in 2012–13.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Wilkins'.

Roger Wilkins AO
Secretary

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How to use this report

This is the Secretary's report to the Attorney-General and the Minister for Home Affairs and Justice for the financial year 2012–13. This Annual Report was prepared in accordance with the *Requirements for Annual Reports for Departments, Executive Agencies and FMA Act Bodies* (July 2013) approved by the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit and issued by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. The report also provides information for the community and stakeholders.

The Annual Report recounts the department's performance for 2012–13 on the measures outlined in the Portfolio Budget Statements and the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements for the same period.

Part 1 introduces readers to the department with a review of the year from the Secretary. It also provides a description of the portfolio, the outcome-program framework and the department's organisational structure.

Part 2 reports on how the department performed during the period against its outcome and the departmental and administered programs.

Part 3 details management and accountability processes, including corporate governance, external scrutiny, financial management, human resource management, information and knowledge management, social equity impacts, and ecologically sustainable development and environmental performance processes.

Part 4 contains the audited financial statements for 2012–13.

Part 5 comprises appendices that provide useful additional information and reports required under specific legislation.