

PARLIAMENTARY COUNSEL

Drafting Direction No. 1.2 Portfolio for cover page of Bill

Document release 4.14

Reissued September 2018

Contents

Part 1—Identifying the correct portfolio	2
Part 2—Relevance of portfolio	2
Part 3—Ministers sworn to more than one portfolio	2
Attachment A—Current list of “portfolios” for cover page of Bill	4

Part 1—Identifying the correct portfolio

1 The descriptions set out in Attachment A should be used on the cover page of a Bill in the space shown for “(*Portfolio*)”. The descriptions are current at the date of this Direction but may change after an election or a Cabinet reshuffle.

2 The descriptions set out in bold font should be used as a general rule. The descriptions set out in normal font should be used when the Bill is sponsored by the Minister with the responsibilities so described and you are instructed to use that description.

Part 2—Relevance of portfolio

3 The only relevance of the portfolio mentioned is that the Minister introducing the Bill should be the Minister for that portfolio or someone representing that Minister. The portfolio should therefore be that of the Minister who is to be responsible for the carriage of the Bill through the Parliament (also known as the sponsoring Minister).

4 In some cases, the sponsoring Minister will not be the Minister who is to be responsible for administering the legislation. For example, the Human Cloning legislation is administered by the Minister for Health, but it was introduced by the Prime Minister at that time because he had taken a particular interest in it (and so the Prime Minister appeared as the portfolio).

Part 3—Ministers sworn to more than one portfolio

5 A Minister may be sworn to more than one portfolio. Such a Minister may not have a title that reflects all of the Minister’s responsibilities.

6 For example, in Spring 2018, the following Ministers were sworn to multiple portfolios:

- (a) Senator the Hon Bridget McKenzie, Minister for Regional Services, Sport, Local Government and Decentralisation, sworn to the following:
 - (i) Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities (*regional services, local government and decentralisation*);
 - (ii) Communications and the Arts (*regional communications*);
 - (iii) Education and Training (*education services in regional Australia*);
 - (iv) Health (*rural health; sport*);
- (b) Senator the Hon Mathias Cormann, Minister for Finance and the Public Service, sworn to the following:
 - (i) Finance;
 - (ii) Prime Minister and Cabinet (*public service, including APSC*);
- (c) Senator the Hon Michaelia Cash, Minister for Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education, sworn to the following:

- (i) Jobs and Small Business;
- (ii) Education and Training (*skills and vocational education*);
- (d) The Hon Michael Keenan MP, Minister for Human Services and Digital Transformation, sworn to the following:
 - (i) Human Services;
 - (ii) Social Services;
 - (iii) Prime Minister and Cabinet (*digital transformation*).

7 Particular care is taken in preparing Attachment A in these cases to ensure that the correct portfolios are used in relation to Ministers sworn to more than one portfolio.

Peter Quiggin PSM
First Parliamentary Counsel
3 September 2018

Document History		
Release	Release date	Document number
1.0	1 May 2006	s06rd370.v01.doc
2.0	17 Jan 2008	s06rd370.v10.doc
2.1	13 Feb 2008	s06rd370.v11.doc
2.2	5 December 2008	s06rd370.v12.doc
3.0	9 February 2010	s06rd370.v15.docx
4.0	17 March 2010	s06rd370.v16.docx
4.1	19 April 2010	s06rd370.v17.docx
4.2	16 September 2010	s06rd370.v18.docx
4.3	16 January 2012	s06rd370.v22.docx
4.4	11 February 2013	s06rd370.v26.docx
4.5	1 May 2013	s06rd370.v29.docx
4.6	19 September 2013	s06rd370.v34.docx
4.7	3 February 2015	s06rd370.v38.docx
4.8	22 September 2015	s06rd370.v41.docx
4.9	1 October 2015	s06rd370.v43.docx
4.10	22 February 2016	s06rd370.v46.docx
4.11	21 July 2016	s06rd370.v51.docx
4.12	25 January 2017	s06rd370.v54.docx
4.13	9 February 2018	s06rd370.v62.docx
4.14	3 September 2018	s06rd370.v67.docx

Note: Before the issue of the current series of Drafting Directions, this Drafting Direction was known as Drafting Direction No. 11 of 2005.

Attachment A—Current list of “portfolios” for cover page of Bill

Note 1: The descriptions set out in bold font should be used as a general rule. The descriptions set out in normal font should be used when the Bill is sponsored by the Minister with the responsibilities so described and you are instructed to use that description.

Agriculture and Water Resources

Attorney-General

Communications and the Arts

Defence

Defence Industry

Defence Personnel

Veterans’ Affairs

Education and Training

Education

Environment and Energy

Energy

Environment

Finance

Finance and the Public Service

Special Minister of State

Foreign Affairs and Trade

Foreign Affairs

Trade, Tourism and Investment

Health

Indigenous Health

Senior Australians and Aged Care

Home Affairs

Immigration, Citizenship and Multicultural Affairs

Industry, Innovation and Science

Industry, Science and Technology

Resources and Northern Australia

Infrastructure, Regional Development and Cities

Cities, Urban Infrastructure and Population

Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development

Regional Services, Sport, Local Government and Decentralisation

Jobs and Small Business

Jobs and Industrial Relations

Small and Family Business, Skills and Vocational Education

Prime Minister

Indigenous Affairs

Women

Social Services

Families and Social Services

Human Services

Human Services and Digital Transformation

Treasury

Assistant Treasurer