Protective Security Policy Framework Release 2025 Overview

The Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF) sets out Australian Government policy across six security domains and prescribes what Australian Government entities must do to protect their people, information and resources, both domestically and internationally



PRINCIPLES

- 1. Security is everyone's responsibility
- Developing and fostering a positive security culture is critical to security outcomes
- 3. Security enables the business of government. It supports the efficient and effective delivery of services
- Security measures applied proportionately protect entities' people, information and resources in line with their assessed risks
- Accountable authorities own the security risks of their entity and the entity's impact on shared risks
- A cycle of action, evaluation and learning is evident in response to security incidents



GOVERNANCE

Establish

- Responsibilities for protective security
- Governance arrangements

Develop

• Security plan

Embed

- Security culture
- Security awareness

Detect & Respond

Security incidents

Assess & Report

· Security capability

Review & Improve

Inform improvements

RISK

Adopt

- Enterprise risk management approach
- Risk tolerances

Prioritise

- Prioritise risks
- Security mitigation measures

Implement

 Procurement and contract establishment

Manage

• External suppliers

Recognise & Respond

- Foreign Ownership Control or Influence
- Insider threats

Review & Adapt

- Business continuity and disaster recovery plans
- Respond to emerging threats

INFORMATION

Assess

• Business Impact Levels

Apply

Security classifications

Protect

• Information compromise

Implement

Operational controls

Share

- Domestic sharing
- International sharing

Dispose

Secure disposal

TECHNOLOGY

Define

Identify systems

Implement

• Systems controls

Authorise

Systems authorisation

Safeguard

- Cyber-security strategy
- Essential Eight Strategies

Monitor

Systems monitoring

Retire

 Decommission resources or facilities

PERSONNEL

Screen

• Pre-employment screening checks

Control

 Access (ongoing, temporary and remote)

Clear

• Security vetting and clearance

Ensure

 Security clearance maintenance and revalidation

Share

• Information of security concern

Separate

- Withdrawal of access
- Ongoing security obligations

PHYSICAL

Integrate

Secure facilities design and construction

Certify

• Physical security zones

Implement

• Security control measures

Monitor

• Facilities and controls

Review

• Effectiveness of arrangements

Retire

Decommissioning resources or facilities

Dependent Standards and Technical Manuals

- Australian Government Investigation Standard (AFP)
- Commonwealth Risk Management Policy and Procurement Rules (DOF)
- National Terrorism Threat Level Advisory System
- Australian Government Security Caveat Standard (Home Affairs)
- Australian Government Email Protective Marking Standard (Home Affairs)
- Australian Recording Keeping Metadata Standard (NAA)
- Normal Administrative Practice (NAA)
- Information Security Manual (ASD)
- Australian Government Hosting Certification Framework (Home Affairs)
- Australian Government Gateway Security Standard (Home Affairs)
- Australian Government Systems of Government Significance Standard (Home Affairs)
- Australian Government Adjudicative Standard (Home Affairs)
- TOP SECRET-Privileged
 Access Standard (ONI/ASIO)
- Technical Notes (ASIO)
- Security Equipment Evaluated Products List and Equipment Guides (ASIO)
- Building Code of Australia (ABCB)