



INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENT



Intelligence and Security Committee – Work Priorities Statement

The Rt. Hon. Dominic Grieve QC, MP, Chairman of the Intelligence and Security Committee of Parliament, said on behalf of the Committee:

“Since our appointment in September we have met formally, agreed our priorities and begun work. We are undertaking a number of briefing visits to the Agencies to consider the broad scope of their work, and have agreed a number of specific issues as our priorities going forwards.

“The first is the draft Investigatory Powers Bill which is expected to be published shortly. The Committee published a comprehensive report in March which set out the full range of the Agencies’ capabilities (some of which were acknowledged for the first time). We made 54 recommendations and will wish to examine the extent to which the Government has taken them on board. The draft Bill is an important new piece of legislation and it is essential that the Government gets it right.

“Another immediate priority is the intelligence basis surrounding the recent drone strikes in which British nationals were killed.

“Our longer-term priority is the substantial Inquiry into the role of the UK Government and Security and Intelligence Agencies in relation to detainee treatment and rendition, where there are still unanswered questions.

“In addition, the Committee has an ongoing responsibility to scrutinise the work of the entire UK intelligence community and this will give rise to a number of smaller investigations.

“The Committee is clear that its remit is to provide independent and robust scrutiny and oversight of the intelligence community and this will be at the heart of our work.”