

From: [Fiona Webster](#)
Subject: Message from the Chief Security Officer - DFAT Policy 8 [SEC=OFFICIAL]
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[image003.png](#)

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Message from the Chief Security Officer



Dear colleagues

In response to the changing threat environment for espionage and foreign interference, there has been an update to Policy 8: Sensitive and Classified Information of the Government's Protective Security Policy Framework.

These changes mandate a Whole of Australian Government approach to the use of electronic devices where SECRET or TOP SECRET material is accessed. From 01 July 2024, DFAT will no longer permit the use, carriage, or storage of Personal Electronic Devices (PEDs) inside Zone 3 and Restricted Areas. The most common devices include, but are not limited to:

- mobile phones
- laptops
- tablets
- smart watches
- Bluetooth headphones
- and fitness monitors.

Your DFAT-managed devices will still be permitted in Zone 3 areas.

In the coming weeks, you will see secure device lockers installed in each DFAT tenancy, as well as new zoning posters and banners. If you're unsure if your device will be permitted in Zone 3, you will find a list of frequently asked questions on the [Our Security Policy 8 page](#).

We want to ensure our colleagues with valid medical or work, health and safety (WHS) devices are supported through this policy change.

An assessment process is available to all staff who have medical or WHS devices to ensure they can continue working while mitigating possible security issues.

Staff who require medical or WHS devices while working in a Zone 3 area should submit their [WHS/Medical Devices Clearance Form](#) as soon as possible so the DSD Technical Security team can appropriately manage requests. Please send all forms through to

policy8.support@dfat.gov.au.

I appreciate this change will require some adjustments to how staff manage personal contact in the workplace. Guidance on how you can remain in touch with your family and friends can also be found in the [Policy 8 FAQs](#). I would like to thank all staff for making the necessary changes to ensure we protect our people, assets and information, and comply with this Whole of Government policy.

Next week IMD will provide staff further information about the technical changes to their DFAT managed mobile devices and restrictions on unapproved iOS applications.

Dr Fiona Webster

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