Protective Security Bulletin

2020.1 > 13 May 2020

COVID-19

Due to the evolving situation with COVID-19, a number of one-off changes have occurred to the SCEC Scheme 2020 scheduling:

- SCEC consultants whose endorsement expires in September 2020 will receive a 12-month extension;

- those who receive a 12-month extension will be issued a new SCEC ID card reflecting the new expiry date; and

- by March 2021, those who received the 12-month extension must submit a completed renewal pack to continue their endorsement beyond the new expiry date.

For all other SCEC consultants whose endorsement expires *after* September 2020, it will be business as usual. Please download the renewal packs and submit the hard copy to SCEC at least 6 months prior to expiry.

T4 & BGLU now part of 'ASIO Outreach'

ASIO's T4 and Business & Government Liaison Unit (BGLU) have combined with other external facing ASIO teams in what is now known as ASIO Outreach.

ASIO-T4 products will now be branded as 'ASIO products'. The change is designed to improve, consolidate and enhance ASIO's outreach and engagement efforts.

During the transition period, the BGLU website will be redirected to the new website www.outreach.asio.gov.au

You can still use your BGLU account details to login, check out the COVID-19 section which includes analytical reports, articles and correspondence.

You can still contact T4 on (02) 6234 1217 and t4ps@t4.gov.au

Security when working from Home

As part of the Federal Government's efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19, the community is being encouraged to work from home wherever possible. To assist these people, and Australian Government departments, ASIO has released the following documents:

1. Security Manager's Guide *Working from Home;*

2. Protective Security Circular 174 *Security considerations for home-based work for official information up to and including OFFICIAL: Sensitive*; and

3. Security Equipment Guide 033 *Security equipment for the transport and storage of sensitive and classified information at a home residence.*

The threat actors—criminal or other—will not be reduced by current events; in fact, the distraction may be taken advantage of.

Consider some of the following advice:

- Risk assessment. Home-based work increases the risk of compromise of sensitive information.

- Conduct a self-assessment of your home's security.

- How is your information being stored, handled,

processed and discussed at home?

- Check out your organisation's working from home security policy and procedures for guidance.
- Keep your security awareness skills sharp while at home.
- Internet-connected device security. Ensure all firewalls and VPNs are up-to-date and avoid clicking on suspicious links or files.
- Consider consulting a SCEC-approved locksmith if unsure of the condition of the briefcase, or the currency of the keying system used on the briefcase, used to transport sensitive material.

These documents can be found on the SCEC website www.scec.gov.au/documents

A guide to Precinct Security

ASIO's latest *Security Manager's Guide on Precinct Security* is aimed at helping security managers assess precinct protective security measures in collaboration with precinct stakeholders.

Often a large area of buildings (precinct) will have similar threat and risk profiles but are controlled by multiple security managers. In this instance, it is vital to establish a Precinct Security Governance Committee (PSGC) and appoint precinct security advisors and consistent practices.

This guide goes through the A – Z of how to manage the security of a precinct—from establishing the PSGC, to security incident response plans and procedures, to conducting precinct security inspections.

The guide is now available to download on the SCEC website www.scec.gov.au/documents

2021: Seeking New SCEC Consultants

ASIO, on behalf of SCEC, intends to seek applications for New SCEC Consultants in 2021.

New Applicant packs will be available on the SCEC website soon.

A review of the SCEC Security Zone Consultant Policy and supporting documentation is currently underway and updated documents will be uploaded to the SCEC website.

For anyone interested in becoming a SCEC Consultant, it is imperative that you read these documents to understand the function of a SCEC consultant, the eligibility requirements and the level of commitment expected.

These documents can be found on at www.scec.gov.au/scec-security-zone-consultants-scheme-documents

Recently Released Documents

- *SMG Precinct Security*
- *SMG Security Managers Handbook—Introduction to protective security measures (version 2)*
- *PSC 174 Security considerations for home-based work for official information up to and including OFFICIAL: Sensitive*
- *SEG 033 Security equipment for the transport and storage of sensitive and classified information at a home residence.*
- *SMG Fixed facility site-specific risk assessment*
- *SMG Data Centre Security*
- *SMG Working from home*
- *SMG Dynamic Lockdown*

Upcoming events

Due to COVID-19 and legislation surrounding social distancing, all events have been postponed until further notice.