



PHYSEC-2

Agency facilities

What to know



This summary sheet outlines key points from PHYSEC-2: Agency facilities – a policy under Tasmania's Protective Security Policy Framework (TAS-PSPF).

The TAS-PSPF supports Tasmanian Government agencies to protect their people, information and assets from compromise and harm.

To read the TAS-PSPF or to find other summaries, policies and resources, go to www.security.tas.gov.au

It is important for physical security measures to be considered in any proposed Tasmanian Government agency facility design, selection, development, or modification.

Policy PHYSEC-2 sets out how your agency can take a risk based approach to make sure that the physical security measures you put in place are right for your agency's operating environment, as required under the TAS PSPF.

Identify threats and risks

The physical facilities that house your agency's assets must be able to provide the level of protection required, as determined by risk assessments and the security plan in place for your agency. For this reason, your agency must incorporate protective security considerations into all processes related to facility design, selection and development, or modification of existing facilities.



The physical protective security measures applied by your agency to its facilities and physical assets are vital to minimising risks of harm or compromise. If your agency operates across multiple sites, it is recommended that site-specific risk assessments are used to help prepare site-specific security plans addressing the relevant threats and risks to each site. Site specific risk assessments are also important when considering further development at a site or when assessing a site for new development.

When determining the physical protective security measures to be applied, it is important that they are proportionate to the threats that have been identified and the likely risk scenarios. Understanding threats against your agency will be the result of determining an adversary's intent to cause harm, damage or disruption to your agency's location, function and/or assets.

Integrate physical security

Protective security measures are more likely to be effective if they are addressed at the concept and design stages when your agency is planning new sites/buildings, selecting new sites, and planning alterations to existing buildings. For this reason, it is important to consider how your agency will integrate physical security measures into the design, selection, development or modification of facilities at the earliest possible opportunity.

There are several physical security risk factors to consider before a site is selected for your agency – please refer to the policy for further information relating to this.

All building work in Australia (including new buildings and building work in existing buildings) must comply with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia (BCA). The BCA requirements for commercial buildings, including facilities used by agencies, provide an increased level of perimeter protection as well as protection for assets and information where their compromise, loss of integrity or unavailability would have a business impact level of medium or below.



Review and evaluate

Your Agency Security Advisor is responsible for conducting regular reviews of your agency's physical security measures to monitor their efficacy, relevance and use, while confirming they are fit for purpose.

It should be anticipated that your agency's security threats and vulnerabilities will change. Preparing for change will be supported by conducting regular reviews of all protective security measures. Revising your agency's physical security measures as appropriate will enable the contemporary and proactive maintenance of requirements under the TAS-PSPF.

Your agency must communicate changes that affect agency people and advise them of any new policies and procedures as they are introduced.