

Michael Pezzullo

Department of Immigration and Border Protection
Secretary



Michael Pezzullo was appointed as the Secretary of the Department of Immigration and Border Protection in October 2014. Prior to this, he was the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS). Mr Pezzullo joined the Service as the Chief Operating Officer in July 2009, having been the Deputy Secretary Strategy in the Department of Defence—a position to which he was appointed in January 2006. Between February 2008 and May 2009 Mr Pezzullo led the Defence White Paper team and was also the principal author of the *2009 Defence White Paper*.

Mr Pezzullo has a BA (Hons) in History from Sydney University.

Community Cohesion, Borders and Mobility

Since Australia established an immigration programme after the Second World War, the dominant policy paradigm has been one of once-only immigration for permanent settlement and citizenship. The 21st Century is characterised more by mobility rather than migration, and increasingly by transnational connections and interests. More people are moving between countries more often and staying for shorter periods of time. People who come to Australia—or stay here—have diverse characteristics, obligations and aspirations, and experience and contribute to life in Australia equally diversely. They range from the highly-skilled highly paid worker transferred for a period to Australia by their transnational company to the refugee fleeing danger, from the working holiday maker here looking for occasional work as they travel around the country to the spouse coming to start a new life, and from the student with aspirations to transition to permanence to the person under duress to work or stay illegally.

This presentation will take as a starting place the importance of looking at community cohesion as a whole-of-community attribute and a whole-of-government concern—both an important outcome of government policy and a contributor to the success of government programmes. It will explore the relationship between community cohesion and the strategic management of borders—offshore, at the physical border and onshore—in the national interest and in the context of highly mobile populations with increasingly globalised lives.