

AUSTRAC input for portfolio key achievements QTB for Minister Coleman

Commonwealth Bank of Australia civil penalty

- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
- On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
- The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty on 20 June 2018. The penalty has been paid.
- This penalty is the largest ever in Australian corporate history.

25th Egmont Group Plenary

- The 25th Egmont Group Plenary was held from 24-27 September 2018 in Sydney.
- AUSTRAC CEO Nicole Rose PSM co-chaired with Hennie Verbeek-Kusters, Egmont Group Chair/Head of FIU-Netherlands.
- 419 delegates from 120 countries (including 23 observer and international organisation partners) attended.
- The attendees worked on financial intelligence unit (FIU) operational independence and autonomy, and identifying the role public-private partnerships can play in the fight against money laundering and terrorism financing.
- The plenary recognised the importance of private and public sector cooperation to harness collective capabilities in the joint fight against financial crime.
- All members of the Egmont Group expressed their gratitude to AUSTRAC for hosting the Plenary. The Egmont Group acknowledged the long-standing contribution of AUSTRAC to the Group as one of its founding members in 1995, and past plenary host in 2003.

Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Task Force

- In December 2017 the Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Task Force seized 1.2 tonnes of methamphetamine on the coast of WA.
- This marked the largest seizure of the drug in Australia's history, and the largest ever drug seizure in WA, with an estimated street value over \$1 billion.
- Eight persons were arrested and charged.
- AUSTRAC delivered relevant, accurate and timely specialist financial intelligence identifying the financial networks of the main suspects, including identifying the purchase of the vessel used to facilitate the importation, and identifying additional persons of interest to the investigation.

AML/CTF reform

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017.
- These amendments also deregulated the cash-in-transit sector and strengthened AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers.
- The Government is continuing to work on reforms to implement the recommendations of the statutory review of the AML/CTF regime, with the next phase of proposed reforms being finalised.

ASEAN-Australia Codeathon

- AUSTRAC hosted the ASEAN-Australia Codeathon in Sydney in March 2018, ahead of the ASEAN-Australia Special Summit.
- This was the first financial intelligence codeathon held in Australia, and built on our strong regional partnerships.
- The Codeathon was a 32-hour event that brought together more than 100 technology specialists and innovators from 10 nations, industry leaders and government partners, to address the problems of money laundering, terrorism financing and cyber threats.
- AUSTRAC is working with participants on a number of the concepts developed during the Codeathon.

Regional Financial Intelligence Analyst Course (FIAC)

- With funding support from the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFAT) and as a key deliverable from the CTF Summit, AUSTRAC developed a regional FIAC, based on its national and globally innovative concept and content.
- The regional FIAC delivers in-depth, formal and specialist financial intelligence training for regional analysts, with other topics related to the financial industry and the criminal environment.
- Within the DFAT funding, four regional FIACs are being offered to the 10 ASEAN FIUs, for two participants each per course, between 2018 and 2020. This is part of AUSTRAC's commitment to providing opportunities and sharing expertise in regional and cross-border money laundering and terrorism financing issues.
- The first of the four regional FIACs was conducted in August 2018 in Brunei, with 21 participants from all 10 ASEAN FIUs. It received overwhelmingly positive feedback. Topics were delivered by subject matter experts from AUSTRAC, Interpol, FinCEN and the Singapore Nanyang University, providing participants with a variety of views on threat and risk in financial environments.

Key statistical outcomes for 2017-18

[Note: we cannot disaggregate these numbers to partial year—they are full financial year 2017-18]

- AUSTRAC intelligence contributed to the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (SFCT) outcomes. In 2017–18 the SFCT raised \$207.4 million in tax liabilities, with \$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability protected Australian Government revenue by contributing to \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases).
- AUSTRAC data also contributed to 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings (against target savings of \$17.44 million) in 2017–18, from increased detection of welfare fraud.

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

Question: What action is AUSTRAC taking against the Commonwealth Bank?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Australia has a robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime.
- In AUSTRAC, we have a strong ~~cop on the beat~~ regulator and financial intelligence agency to ensure that our financial institutions comply with the law.
- Stopping the movement of money to criminals and terrorists is a vital part of our national security defences and we expect regulated businesses in Australia to comply with our comprehensive regime.
- On 3 August 2017 AUSTRAC applied to the Federal Court of Australia for civil penalty orders against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), alleging serious and systemic non-compliance with the *Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act).
- On 14 December 2017 CBA filed its defence to the original statement of claim.
- On 14 December 2017, AUSTRAC also filed an amended statement of claim with the Federal Court of Australia, alleging an additional 100 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act. In total AUSTRAC alleged over 53,800 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by CBA.
- On 23 February 2018, CBA filed its defence to the amended statement of claim.
- At the request of both parties, the Court referred the proceedings to mediation. The mediation occurred on 21 and 22 May 2018.
- AUSTRAC and the CBA reached an agreed position with CBA on 4 June 2018.
- The Federal Court ordered a \$700 million civil penalty against CBA on 20 June 2018. The fine has been paid.
- AUSTRAC will continue to work collaboratively with CBA as they work to strengthen their compliance practices.

If asked: how will this affect the AUSTRAC collaboration with industry?

- AUSTRAC will continue to collaborate with industry to provide timely financial intelligence and information to support law enforcement and national security investigations.
- AUSTRAC's ongoing private-public AML/CTF initiatives, such as the Fintel Alliance, remain crucial to uniting government and industry in the fight against serious crime and terrorism.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

If asked: has AUSTRAC been working with ASIC and APRA on this matter?

- AUSTRAC works closely with all its partner agencies on a wide range of matters.
- It would not be appropriate to go into discussions AUSTRAC might have had with partners on this specific matter.
- On 11 August 2017, ASIC announced that it had commenced inquiries into whether CBA and its Directors complied with their duties under the Corporations Act, their continuous disclosure obligations, their licensing obligations and their financial reporting obligations.
- Separately, on 28 August 2017, APRA announced its own independent prudential inquiry into the Commonwealth Bank focusing on governance, culture and accountability frameworks and practices within the bank.

If asked: Will other banks be impacted by the AUSTRAC action against CBA? [re media reports that some of the money laundering syndicates that exploited CBA's systems also used other major banks]

- In AUSTRAC, we have a strong cop on the beat to ensure that our financial institutions comply with the law.
- Every single reporting entity has a responsibility to be aware of their obligations and ensure they meet them.

If asked: will the finalisation of AUSTRAC proceedings impact the class action against CBA?

- This is a separate matter to the AUSTRAC proceedings. It would not be appropriate to comment or speculate on what impact this agreement may have on the class action.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

Status of proceedings

On 20 June 2018, Justice Yates ordered a \$700 million civil penalty against CBA.

Case against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA)

On 3 August 2017, AUSTRAC applied to the Federal Court of Australia for civil penalty orders against CBA for contravening the AML/CTF Act more than 53,700 times in the following ways:

- CBA did not comply with its own AML/CTF program, as it did not carry out any assessment of the money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) risk of Intelligent Deposit Machines (IDMs) before their rollout in 2012.
- CBA took no steps to assess the ML/TF risk until mid-2015 - three years after they were introduced. Had CBA complied with its own AML/CTF program the ML/TF risks posed by the IDMs may have been identified earlier.

AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

- For a period of three years, CBA did not comply with the requirements of its AML/CTF program relating to monitoring transactions on 778,370 accounts.
- CBA failed to give 53,506 threshold transaction reports (TTRs) to AUSTRAC on time for cash transactions of \$10,000 or more through IDMs from November 2012 to September 2015.
- CBA failed to report suspicious matters either on time or at all involving transactions totalling over \$77 million.
- Even after CBA became aware of suspected money laundering or structuring on CBA accounts, it did not monitor its customers to mitigate and manage ML/TF risk, including the ongoing ML/TF risks of doing business with those customers.

Amended Statement of Claim

On 14 December 2017, AUSTRAC filed an amended statement of claim with the Federal Court of Australia. In this amended statement of claim, AUSTRAC alleges an additional 100 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act claiming that:

- CBA failed to report two suspicious matters within 24 hours of forming a suspicion relating to the financing of terrorism.
- CBA failed to report 54 suspicious matters either on time or at all in relation to accounts and individuals that were the subject of two further law enforcement operations.
- Even after CBA became aware of suspected terrorism financing, money laundering and/or structuring on CBA accounts, in 38 instances it did not appropriately monitor its customers to mitigate and manage money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) risk, including the ongoing ML/TF risks of doing business with those customers.
- In six instances additional to those identified in the original statement of claim, CBA did not comply with the requirements of its own AML/CTF program to identify, mitigate and manage the ML/TF risks associated with IDMs.

Defence

On 14 December 2017, CBA filed their response to the Federal Court of Australia. The defence focuses on key factual and legal matters in the claim. On 23 February 2018, CBA filed their defence to the Amended Statement of Claim. The amended defence contains the following admissions:

- CBA agrees that it was late in filing 53,506 TTRs, but says that these all resulted from the same systems-related error;
- CBA agrees that it did not adequately adhere to risk assessment requirements for IDMs, but disagrees with the number of contraventions that flowed from this;
- CBA agrees that it did not adhere to all its transaction monitoring requirements in relation to 778,370 accounts;

AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

- CBA admits 98 (in whole or in part) of the allegations concerning suspicious matter reports (SMRs);
- CBA admits 56 (in whole or in part) of the allegations concerning ongoing customer due diligence requirements.

Class action

On 9 October 2017, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers, with support from litigation funding group IMF Bentham, filed a shareholder class action on behalf of CBA investors who suffered losses due to the share price fall following the institution of legal proceedings by AUSTRAC against CBA. All shareholders who bought CBA shares between 1 July 2015 and 3 August 2017 and still held some or all of those shares until 1 pm on 3 August 2017 are eligible to participate.

The class action alleges that CBA knew about serious instances of non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and that its failure to disclose that information to the ASX amounts to 'misleading and deceptive conduct' and a breach of its continuous disclosure obligations under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and ASX Listing Rules.

On 23 February 2018 CBA filed its defence to these proceedings. CBA denies all allegations of liability in its defence.

Intelligent Deposit Machines (IDMs)

In May 2012, CBA rolled out IDMs, a type of ATM that accepts deposits by both cash and cheque. Deposits through an IDM are automatically counted and are credited instantly to the nominated recipient's CBA account. The funds are then available for immediate transfer to other accounts both domestically and internationally.

IDMs could accept up to 200 notes per deposit, up to \$20,000. Prior to April 2018 CBA did not impose a daily deposit limit through IDMs into a bank account.

There has been significant growth in the use of CBA IDMs since their roll-out. In the six months from June 2012 to November 2012 about \$89.1 million in cash was deposited through this channel. In the six months from January 2016 to June 2016 cash deposits through this channel grew to about \$5.8 billion.

AUSTRAC Contact: [REDACTED]
Operations Division
Phone: [REDACTED]
Date first prepared: 23 January 2018
Originating Source: Home Affairs

Date last Updated: 8/08/2018 - 1:16 PM

Note: As this matter has concluded, AUSTRAC recommends that this QTB can be closed off.

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 11:22 AM
To: [REDACTED]; Kathryn Haigh
Cc: Peter Soros
Subject: RE: FOR REVIEW before noon tomorrow: QTB - AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Security Classification:
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED],

Kathryn and I both believe that this QTB should be closed. We are of the view that is no longer necessary.

Peter, I cc'd you in as an FYI.

Thanks
[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 3:01 PM
To: [REDACTED] >; Kathryn Haigh <[REDACTED]>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FOR REVIEW before noon tomorrow: QTB - AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Importance: High

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED] & Kathryn

Here is a link to the current version of the CBA QTB:

QB18-000013 - AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action (at 7 August 2018).docx - AUSTRAC - 8143030.docx
(<https://safe.hq.austrac.gov.au/OTCS/cs.exe?func=ll&objaction=overview&objid=8143030>)

Home Affairs has asked for updates (or advice of no updates) by noon tomorrow.

Grateful for your review and advice of whether any updates are needed. The last update included the penalty hearing.

If we do have updates, please highlight them in yellow (and use strikethrough to show deletions) as required by Home Affairs. We'd then need to allow for further exec approvals before noon tomorrow.

Many thanks
[REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 11:16 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent - Due noon tomorrow - QB18-000013 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]
Attachments: QB18-000013.docx
Categories: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good Morning AUSTRAC,

Please update the attached QTB if required.

SES cleared QTB is due to Parliamentary by **Noon, Wednesday, 8 August 2018.**

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction.

Thanks

QTB Team
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs

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AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 3:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent - Due noon tomorrow - QB18-000013 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: QB18-000013 - AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action (at 7 August 2018).docx - AUSTRAC - 8143030.docx

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed just now, here is one of our two QTB responses sent earlier.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 1:18 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Urgent - Due noon tomorrow - QB18-000013 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Hi [REDACTED]

As requested by phone a few minutes ago, attached is the QTB including recommendation that it could be closed off.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 11:23 AM
To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] >

Subject: RE: Urgent - Due noon tomorrow - QB18-000013 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Hi [REDACTED]

AUSTRAC recommends that this one (on the CBA matter) be closed off as the issue is no longer current.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 11:16 AM

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Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary

Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |

Department of Home Affairs

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- CBA failed to report suspicious matters either on time or at all involving transactions totalling over \$77 million.
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Amended Statement of Claim

On 14 December 2017, AUSTRAC filed an amended statement of claim with the Federal Court of Australia. In this amended statement of claim, AUSTRAC alleges an additional 100 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act claiming that:

- CBA failed to report two suspicious matters within 24 hours of forming a suspicion relating to the financing of terrorism.
- CBA failed to report 54 suspicious matters either on time or at all in relation to accounts and individuals that were the subject of two further law enforcement operations.
- Even after CBA became aware of suspected terrorism financing, money laundering and/or structuring on CBA accounts, in 38 instances it did not appropriately monitor its customers to mitigate and manage money laundering and terrorism financing (ML/TF) risk, including the ongoing ML/TF risks of doing business with those customers.
- In six instances additional to those identified in the original statement of claim, CBA did not comply with the requirements of its own AML/CTF program to identify, mitigate and manage the ML/TF risks associated with IDMs.

Defence

On 14 December 2017, CBA filed their response to the Federal Court of Australia. The defence focuses on key factual and legal matters in the claim. On 23 February 2018, CBA filed their defence to the Amended Statement of Claim. The amended defence contains the following admissions:

- CBA agrees that it was late in filing 53,506 TTRs, but says that these all resulted from the same systems-related error;
- CBA agrees that it did not adequately adhere to risk assessment requirements for IDMs, but disagrees with the number of contraventions that flowed from this;
- CBA agrees that it did not adhere to all its transaction monitoring requirements in relation to 778,370 accounts;

AUSTRAC COMMONWEALTH BANK ACTION

- CBA admits 98 (in whole or in part) of the allegations concerning suspicious matter reports (SMRs);
- CBA admits 56 (in whole or in part) of the allegations concerning ongoing customer due diligence requirements.

Class action

On 9 October 2017, Maurice Blackburn Lawyers, with support from litigation funding group IMF Bentham, filed a shareholder class action on behalf of CBA investors who suffered losses due to the share price fall following the institution of legal proceedings by AUSTRAC against CBA. All shareholders who bought CBA shares between 1 July 2015 and 3 August 2017 and still held some or all of those shares until 1 pm on 3 August 2017 are eligible to participate.

The class action alleges that CBA knew about serious instances of non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and that its failure to disclose that information to the ASX amounts to 'misleading and deceptive conduct' and a breach of its continuous disclosure obligations under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and ASX Listing Rules.

On 23 February 2018 CBA filed its defence to these proceedings. CBA denies all allegations of liability in its defence.

Intelligent Deposit Machines (IDMs)

In May 2012, CBA rolled out IDMs, a type of ATM that accepts deposits by both cash and cheque. Deposits through an IDM are automatically counted and are credited instantly to the nominated recipient's CBA account. The funds are then available for immediate transfer to other accounts both domestically and internationally.

IDMs could accept up to 200 notes per deposit, up to \$20,000. Prior to April 2018 CBA did not impose a daily deposit limit through IDMs into a bank account.

There has been significant growth in the use of CBA IDMs since their roll-out. In the six months from June 2012 to November 2012 about \$89.1 million in cash was deposited through this channel. In the six months from January 2016 to June 2016 cash deposits through this channel grew to about \$5.8 billion.

AUSTRAC Contact: [REDACTED]
Operations Division
Phone: [REDACTED]
Date first prepared: 23 January 2018
Originating Source: Home Affairs

Date last Updated: 8/08/2018 - 1:16 PM

Note: As this matter has concluded, AUSTRAC recommends that this QTB can be closed off.

From: Executive and Ministerial
Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2019 6:08 PM
To: Richard Chin
Cc: [REDACTED]; Executive and Ministerial
Subject: RE: For Update: QTB - AUSTRAC Key Facts [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Sorry Richard! This one has already gone back to the department, but I'll add those edits to the next round of updates – given they aren't substantive/relating to updated figures.

Thanks so much.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED]
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au

Mo Tu We Th Fr
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓



Australian Government
AUSTRAC

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: Richard Chin [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2019 6:01 PM
To: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED]
Cc: ExCom [REDACTED] >; Bradley Brown
Subject: RE: For Update: QTB - AUSTRAC Key Facts [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

I have also updated with track changes.

Regards,

Richard



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 26 March 2019 10:27 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For Update: QTB - AUSTRAC Key Facts [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

The staffing numbers at 28 February were correct so I have removed the highlighting.

We will need to update the funding section after budget night.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | AUSTRAC | P [REDACTED] | M [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, 25 March 2019 2:34 PM
To: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: For Update: QTB - AUSTRAC Key Facts [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Attention: NMs

Action required: Review/Update QTB – “AUSTRAC – Key Facts”

Deadline: Wednesday, 27 March 2019

Afternoon,

Good afternoon,

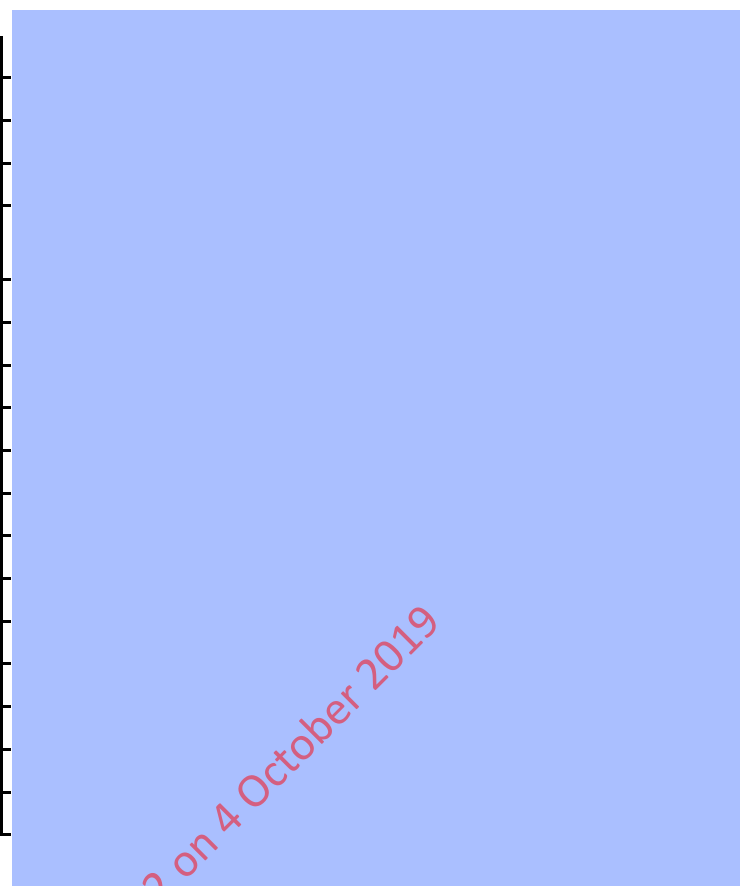
In preparation for the resumption of Parliament sitting from **Tuesday 2 April 2019**, Minister Dutton and Minister Coleman's Office have requested the following QTBs be updated. Please note these are the weekly QTB updates which are requested prior to a sitting week. 'Hot Issues' and new QTBs will be requested on a daily basis separately during the sitting period.

We are assigning the below QTBs in PDMS to relevant line areas now.


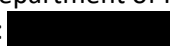

Responsible Minister	PDR No	Subject
Peter Dutton	QB15-000485	[Redacted]
Peter Dutton	QB15-000484	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000481	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000480	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000479	
Peter Dutton	QB16-000006	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000060	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000056	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000018	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000020	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000019	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000170	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000053	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000073	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000023	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000048	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000008	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000017	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000049	
Peter Dutton	QB19-000026	
Peter Dutton	QB16-000133	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000010	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000169	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000013	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000054	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000052	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000051	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000009	
Peter Dutton	QB17-000062	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000170	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000083	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000012	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000021	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000030	

Responsible Minister	PDR No	Subject
David Coleman	QB17-000064	[Redacted]

David Coleman	QB18-000191
David Coleman	QB15-000121
David Coleman	QB15-000100
David Coleman	QB16-000146
David Coleman	QB16-000132
David Coleman	QB18-000019
David Coleman	QB15-000051
David Coleman	QB15-000631
David Coleman	QB15-000098
David Coleman	QB15-000065
David Coleman	QB15-000052
David Coleman	QB18-000036
David Coleman	QB15-000109
David Coleman	QB17-000061
David Coleman	QB16-000074
David Coleman	QB16-000101
David Coleman	QB16-000013
David Coleman	QB15-000017



Regards


 Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Division
 Executive Group
 Department of Home Affairs
 P: 
 E: 



UNCLASSIFIED

Released by AUSTAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime. This includes cooperation with financial intelligence agencies across the globe.
- AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year.
- AUSTRAC works to enhance information exchange and build capacity of its partners in the South-East Asia region to address threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing.
- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. These amendments included the deregulation of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector.
- AUSTRAC collaborates with industry partners through its Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. Fintel Alliance brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale, contributing intelligence to support a range of law enforcement actions.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). The result was largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history.
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty on 20 June 2018. The penalty has now been paid.

AUSTRAC'S financial year activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	132,068.6	23%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 11/10/2018 - 11:35 AM
Reviewed 10/10/18—nil updates required.

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, USA, Indonesia and the Philippines in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime. In March 2019, additional officers will be placed in China and the United Kingdom.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, which brings together law enforcement and industry representatives to generate new intelligence insights to disrupt serious crime impacting Australia. These include child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC is providing actionable financial intelligence to support national task forces combating serious financial crime, phoenixing, illicit tobacco and illicit drugs.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA),

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 January 2019 was 332. The average staffing level (ASL) was 319.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 15/02/2019 - 11:27 AM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

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- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. These amendments included the deregulation of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector.
- AUSTRAC collaborates with industry partners through its Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. Fintel Alliance brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale, contributing intelligence to support a range of law enforcement actions.
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 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty on 20 June 2018. The penalty has now been paid.

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Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
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Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 17/10/2018 - 10:37 AM
Reviewed 17/10/18—nil updates required.

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
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REGULATION

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 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
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- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, Washington, London and the Philippines in support of our international efforts. In December an AUSTRAC officer will be posted to China to continue our efforts in the South East Asia Region.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, to support law enforcement and combat terrorism financing and serious crime, including child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
- In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC's work with the Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Taskforce led to the seizure of 1.2 tonnes of methamphetamine, with an estimated street value over \$1 billion, marking the largest seizure of the drug in Australia's history.
- Collaboration with New Zealand Financial Intelligence Unit led to the largest single seizure of cocaine in New Zealand with an estimated value of \$18 million.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.
- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing was 312 in the 2017-18 financial year. The average staffing level was 300.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 23/11/2018 - 12:10 PM

For Official Use Only

AUSTRAC

QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

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PDR No. QB18-000054

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

➡ In addition, almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's ~~report intelligence systems database were conducted~~ by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

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ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

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For Official Use Only

PDR No. QB18-000054

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**AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC**

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 28 February 2019 was 347. The average staffing level (ASL) was 322.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 28/03/2019 - 6:00 PM 28/03/2019 - 2:34 PM

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

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PDR No. QB18-000054

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, USA, **Indonesia** and the Philippines in support of our international efforts. In December an AUSTRAC officer will be posted to China to continue our efforts in the South East Asia Region. **In early 2019 an AUSTRAC officer will be posted to the UK.**
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, to support law enforcement and combat terrorism financing and serious crime, including child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
- In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC's work with the Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Taskforce led to the seizure of 1.2 tonnes of methamphetamine, with an estimated street value over \$1 billion, marking the largest seizure of the drug in Australia's history.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- Collaboration with New Zealand Financial Intelligence Unit led to the largest single seizure of cocaine in New Zealand with an estimated value of \$18 million.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.
- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing was 312 in the 2017-18 financial year. The average staffing level was 300.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 30/11/2018 - 10:31 AM

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, USA, Indonesia and the Philippines in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime. In March 2019, additional officers will be placed in China and the United Kingdom.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, to support law enforcement and combat terrorism financing and serious crime, including child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC's work with the Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Taskforce led to the seizure of 1.2 tonnes of methamphetamine, with an estimated street value over \$1 billion, marking the largest seizure of the drug in Australia's history.
- Collaboration with New Zealand Financial Intelligence Unit led to the largest single seizure of cocaine in New Zealand with an estimated value of \$18 million.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.
- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 January 2019 was 332. The average staffing level (ASL) was 319.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/02/2019 - 3:09 PM

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.
- AUSTRAC works to exchange information build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year.
- In December 2017 the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- In March 2017 AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history. The penalty has now been paid.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S financial year-to-date activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	132,068.6	23%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 3/09/2018 - 12:49 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime. ~~through multiagency task forces. This includes cooperation with financial intelligence agencies across the globe. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.~~
- ~~As Australia's AML/CTF regulator,~~ AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year.
- ~~AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.~~
- AUSTRAC works to enhance exchange information exchange and build capacity of its partners in the South-East Asia region to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- ~~• AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.~~
- ~~• In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year.~~
- In December 2017 the Cabinet **Government** approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. ~~On the same date,~~ **These amendments included the deregulation reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.**
- ~~In March 2017 AUSTRAC established~~ **AUSTRAC collaborates with industry partners through its** Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. **Fintel Alliance** brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale, **contributing intelligence to support a range of law enforcement actions.**
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). **The result was largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history.**
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - ~~The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018.~~ The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty **on 20 June 2018.** ~~This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history.~~ The penalty has now been paid.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S financial year-to-date activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	132,068.6	23%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 6/09/2018 - 3:57 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime. This includes cooperation with financial intelligence agencies across the globe.
- AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year.
- AUSTRAC works to enhance information exchange and build capacity of its partners in the South-East Asia region to address threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing.
- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. These amendments included the deregulation of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector.
- AUSTRAC collaborates with industry partners through its Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. Fintel Alliance brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale, contributing intelligence to support a range of law enforcement actions.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA). The result was largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history.
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty on 20 June 2018. The penalty has now been paid.

AUSTRAC'S financial year activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Reporting statistics	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	132,068.6	23%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 8/11/2018 - 10:59 AM
Reviewed 8/11/18—nil updates required.

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.
- AUSTRAC works to exchange information build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year. In 2016-17, AUSTRAC received 112,533,536 reports from industry. This equates to more than 300,000 reports per day and was approximately an 11 per cent increase from the previous year.
- In December 2017 the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- In March 2017 AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history. The penalty has now been paid.

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S financial year-to-date activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
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Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 16/08/2018 - 4:14 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.
- AUSTRAC works to exchange information build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2016-17, AUSTRAC received 112,533,536 reports from industry. This equates to more than 300,000 reports per day and was approximately an 11 per cent increase from the previous year.
- In December 2017 the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.
- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

Australia and overseas to:

- help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
- build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
- contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- **In March 2017** AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - ~~A further 100 alleged contraventions against CBA were filed on 14 December 2017.~~
 - ~~On 23 February 2018 CBA filed its Amended Defence to the further alleged contraventions.~~
 - ~~On 6 April 2018 AUSTRAC filed and served its reply to CBA's Amended Defence.~~
 - ~~An order by the Federal Court was made for mediation to occur before 25 May 2018. This occurred on 21 and 22 May 2018.~~
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history. **The penalty has now been paid.**

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S year to date activity (as at 31 July 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	10,962.7	5%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	231.3	(37.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000)		
Number ('000s)	2.8	(37.2%)
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	18.0	162.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,288	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 8/08/2018 - 1:21 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

OFFICIAL
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop sophisticated intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17).

Commented [1]: NOTE FOR CONTRIBUTORS:
Use tracked changes for all additions, deletions, etc. All changes must be marked up.

OFFICIAL

PDR No. QB18-000054

OFFICIAL
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- In addition, almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's report database were conducted by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).
- AUSTRAC provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
- AUSTRAC has officers posted in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, United Kingdom, USA and China, in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, which brings together law enforcement and industry representatives to generate new intelligence insights to disrupt serious crime impacting Australia. These include child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
- In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC is providing actionable financial intelligence to support national task forces combating serious financial crime, phoenixing, illicit tobacco and illicit drugs.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017 AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA),

OFFICIAL

PDR No. QB18-000054

OFFICIAL
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the government approved \$43.3 million over four years to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

In the 2019-20 PBS, AUSTRAC was provided \$28.4 million over four years to expand and strengthen Fintel Alliance. The funding will establish enduring capability in AUSTRAC, to support the commitments made by existing and new government and industry partners to build resilience in the financial system, harden industry against criminal threats and generate better intelligence. It receives an equity injection of \$4.439 million in 2019-20. This includes:

- \$3.6 million for the measure 'Strengthening Australia's Defences against Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing', announced in the 2017-18 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook
- \$0.839 million for the new funding measure 'Strengthening Australia's public private partnership to disrupt serious financial crime – AUSTRAC Fintel Alliance'.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 March 2019 was 354. The average staffing level (ASL) was 325. Budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2019-20 is 368.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 11/04/2019 - 9:47 AM 10/04/2019 - 4:17 PM

OFFICIAL

PDR No. QB18-000054

Commented [REDACTED] J: [REDACTED] – I copied this new (yellow) content directly from our Estimates key brief. Happy for you to amend or delete if you don't think we need it here.

Commented [REDACTED] J: [REDACTED] – this wording taken from BP06, rather than the budget brief

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Formatted: Normal, Space After: 4 pt, Line spacing: Multiple 1.05 li

Formatted: Not Highlight

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Commented [REDACTED] J: [REDACTED] – yellow figures/dates are from the latest AUSTRAC ministerial dashboard, so should be accurate.

Commented [REDACTED] J: [REDACTED] – yes, the numbers in yellow are correct

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 11:08 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Thanks [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 10:55 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed by phone, the figures in the table in this QTB are for the full 2017-18 financial year. This was requested by our executive as the previous time this QTB was updated, we included the year-to-date figures for 2018-19, which was only a month's worth of stats. Our exec prefers the full FY figures be used. This is more useful information than one month of stats.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 10:30 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Can you please give me a call re this QTB? Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 9:58 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find attached AUSTRAC's key facts QTB updated.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 16 August 2018 11:36 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

The Minister's Offices have requested updates to the attached QTB(s). They are to be cleared (at the SES level) and returned to Parliamentary by **10:00am Friday 17 August 2018**.

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction. Please note if the QTB is expected to be provided later than 10:00am, it is the relevant SES Officer's responsibility to contact the MO to provide a status update.

Please let us know if you require any further information or assistance. Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 11:00 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Urgent - Due Noon Tomorrow - QB18-000054 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]
Attachments: QB18-000054.docx
Categories: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good Morning AUSTRAC,

Please update the attached QTB if required.

SES cleared QTB is due to Parliamentary by **Noon, Wednesday, 8 August 2018.**

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction.

Thanks

QTB Team
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs

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QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify and mitigate their risks.
- AUSTRAC works to build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2016-17, AUSTRAC received 112,533,536 reports from industry. This equates to more than 300,000 reports per day and was approximately an 11 per cent increase from the previous year.
- In December 2017, the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. **The funding for this measure is ongoing and will provide an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.**

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - A further 100 alleged contraventions against CBA were filed on 14 December 2017.
 - On 23 February 2018 CBA filed its Amended Defence to the further alleged contraventions.
 - On 6 April 2018 AUSTRAC filed and served its reply to CBA's Amended Defence.
 - An order by the Federal Court was made for mediation to occur before 25 May 2018. This occurred on 21 and 22 May 2018.
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history.

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S year to date activity (as at 21 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	125,196.6	19.9%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,823.3	(13.3%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000)		
Number ('000s)	42.1	(5.6%)
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	117.3	63.2%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,245	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 22/06/2018 - 10:06 AM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

From: [REDACTED] S
Sent: Friday, 15 February 2019 11:29 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QTBs for tomorrow - Friday 15 February 2019 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QB18-000054 - AUSTRAC key facts (at 15 February 2019).docx - AUSTRAC - 9005852.docx

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

AUSTRAC's key facts QTB is attached with minor updates in yellow.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | AUSTRAC | P [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 14 February 2019 6:06 PM
Subject: QTBs for tomorrow - Friday 15 February 2019 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED] [EXTERNAL]

UNCLASSIFIED

Good afternoon colleagues,

The Ministers' Offices requested the following QTBs to be updated. These QTBs are currently being assigned out to line areas to update in PDMS.

Please note all QTBs are due to Parliamentary by **11:00am tomorrow, Friday 15 February 2018.**

Minister Coleman

PDR No	Subject	Group Res
QB18-000191		
QB17-000064		
QB19-000018		
QB18-000304		
QB15-000051		
QB15-000065		
QB15-000052		
QB15-000098		

QB19-000033
QB19-000027
QB19-000024
QB16-000074
QB17-000061

Minister Dutton

PDR No
QB15-000060
QB18-000056
QB18-000018
QB15-000019
QB18-000053
QB15-000023
QB18-000048
QB18-000049
QB18-000169
QB18-000054
QB18-000052
QB18-000051

Kind regards



Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs

P: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]



UNCLASSIFIED

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Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. The Department of Home Affairs and ABF respect your privacy and have obligations under the Privacy Act 1988.

Unsolicited commercial emails MUST NOT be sent to the originator of this email.

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, USA, Indonesia and the Philippines in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime. In March 2019, additional officers will be placed in China and the United Kingdom.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, which brings together law enforcement and industry representatives to generate new intelligence insights to disrupt serious crime impacting Australia. These include child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC is providing actionable financial intelligence to support national task forces combating serious financial crime, phoenixing, illicit tobacco and illicit drugs.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA),

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 January 2019 was 332. The average staffing level (ASL) was 319.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 15/02/2019 - 11:27 AM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 9:58 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: QB18-000054 - AUSTRAC key facts (updated 16 August 2018).docx - AUSTRAC - 8176376.docx

Security Classification:
UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find attached AUSTRAC's key facts QTB updated.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 16 August 2018 11:36 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

The Minister's Offices have requested updates to the attached QTB(s). They are to be cleared (at the SES level) and returned to Parliamentary by **10:00am Friday 17 August 2018**.

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction. Please note if the QTB is expected to be provided later than 10:00am, it is the relevant SES Officer's responsibility to contact the MO to provide a status update.

Please let us know if you require any further information or assistance. Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

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Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.
- AUSTRAC works to exchange information build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC received 136,201,200 reports from industry. This equates to more than 370,400 reports per day and was approximately a 21.6 per cent increase from last year. In 2016-17, AUSTRAC received 112,533,536 reports from industry. This equates to more than 300,000 reports per day and was approximately an 11 per cent increase from the previous year.
- In December 2017 the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- In March 2017 AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history. The penalty has now been paid.

For Official Use Only
AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S financial year-to-date activity (as at 30 June 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	132,068.6	23%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	3,960.8	(12.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000/foreign equivalent)		
Number ('000s)	46.1	0.3%
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	125.8	70.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,280	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 16/08/2018 - 4:14 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2019 4:19 PM
To: QTB Mailbox
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For Action: QTB's due COB Thursday, 28 March 2019 [EXTERNAL] [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QB18-000054 - AUSTRAC Key Facts (at 25 March 2019).docx .docx - AUSTRAC - 9278107.docx

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

As promised below and sooner than anticipated, please find attached AUSTRAC's updates to **QB18-000054: Key Facts - AUSTRAC**. Please let me know if we can assist further.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au
Mo Tu We Th Fr
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓



UNCLASSIFIED

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 28 March 2019 4:13 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: For Action: QTB's due COB Thursday, 28 March 2019 [EXTERNAL] [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

We're just awaiting clearance on our updates to **QB18-000054: Key Facts - AUSTRAC**, and should have it to you tomorrow at the latest.

As per previous discussions, **QB18-000013: AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action** will no longer require further update.

Thanks for your patience.

Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M:

E: _____

 @AUSTRAC www.austrac.gov.au



Australian Government

AUSTRAC

UNCLASSIFIED

From:

Sent: Friday, 22 March 2019 2:04 PM

To:

Subject: For Action: QTB's due COB Thursday, 28 March 2019 [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED] [EXTERNAL]

UNCLASSIFIED

Good afternoon,

In preparation for the resumption of Parliament sitting from **Tuesday 2 April 2019**, Minister Dutton and Minister Coleman's Office have requested the following QTBs be updated. Please note these are the weekly QTB updates which are requested prior to a sitting week. 'Hot Issues' and new QTBs will be requested on a daily **basis** separately during the sitting period.

We are assigning the below QTBs in PDMS to relevant line areas now.

Responsible Minister	PDR No	Subject
Peter Dutton	QB15-000485	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000484	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000481	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000480	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000479	
Peter Dutton	QB16-000006	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000060	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000056	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000018	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000020	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000019	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000170	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000053	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000073	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000023	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000048	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000008	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000017	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000049	
Peter Dutton	QB19-000026	
Peter Dutton	QB16-000133	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000010	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000169	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000013	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000054	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000052	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000051	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000009	
Peter Dutton	QB17-000062	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000170	
Peter Dutton	QB15-000083	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000012	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000021	
Peter Dutton	QB18-000030	

Responsible Minister	PDR No
David Coleman	QB17-000064
David Coleman	QB18-000191
David Coleman	QB15-000121
David Coleman	QB15-000100
David Coleman	QB16-000146
David Coleman	QB16-000132
David Coleman	QB18-000019
David Coleman	QB15-000051

David Coleman	QB15-000631
David Coleman	QB15-000098
David Coleman	QB15-000065
David Coleman	QB15-000052
David Coleman	QB18-000036
David Coleman	QB15-000109
David Coleman	QB17-000061
David Coleman	QB16-000074
David Coleman	QB16-000101
David Coleman	QB16-000013
David Coleman	QB15-000017



Regards

[Redacted]
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]



UNCLASSIFIED

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
- AUSTRAC has officers posted in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the United Kingdom, the USA and China in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, which brings together law enforcement and industry representatives to generate new intelligence insights to disrupt serious crime impacting Australia. These include child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC is providing actionable financial intelligence to support national task forces combating serious financial crime, phoenixing, illicit tobacco and illicit drugs.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA),

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 28 February 2019 was 347. The average staffing level (ASL) was 322.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 28/03/2019 - 2:34 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 3:11 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Reminder: QTBs due today at 3pm [EXTERNAL] [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Attachments: QB18-000054 - AUSTRAC key facts (at 4 February 2019).docx - AUSTRAC - 8959449.docx

Categories: Team
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

Hi [REDACTED]

AUSTRAC's updated key facts QTB is attached.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | AUSTRAC | P [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 10:53 AM
Subject: Reminder: QTBs due today at 3pm [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED] [EXTERNAL]
Importance: High

UNCLASSIFIED

Good morning colleagues,

Please be reminded that the following QTBs are due today at 3pm.

We would be grateful if you could please follow up any outstanding QTBs within your Divisions.

If QTBs are expected to be late, please contact us as soon as possible and we will liaise with the Ministers' Offices for any extension. Where QTBs are not provided by 3pm without any prior explanation, we will escalate to the relevant Deputy Secretary's Executive Officers for action.

Minister Coleman

Due 3pm, Thursday 07 February 2019	
PDR No	
QB17-000064	
QB15-000100	
QB18-000191	
QB18-000304	

QB18-000283
QB18-000246
QB18-000019
QB18-000342
QB18-000269
QB18-000059
QB18-000120
QB18-000234
QB15-000052
QB15-000065
QB15-000098
QB15-000109
QB17-000039
QB18-000036
QB18-000239
QB18-000249
QB16-000074
QB17-000061
QB18-000110
QB18-000116
QB18-000118
QB18-000261
QB18-000280
QB18-000291
QB18-000294
QB18-000295
QB18-000302
QB18-000323
QB15-000017
QB16-000013
QB18-000282
QB16-000101

Minister Dutton

PDR No
QB15-000480
QB15-000481
QB15-000484
QB15-000485
QB16-000006
QB18-000056
QB18-000332
QB18-000020
QB18-000018

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

QB19-000020
QB18-000170
QB15-000073
QB15-000023
QB18-000049
QB18-000010
QB18-000013
QB18-000054
QB18-000052
QB18-000051
QB18-000009
QB15-000170
QB17-000062
QB15-000083
QB18-000030
QB18-000012
QB18-000021

Thanks,

[Redacted]
[Redacted] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]

UNCLASSIFIED

Released by AUSTAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

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Unsolicited commercial emails MUST NOT be sent to the originator of this email.

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has active memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with 47 domestic partners and 96 international partners.
 - AUSTRAC officers are placed in Malaysia, USA, Indonesia and the Philippines in support of our international efforts to combat transnational crime. In March 2019, additional officers will be placed in China and the United Kingdom.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, to support law enforcement and combat terrorism financing and serious crime, including child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - In 2017-18, Fintel Alliance's Child Sexual Exploitation project resulted in:
 - more than 20 referrals of actionable targets to law enforcement
 - a 316% increase in reported suspicious matter reports during 2017 compared with the previous year.
- AUSTRAC's work with the Western Australian Joint Organised Crime Taskforce led to the seizure of 1.2 tonnes of methamphetamine, with an estimated street value over \$1 billion, marking the largest seizure of the drug in Australia's history.
- Collaboration with New Zealand Financial Intelligence Unit led to the largest single seizure of cocaine in New Zealand with an estimated value of \$18 million.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA), alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.
- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In December 2017 the Government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 January 2019 was 332. The average staffing level (ASL) was 319.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/02/2019 - 3:09 PM

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 3:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: Urgent - Due Noon Tomorrow - QB18-000054 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: QB18-000054 - AUSTRAC key facts (updated 7 August 2018).docx - AUSTRAC - 8141112.docx

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Here is AUSTRAC's second QTB as sent to [REDACTED] earlier.

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 1:22 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: GOVERNMENT_RELATIONS <GOVERNMENT_RELATIONS@austrac.gov.au>
Subject: RE: Urgent - Due Noon Tomorrow - QB18-000054 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find attached the updated key facts QTB for AUSTRAC (only minor changes).

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 11:00 AM
To: [REDACTED] >

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Urgent - Due Noon Tomorrow - QB18-000054 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good Morning AUSTRAC,

Please update the attached QTB if required.

SES cleared QTB is due to Parliamentary by **Noon, Wednesday, 8 August 2018.**

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction.

Thanks

QTB Team

Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary

Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |

Department of Home Affairs

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Unsolicited commercial emails MUST NOT be sent to the originator of this email.

QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC is Australia's financial intelligence agency and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC's dual role places it as a conduit between industry and government. This maximises opportunities to generate and share intelligence, to support Australia's national interests and the objectives of Home Affairs to combat multi-dimensional threats the community faces.
- AUSTRAC's financial intelligence capability discovers and understands threats to the financial system, including terrorism financing and serious financial crime, through multiagency task forces. It provides a specialist financial intelligence tradecraft program and capability harnessed across law enforcement and security domains.
- As Australia's AML/CTF regulator, AUSTRAC oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with the requirements of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
- AUSTRAC's regulatory activities assist reporting entities to strengthen their AML/CTF controls to identify, manage and mitigate their risks of criminal abuse.
- AUSTRAC works to exchange information build capacity of its partners in South-East Asia to address regional threats and vulnerabilities associated with serious financial crime and terrorism financing. AUSTRAC also leads key international working groups in the Financial Action Task Force and the Egmont Group, on AML/CTF operational risks and information sharing.
- In 2016-17, AUSTRAC received 112,533,536 reports from industry. This equates to more than 300,000 reports per day and was approximately an 11 per cent increase from the previous year.
- In December 2017 the Cabinet approved \$43.3 million in funding over the forward estimates to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education. The funding for this measure is ongoing and is providing an additional 17 ASL in 2018-19, increasing to an additional 58 ASL from 2020-21 onwards.
- AUSTRAC works in partnership with industry and government agencies in

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

Australia and overseas to:

- help keep Australia safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
- build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
- contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

KEY PRIORITIES:

- On 3 April 2018, AML/CTF obligations commenced for digital currency exchange providers, following amendments to the AML/CTF Act passed by the Parliament on 7 December 2017. On the same date, deregulatory reforms including the repeal of designated services relating to the cash-in-transit sector occurred.
- **In March 2017** AUSTRAC established Fintel Alliance, a world-first private-public partnership combating money laundering and terrorism financing. It brings together law enforcement, national security, regulatory and private sector partners to focus on detecting, preventing and disrupting financial crime on a global scale.
- AUSTRAC launched civil penalty proceedings on 3 August 2017 alleging over 53,700 contraventions of the AML/CTF Act by the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA).
 - ~~A further 100 alleged contraventions against CBA were filed on 14 December 2017.~~
 - ~~On 23 February 2018 CBA filed its Amended Defence to the further alleged contraventions.~~
 - ~~On 6 April 2018 AUSTRAC filed and served its reply to CBA's Amended Defence.~~
 - ~~An order by the Federal Court was made for mediation to occur before 25 May 2018. This occurred on 21 and 22 May 2018.~~
 - On 4 June 2018 an agreement was reached between AUSTRAC and CBA for a \$700 million penalty.
 - The penalty hearing occurred on 20 June 2018. The Federal Court ordered the \$700 million penalty. This is the largest ever civil penalty in Australian corporate history. **The penalty has now been paid.**

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

AUSTRAC'S year to date activity (as at 31 July 2018):

Declared Currency	YTD 2017-18	YTD variation
International funds transfer instruction		
Number ('000s)	10,962.7	5%
Threshold transaction (AUD 10,000 or more)		
Number ('000s)	231.3	(37.7%)
Cross-border movements (cash >AUD 10,000)		
Number ('000s)	2.8	(37.2%)
Suspicious matter reports		
Number ('000s)	18.0	162.1%
Reporting entities		
Number	14,288	

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: Office of the CEO

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 8/08/2018 - 1:21 PM

Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 14 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: Executive and Ministerial
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2019 12:38 PM
To: QTB Mailbox; Executive and Ministerial
Subject: RE: Overdue QTB follow up - due 10am today [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: For Official Use Only

For Official Use Only

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for your email.

AUSTRAC have been in discussions with the MO regarding the timing of QB19-000180, as agreed to with the MO, the updated QTB will be provided to the Department Midday Tuesday 25 June.

As always happy to discuss if required.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, 24 June 2019 12:18 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Overdue QTB follow up - due 10am today [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]
Importance: High

For-Official-Use-Only

Good afternoon

Further to the below, could please provide an update on the AUSTRAC QTB - QB19-000180?

Many thanks and happy to discuss.

[REDACTED]
Senate Estimates

Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch
Executive Coordination
Department of Home Affairs

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: QTB Mailbox
Sent: Thursday, 20 June 2019 2:55 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed. Please update this QTB as requested blow.

Regards

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 20 June 2019 2:24 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good Afternoon AUSTRAC,

The Minister's Office requested this QTB to be reviewed and updated if required.

Grateful if you could please review and highlight any updates in yellow. Please note the QTB is due to Parliamentary Monday, 10:00am 24 June 2019.

Please note that as a result of the commencement of the new Parliament, all QTBs from the previous sitting period have been created with new PDR numbers, previous QTB templates have been uploaded into the new records, please contact the QTB team if you have any questions.

Regards

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary

Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |

Department of Home Affairs

P: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

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Released by AUSTRA under the FOI Act 1992 on 4 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 21 June 2019 3:54 PM
To: Executive and Ministerial
Cc: [REDACTED]; QTB Mailbox
Subject: RE: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]

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Hi [REDACTED]

Apologies for the delay in responding.

I think the MO are just being organised and requested them in advance with a shorter timeframe. This is not normal practice. Once Parliament Sitting resumes it should be back to normal timeframes. Unfortunately we are unable to provide any further extension at this stage. Suggest you touch base with us on Monday on how it's tracking.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 20 June 2019 3:44 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED] (AUSTRAC)

Subject: RE: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for this. Will this kind of single-day turnaround be the timeframe for the new office going forward? Is there any movement on this deadline in this instance?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Manager
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 20 June 2019 2:55 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: FW: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

As discussed. Please update this QTB as requested blow.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
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Regards

[REDACTED]
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

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QUESTION: What are the headline statistics and key facts including staffing figures, stats around key/significant programmes etc.?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- AUSTRAC holds a dual role as Australia's financial intelligence unit and anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regulator.
- AUSTRAC works with industry and government agencies in Australia and overseas to:
 - keep Australians safe from financial crime, transnational crime and terrorism
 - build and maintain trust and integrity in Australia's financial system as part of the global community
 - contribute to growing Australia's economy and financial system, and safeguarding its security.

REGULATION

- AUSTRAC's regulatory function oversees the compliance of more than 14,250 Australian businesses with requirements under the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006* (AML/CTF Act) and *Financial Transaction Reports Act 1988*.
 - This includes businesses in the financial services, gambling, digital currency, bullion and remittance sectors.
- These businesses are required to report financial transactions and suspicious activity to AUSTRAC and implement processes to protect themselves from criminal abuse.
- In 2017-18, AUSTRAC received:
 - 136.2 million transaction reports (21% increase from 2016-17)
 - including 125,900 suspicious matter reports (70% increase from 2016-17).

INTELLIGENCE

- These reports allow AUSTRAC's intelligence analysts to identify risks and develop intelligence products in support of law enforcement and national security operations and investigations.
- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC financial intelligence provided:
 - 628 financial intelligence products to domestic government partners to aid investigations and disrupt criminal activity
 - 4,603 instances of intelligence exchanges with our international partners (41% increase from 2016-17)

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

- almost 3 million searches of AUSTRAC's intelligence systems by law enforcement and national security partners (up from 2.7 million in 2016-17).

AUSTRAC also provides actionable intelligence to partner agencies in human services and revenue protection, helping to protect the integrity of the welfare system and guaranteeing the essential services Australians rely on.

- In 2017-18 AUSTRAC's financial intelligence contributed to:
 - \$208.8 million in income tax assessments (2,874 cases), totalling \$2.8 billion over the past 10 years
 - 1,596 reviews by the Department of Human Services and \$26.67 million in savings from increased detection of welfare fraud
 - \$207.4 million in tax liabilities raised by the Serious Financial Crime Taskforce (\$79.6 million recouped by the Australian Taxation Office).

DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

- AUSTRAC works in close collaboration with private and public partners both here in Australia and internationally.
- AUSTRAC currently has 47 memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with domestic partner agencies, and 96 international MOUs to facilitate the exchange of financial intelligence and regulatory information with foreign counterparts.
- AUSTRAC has officers posted in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, United Kingdom, USA and China, supporting our international efforts to combat transnational crime.
- AUSTRAC established a world-first private-public partnership, Fintel Alliance, which brings together law enforcement and industry representatives to generate new intelligence insights to disrupt serious crime impacting Australia. These include child sexual exploitation, terrorism financing, tax evasion and cybercrime.
 - Since the commencement of Fintel Alliance in the fourth quarter of 2016, up to 31 March 2019, there has been an approximate 580 per cent increase (compared with the 2.5 years prior) in reporting suspicious matters linked to possible child sexual exploitation.
- AUSTRAC provides actionable financial intelligence to support national task forces combating serious financial crime, phoenixing, illicit tobacco and illicit drugs.

ENFORCEMENT – COMMONWEALTH BANK OF AUSTRALIA

- In August 2017, AUSTRAC initiated landmark civil penalty proceedings in the Federal Court of Australia against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA),

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AUSTRAC
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
KEY FACTS – AUSTRAC

alleging multiple contraventions of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*.

- In June 2018, the Federal Court ordered CBA to pay a \$700 million penalty, the largest civil penalty in Australia's corporate history. This sent a strong message to industry about the consequences of poor AML/CTF compliance.

FUNDING

- In April 2019 the government announced \$28.4 million to expand and strengthen Fintel Alliance. The funding will establish enduring capability in AUSTRAC to support the commitments made by existing and new government and industry partners to build resilience in the financial system, harden industry against criminal threats and generate better intelligence.
- In December 2017 the government approved \$43.3 million to strengthen AUSTRAC's ability to combat serious non-compliance with the AML/CTF Act and support industry through increased engagement and education.

STAFFING

- AUSTRAC's total full-time equivalent staffing at 31 May 2019 was 364. The average staffing level (ASL) was 332.
- AUSTRAC's budgeted ASL for 2018-19 is 333.

AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 24/06/2019 - 12:16 PM

From: Executive and Ministerial
Sent: Tuesday, 25 June 2019 10:50 AM
To: QTB Mailbox; Executive and Ministerial
Subject: RE: For Action - Due Monday, 10am 24 June 2019 - AUSTRAC QTB for update - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: QB19-000180 - Key facts - AUSTRAC.docx

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Good Morning [REDACTED]

Please find attached AUSTRACs updated response for QB19-000180, AUSTRAC Key facts.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
T: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



OFFICIAL

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Cc: [REDACTED] >
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Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
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AUSTRAC

Contact: [REDACTED]
Division: Office of the CEO
Date first prepared: 5 February 2018
Originating Source: Department of Home Affairs

Phone: [REDACTED]
Action Officer: [REDACTED]
Date last Updated: 25/06/2019 - 10:45 AM

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM
FINANCING

QUESTION: What is the Government doing to combat money laundering and terrorism financing?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Australia has a robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regime designed to make our financial system hostile to money laundering, terrorism financing and other threats.
- The regime provides for the collection of valuable financial information from the private sector including the movement of illicit money and other assets.
- This information allows ~~Australian and international~~ law enforcement and national security agencies to follow illicit financial flows and detect criminal activity.
- In March 2017, the Fintel Alliance was launched in Australia. The Alliance brings together law enforcement, financial intelligence and regulated entities to improve efforts to detect and disrupt illicit financial activity.

Legislative reforms

- The Government is always improving the effectiveness of Australia's AML/CTF regime. A review of the regime was tabled in Parliament in 2016 and made 84 recommendations for reform.
- The first phase of reform was delivered with the passage in December 2017 of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017*.
- The first phase reforms included regulation of digital currency exchange providers, delivery of regulatory efficiencies to industry and stronger investigation and enforcement powers for AUSTRAC.

If asked: Have the recommendations of the statutory review been implemented?

- The recommendations of the statutory review are being implemented in phases.
- On 7 December 2017, Parliament passed the *Anti Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017* (the Act).
- The Act is the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the statutory review and contains a number of measures to modernise and strengthen the AML/CTF regime. Some of the measures in the Act include:
 - Closing a regulatory gap by regulating digital currency exchange providers.

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM
FINANCING

- Providing regulatory efficiencies and relief to industry by deregulating lower-risk sectors.
- Strengthening AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers by expanding its supervisory and enforcement options (including new powers to issue infringement notices for a greater range of regulatory offences and to issue remedial directions to require retrospective compliance with breaches).

If asked: when will other measures recommended by the statutory review be taken forward?

- The Government is continuing to work on these reforms, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, with a view to the next phase of legislation being introduced in the Autumn 2019 sittings (subject to the parliamentary schedule).
- Other measures from the review are more complex and are being progressed over the longer term in consultation with relevant government and industry stakeholders.

If asked: Why are real estate agents, lawyers and accountants not subject to reporting obligations under the AML/CTF Act?

- The Government continues to consider options to extend the AML/CTF regime to designated non-financial businesses and professions including real estate agents, lawyers and accountants.
- The Government has, and will continue, to consult with peak bodies, including the Law Council, CPA Australia and the Real Estate Institute of Australia on any potential compliance obligations and how these would be implemented.

National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: NSLEPD

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: HA

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/02/2019 - 5:17 PM~~7/02/2019 - 4:17 PM~~
7/02/2019 - 11:49 AM

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
RECENT LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND AUSTRALIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FATF STANDARDS

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Australia has a robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regime designed to make our financial system hostile to money laundering, terrorism financing and other threats.
- The regime provides for the collection of valuable information from the private sector about the movement of illicit money and other assets.
- This information allows Australian law enforcement agencies to follow illicit financial flows and detect criminal activity.
- A report on the review of Australia's AML/CTF regime was tabled in Parliament in 2016. The report made 84 recommendations for reform, including some areas identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in 2015.
- The first phase of reform was delivered with the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017*.
- The first phase reforms included regulation of digital currency exchange providers, delivery of regulatory efficiencies to industry and strengthened investigation and enforcement powers for AUSTRAC.
- The Government is working to address the remaining FATF deficiencies with further legislative reforms proposed to be introduced in the Spring 2018 parliamentary sittings.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

- The *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017* passed Parliament in December 2017 and commenced on 3 April 2018.
- The Act is the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the statutory review and contains a number of measures to modernise the AML/CTF regime. Some of the measures in the Act include:
 - Closing a regulatory gap by regulating digital currency exchange providers.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
RECENT LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND AUSTRALIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FATF STANDARDS

- Providing regulatory efficiencies and relief to industry—by deregulating lower-risk sectors such as the cash-in-transit sector and by clarifying financial institutions' obligations with respect to correspondent banking relationships.
- Strengthening AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers by expanding its supervisory and enforcement options (including new powers to issue infringement notices for a greater range of regulatory offences and to issue remedial directions to require retrospective compliance with breaches).
- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the inter-governmental body that sets global AML/CTF standards. Australia is a founding member of the FATF.
 - In a 2015 assessment the FATF identified a number of technical deficiencies in Australia's AML/CTF regime compliance with the standards.
 - The 2017 amendments address some of these deficiencies.
 - In June 2018, the FATF prepared a report on Australia's progress three years after its initial assessment, and awarded a number of upgrades to the ratings for technical compliance against the standards.

If asked: when will other measures recommended by the statutory review be taken forward?

- A second amendment Bbill is scheduled for introduction in the upcoming Spring parliamentary sittings. The Bbill will:
 - simplify the secrecy and access framework that governs access to, and the use of, AUSTRAC information
 - expand customer due diligence 'reliance' for customer identification and verification procedures by third parties
 - improve the effectiveness of Commonwealth money laundering offences, and
 - consolidate and further strengthen cross-border reporting requirements for cash and other monetary instruments, such as traveller cheques and money orders.
- Other measures from the review – including a broader simplification and streamlining of the AML/CTF Act and Rules – are being progressed over the longer term in consultation with relevant government and industry stakeholders.

National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: NSLEPD

Date first prepared: 24 January 2018

Originating Source: HA

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 9/08/2018 - 4:21 PM 7/08/2018 - 4:41 PM 7/08/2018 - 4:36 PM 7/08/2018 - 1:28 PM

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 11:34 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
Attachments: AUSTRAC comments. QB18-000012.docx
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

For what it's worth at this late stage, minor tracked changes in attached, cleared by AUSTRAC, perhaps for consideration next time.

Thanks and apologies once again.

[REDACTED]

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 10:35 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for this.

Just for your info, we have pretty strict directions on deadlines for QTBs now – particularly for Minister Dutton's office. We'll certainly always do our best to consult and give AUSTRAC as much time as possible, but we don't really have any wriggle room on the deadlines we provide for these ones.

Happy to discuss.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 10:17 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Hi [REDACTED]

I'm still awaiting clearance unfortunately, so we'll probably miss your deadline, but if we could get one point amended within your timeframes that would be great. Marked in red and highlighted below.

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the inter-governmental body that sets global AML/CTF standards. Australia is a founding member of the FATF.
 - In a 2015 assessment the FATF identified a number of **technical** deficiencies in Australia's **compliance with the standards**.
 - The 2017 amendments address some of these deficiencies.
 - In June 2018, the FATF prepared a report on Australia's progress three years after its initial assessment, and awarded a number of upgrades **to the ratings for technical compliance against the standards**.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 1:34 PM
To: GOVERNMENT_RELATIONS <GOVERNMENT_RELATIONS@austrac.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]
Importance: High

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

Ahead of the upcoming parliamentary sittings, please find our standing QTB for Minister Dutton **attached** with updates highlighted in yellow.

Grateful for any comments by **COB today** to meet the office's deadline. Happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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- A report on the review of Australia's AML/CTF regime was tabled in Parliament in 2016. The report made 84 recommendations for reform, including some areas identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in 2015.
- The first phase of reform was delivered with the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017*.
- The first phase reforms included regulation of digital currency exchange providers, delivery of regulatory efficiencies to industry and strengthened investigation and enforcement powers for AUSTRAC.
- The Government is working to address the remaining FATF deficiencies with further legislative reforms proposed to be introduced in the Spring 2018 parliamentary sittings.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

- The *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017* passed Parliament in December 2017 and commenced on 3 April 2018.
- The Act is the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the statutory review and contains a number of measures to modernise the AML/CTF regime. Some of the measures in the Act include:
 - Closing a regulatory gap by regulating digital currency exchange providers.

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
RECENT LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND AUSTRALIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FATF STANDARDS

- Providing regulatory efficiencies and relief to industry—by deregulating lower-risk sectors such as the cash-in-transit sector and by clarifying financial institutions' obligations with respect to correspondent banking relationships.
- Strengthening AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers by expanding its supervisory and enforcement options (including new powers to issue infringement notices for a greater range of regulatory offences and to issue remedial directions to require retrospective compliance with breaches).
- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the inter-governmental body that sets global AML/CTF standards. Australia is a founding member of the FATF.
 - In a 2015 assessment the FATF identified a number of technical deficiencies in Australia's AML/CTF regime compliance with the standards.
 - The 2017 amendments address some of these deficiencies.
 - In June 2018, the FATF prepared a report on Australia's progress three years after its initial assessment, and awarded a number of upgrades to the ratings for technical compliance against the standards.

If asked: when will other measures recommended by the statutory review be taken forward?

- A second amendment Bbill is scheduled for introduction in the upcoming Spring parliamentary sittings. The Bbill will:
 - simplify the secrecy and access framework that governs access to, and the use of, AUSTRAC information
 - expand customer due diligence 'reliance' for customer identification and verification procedures by third parties
 - improve the effectiveness of Commonwealth money laundering offences, and
 - consolidate and further strengthen cross-border reporting requirements for cash and other monetary instruments, such as traveller cheques and money orders.
- Other measures from the review – including a broader simplification and streamlining of the AML/CTF Act and Rules – are being progressed over the longer term in consultation with relevant government and industry stakeholders.

National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: NSLEPD

Date first prepared: 24 January 2018

Originating Source: HA

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/08/2018 - 4:41 PM 7/08/2018 - 4:36 PM 7/08/2018 - 1:28 PM

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 4:20 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: For review by COB today - QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing [EXTERNAL] [SEC=PROTECTED]
Attachments: QB18-000012.docx
Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: [REDACTED]
PROTECTED

PROTECTED

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism.

AUSTRAC recommends a small change in wording on the first page, which has been reflected in your attached document with track changes.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



PROTECTED

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 11:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: For review by COB today - QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing [SEC=PROTECTED] [EXTERNAL]

PROTECTED

Good morning,

Please see **attached** for review, our updated QTB on AML/CTF for Minister Dutton. Note that we are working to a 2 page limit. Grateful for any comments by **COB today**.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

PROTECTED

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM
FINANCING

QUESTION: What is the Government doing to combat money laundering and terrorism financing?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Australia has a robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regime designed to make our financial system hostile to money laundering, terrorism financing and other threats.
- The regime provides for the collection of valuable financial information from the private sector including the movement of illicit money and other assets.
- This information allows ~~Australian and international~~ law enforcement and national security agencies to follow illicit financial flows and detect criminal activity.
- In March 2017, the Fintel Alliance was launched in Australia. The Alliance brings together law enforcement, financial intelligence and regulated entities to improve efforts to detect and disrupt illicit financial activity.

Legislative reforms

- The Government is always improving the effectiveness of Australia's AML/CTF regime. A review of the regime was tabled in Parliament in 2016 and made 84 recommendations for reform.
- The first phase of reform was delivered with the passage in December 2017 of the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017*.
- The first phase reforms included regulation of digital currency exchange providers, delivery of regulatory efficiencies to industry and stronger investigation and enforcement powers for AUSTRAC.

If asked: Have the recommendations of the statutory review been implemented?

- The recommendations of the statutory review are being implemented in phases.
- On 7 December 2017, Parliament passed the *Anti Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017* (the Act).
- The Act is the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the statutory review and contains a number of measures to modernise and strengthen the AML/CTF regime. Some of the measures in the Act include:
 - Closing a regulatory gap by regulating digital currency exchange providers.

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QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTER-TERRORISM
FINANCING

- Providing regulatory efficiencies and relief to industry by deregulating lower-risk sectors.
- Strengthening AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers by expanding its supervisory and enforcement options (including new powers to issue infringement notices for a greater range of regulatory offences and to issue remedial directions to require retrospective compliance with breaches).

If asked: when will other measures recommended by the statutory review be taken forward?

- The Government is continuing to work on these reforms, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, with a view to the next phase of legislation being introduced in the Autumn 2019 sittings (subject to the parliamentary schedule).
- Other measures from the review are more complex and are being progressed over the longer term in consultation with relevant government and industry stakeholders.

If asked: Why are real estate agents, lawyers and accountants not subject to reporting obligations under the AML/CTF Act?

- The Government continues to consider options to extend the AML/CTF regime to designated non-financial businesses and professions including real estate agents, lawyers and accountants.
- The Government has, and will continue, to consult with peak bodies, including the Law Council, CPA Australia and the Real Estate Institute of Australia on any potential compliance obligations and how these would be implemented.

National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: NSLEPD

Date first prepared: 5 February 2018

Originating Source: HA

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: [7/02/2019 - 4:17 PM](#) ~~7/02/2019 - 11:49 AM~~

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 12:13 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

Thanks [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 11:34 AM
To: [REDACTED] >; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

For what it's worth at this late stage, minor tracked changes in attached, cleared by AUSTRAC, perhaps for consideration next time.

Thanks and apologies once again.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] **M:** [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
 @AUSTRAC **W:** www.austrac.gov.au



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 10:35 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED],

Thanks for this.

Just for your info, we have pretty strict directions on deadlines for QTBs now – particularly for Minister Dutton's office. We'll certainly always do our best to consult and give AUSTRAC as much time as possible, but we don't really have any wriggle room on the deadlines we provide for these ones.

Happy to discuss.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 8 August 2018 10:17 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

I'm still awaiting clearance unfortunately, so we'll probably miss your deadline, but if we could get one point amended within your timeframes that would be great. Marked in red and highlighted below.

- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the inter-governmental body that sets global AML/CTF standards. Australia is a founding member of the FATF.
 - In a 2015 assessment the FATF identified a number of **technical** deficiencies in Australia's **compliance with the standards**.
 - The 2017 amendments address some of these deficiencies.

- In June 2018, the FATF prepared a report on Australia's progress three years after its initial assessment, and awarded a number of upgrades to the ratings for technical compliance against the standards.

Regards

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 1:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]
Importance: High

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

Ahead of the upcoming parliamentary sittings, please find our standing QTB for Minister Dutton **attached** with updates highlighted in yellow.

Grateful for any comments by **COB today** to meet the office's deadline. Happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 4:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: For review by COB today - QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing [EXTERNAL] [SEC=PROTECTED]

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: [REDACTED]

PROTECTED

Thanks [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

PROTECTED

From: [REDACTED] u>
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 4:20 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: For review by COB today - QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing [EXTERNAL] [SEC=PROTECTED]

PROTECTED

Good afternoon [REDACTED],

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input into the QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism.

AUSTRAC recommends a small change in wording on the first page, which has been reflected in your attached document with track changes.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Kind Regards,

[REDACTED]
Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



PROTECTED

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 11:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: For review by COB today - QTB18-000012 - Anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing [SEC=PROTECTED] [EXTERNAL]

PROTECTED

Good morning,

Please see **attached** for review, our updated QTB on AML/CTF for Minister Dutton. Note that we are working to a 2 page limit. Grateful for any comments by **COB today**.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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Released by AUSTRAC under the FOI Act 1982 on 4 October 2019

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 7 August 2018 1:34 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: For comment by COB 7/8 - QTB - Minister Dutton [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]
[EXTERNAL]
Attachments: QB18-000012.docx
Importance: High
Categories: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

Ahead of the upcoming parliamentary sittings, please find our standing QTB for Minister Dutton **attached** with updates highlighted in yellow.

Grateful for any comments by **COB today** to meet the office's deadline. Happy to discuss if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Transnational Crime Policy Branch | National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division
Policy Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
RECENT LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND AUSTRALIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FATF STANDARDS

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Australia has a robust anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing (AML/CTF) regime designed to make our financial system hostile to money laundering, terrorism financing and other threats.
- The regime provides for the collection of valuable information from the private sector about the movement of illicit money and other assets.
- This information allows Australian law enforcement agencies to follow illicit financial flows and detect criminal activity.
- A report on the review of Australia's AML/CTF regime was tabled in Parliament in 2016. The report made 84 recommendations for reform, including some areas identified by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) in 2015.
- The first phase of reform was delivered with the *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017*.
- The first phase reforms included regulation of digital currency exchange providers, delivery of regulatory efficiencies to industry and strengthened investigation and enforcement powers for AUSTRAC.
- The Government is working to address the remaining FATF deficiencies with further legislative reforms proposed to be introduced in the Spring 2018 parliamentary sittings.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

- The *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Amendment Act 2017* passed Parliament in December 2017 and commenced on 3 April 2018.
- The Act is the first phase of legislative reform implementing the recommendations of the statutory review and contains a number of measures to modernise the AML/CTF regime. Some of the measures in the Act include:
 - Closing a regulatory gap by regulating digital currency exchange providers.

**RECENT LEGISLATIVE REFORMS AND AUSTRALIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH THE FATF STANDARDS**

- Providing regulatory efficiencies and relief to industry—by deregulating lower-risk sectors such as the cash-in-transit sector and by clarifying financial institutions' obligations with respect to correspondent banking relationships.
- Strengthening AUSTRAC's investigation and enforcement powers by expanding its supervisory and enforcement options (including new powers to issue infringement notices for a greater range of regulatory offences and to issue remedial directions to require retrospective compliance with breaches).
- The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is the inter-governmental body that sets global AML/CTF standards. Australia is a founding member of the FATF.
 - In a 2015 assessment the FATF identified a number of deficiencies in Australia's AML/CTF regime.
 - The 2017 amendments address some of these deficiencies.
 - In June 2018, the FATF prepared a report on Australia's progress three years after its initial assessment, and awarded a number of upgrades.

If asked: when will other measures recommended by the statutory review be taken forward?

- A second amendment bill is scheduled for introduction in the upcoming Spring parliamentary sittings. The bill will:
 - simplify the secrecy and access framework that governs access to, and the use of, AUSTRAC information
 - expand customer due diligence 'reliance' for customer identification and verification procedures by third parties
 - improve the effectiveness of Commonwealth money laundering offences, and
 - consolidate and further strengthen cross-border reporting requirements for cash and other monetary instruments, such as traveller cheques and money orders.
- Other measures from the review – including a broader simplification and streamlining of the AML/CTF Act and Rules – are being progressed over the longer term in consultation with relevant government and industry stakeholders.

National Security and Law Enforcement Policy Division

Contact: [REDACTED]

Division: NSLEPD

Date first prepared: 24 January 2018

Originating Source: HA

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/08/2018 - 1:28 PM

From: Executive and Ministerial
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 6:30 PM
To: [REDACTED]; Executive and Ministerial
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QB19-000125 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) : Question Time Brief [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Attachments: QTB18-000246 Home Affairs achievements across the Dept and Portfolio since stand-up.DOCX

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

Thanks [REDACTED], we might leave it at that for now. Can I just add the following minor edits please:

- Following AUSTRAC's 2017 launch of civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for 53,700 alleged anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing contraventions, in June 2018 the Federal Court ordered the payment of a \$700 million penalty—the largest ever in Australian corporate history—which has now been paid by CBA.

Thanks again,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 4:22 PM
To: Executive and Ministerial <executive.ministerial@austrac.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: QB19-000125 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) : Question Time Brief [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

H [REDACTED]

If there is new content in your area that fits the bill for Home Affairs achievements since stand-up, then I would be very grateful for its inclusion.

I understand that this is one of the few positive questions being asked of the Department and it represents a good opportunity to highlight our achievements.

Regards

[REDACTED]

Enterprise Strategy and Risk | Enterprise Strategy, Risk & Performance

Executive Group

Department of Home Affairs

P: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 4:17 PM

To: [REDACTED] >

Cc: [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] >

Subject: RE: QB19-000125 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) : Question Time Brief [EXTERNAL] [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

The text in this item remains accurate and does not require update. To clarify, are you seeking *new* content to build the portfolio's case in the attached? Do you require any additional content, or are you happy with an update of this para only?

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]

E: [REDACTED]

@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 3:56 PM

To: Executive and Ministerial <executive.ministerial@austrac.gov.au>; [REDACTED] >

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: QB19-000125 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) : Question Time Brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

We request your urgent update and inclusion of new content (as appropriate) to the below text by 10am tomorrow morning. If you are not the area responsible, grateful if you could direct me to the right area.

Following AUSTRAC's 2017 launch of civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for 53,700 alleged Anti Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism financing contraventions, in June 2018 the Federal Court ordered the payment of a \$700 million penalty—the largest ever in Australian corporate history—which has now been paid by CBA.

My apologies for the urgency. My team has just been assigned the attached QTB with parliamentary due date of midday tomorrow with SES clearance.

Regards

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] | Enterprise Operations Section
Enterprise Strategy and Risk | Enterprise Strategy, Risk & Performance
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 19 June 2019 2:16 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: QB19-000125 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) : Question Time Brief [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

DLM=For-Official-Use-Only

Notification from the Parliamentary Document Management System (PDMS).

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Details: [REDACTED] has assigned a document to [REDACTED]
Document Type: Question Time Brief
Subject: Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17)

PDR Number: QB19-000125
Current Status: Created
Clearance Due Date: 20/06/2019 12:00:00 PM
Processing Instructions:
Document Link: [REDACTED]

Need help, want to know more, or interested in PDMS training?

Contact the PDMS Helpdesk on [REDACTED] or [REDACTED]

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**HOME AFFAIRS ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT
AND WHOLE PORTFOLIO SINCE STAND-UP (DEC 17)**

QUESTION: What has the establishment of Home Affairs achieved since it was stood up in December 2017?

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Delivered the first integrated Budget for the Home Affairs Portfolio in 2018–19. This builds on the decision by Government to unify Australia's national security, border management, and cyber security and counter terrorism frameworks into an integrated and coherent whole, providing a sound basis for the Portfolio going forward.
- Established a number of critical new national coordination roles including the Commonwealth Transnational Serious and Organised Crime Coordinator, and the National Counter Foreign Interference Coordinator.
- The Department has continued to deal with increasing volumes in our frontline operations and have achieved a number of operational successes, including establishment of joint operations to detect and seize illicit drugs and firearms.

Further talking points

- Operational successes include: a January 2019 joint operation by Strike Force Roath (NSW Police Force, ABF, NSW Crime Commission and ACIC) detecting a consignment from Malaysia, purporting to be gym equipment and supplements, which was found to conceal 400 blocks of heroin with a total weight of 154 kilograms.
- A new joint Illicit Tobacco Taskforce (ITTF) was announced in May 2018. The first warrant executed by the ABF-led ITTF took place in July 2018, near the Northern Territory town of Katherine, and uncovered more than 17 acres of illegal tobacco crops and six tonnes of tobacco leaf, with an estimated excise value of \$13.3 million.

**HOME AFFAIRS ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT
AND WHOLE PORTFOLIO SINCE STAND-UP (DEC 17)**

- For the 2018-19 financial year, as of 31 December 2018, the Australian Border Force has detected:
 - 1,013 undeclared firearms, parts and accessories;
 - 156.2 million undeclared cigarettes through the sea and international mail streams;
 - 139.7 tonnes of undeclared tobacco through the sea and international mail streams;
 - 2 foreign fishing vessel apprehended in Australian waters; and
 - 12,537 illicit drug, precursor, and New Psychoactive Substances detections at the border with a combined weight of 9,465.5 kilograms.
- Following the \$68.6 million announcement in March 2018 to establish a collaborative national approach to combatting organised crime, the AFP-led Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) was officially opened in Brisbane on 3 September, with oversight by the Transnational, Serious and Organised Crime Coordinator. The Centre has already delivered a number of operational successes.
- The Australian Institute of Criminology, a part of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission, has also launched a new Child Exploitation Material Reduction Research Program to identify new approaches to reduce online child exploitation.
- Telecommunications and Other Legislation Amendment (Assistance and Access) Act 2018** (also known as the Encryption Bill) passed through Parliament in December 2018. This Act amended the **Telecommunications Act 1997** to establish frameworks for voluntary and mandatory industry assistance to law enforcement and intelligence agencies in relation to encryption technologies via the issuing of technical assistance requests, technical assistance notices and technical capability notices.
- Police Powers at Airports Bill 2018** is currently before Parliament, which will complement a \$294 million suite of aviation security initiatives. The legislation will expand powers to enable the AFP to direct a person to provide proof of identity, move on from airport premises, or not take a flight, where they pose a criminal or security threat.
- Cybercrime is an increasingly pervasive and persistent threat and Australian agencies continue to play a critical and coordinated role, most recently assisting the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation disrupt an Eastern European-based cybercrime network that had been targeting Australians, and which has resulted in the arrest and extradition to the United States of three Ukrainian nationals.

**HOME AFFAIRS ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT
AND WHOLE PORTFOLIO SINCE STAND-UP (DEC 17)**

- Home Affairs has delivered the 2017–18 Refugee and Humanitarian program on target, with 16,250 places granted to refugees and humanitarian entrants to Australia. In 2018-19 this program intake will increase to 18,750 places.
 - Home Affairs has completed the establishment of a global call centre, which has led to the creation of around 250 jobs in Adelaide and service improvements for clients enquiring about visa, citizenship, trade and customs matters.
 - Home Affairs is also maintaining a continued focus on expanding accessibility to online visa lodgement for visa applicants (over 90 per cent of visas lodged electronically in 2017-18), as well as streamlined business processes and practices to deliver continuous improvement initiatives across visa services, such as tools for greater self-servicing. Online lodgement has been expanded to include China and India.
 - The expansion of the Australian Trusted Trader (ATT) program has benefitted Australian businesses and the economy and reduced red tape for cargo clearance.
 - In 2017-18, Home Affairs accredited more than 190 business and service providers under ATT—tripling growth from the previous year.
 - Travellers have benefitted from the roll out of arrival SmartGates, with facial recognition technology for automated passport control increasingly being used at the border.
 - In 2017-18, more than 43 million air travellers crossed our border—around 2 million more than the previous reporting period. Of these, approximately 26 million were processed using SmartGates.
 - Following AUSTRAC's 2017 launch of civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for 53,700 alleged Anti Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism financing contraventions, in June 2018 the Federal Court ordered the payment of a \$700 million penalty—the largest ever in Australian corporate history—which has now been paid by CBA.
- In addition to the above, Home Affairs has also:
- Enacted Machinery of Government (MoG) changes for Home Affairs – bringing together functions from across six different departments.
 - Founded a number of forums to assist with policy development and coordination, including:
 - Ministerial Council for Policy and Emergency Management (MCPPEM) which comprises the Ministers for Police and Emergency Management from the Commonwealth, each state and territory, and New Zealand.

**HOME AFFAIRS ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE DEPARTMENT
AND WHOLE PORTFOLIO SINCE STAND-UP (DEC 17)**

- The Australian Multicultural Council (ACM) which is comprised of twelve ministerially-appointed members representing a broad cross-section of Australian interests to provide independent advice to Government on multicultural affairs, social cohesion, and integration policy and programs.
- Established the National Resilience Taskforce to take a whole-of-government and a macro-economic approach to the way Australia prepares for frequent and intensifying natural hazards. The Taskforce will also work closely with Emergency Management Australia to ensure a dedicated focus on the Government's disaster mitigation reform framework and overarching agenda.
- Established Joint Agency taskforces and whole of Portfolio policy teams to deliver results such as innovative maritime security strategies, complex legislative changes and whole of Government solutions to information sharing challenges.

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

- The establishment of Home Affairs Portfolio in December 2017 signalled a new way of operating across federal government agencies responsible for intelligence, law enforcement and national security.
- To bring five independent operational agencies, together with the Department of Home Affairs as the central agency, under the Home Affairs umbrella required significant legislative changes with the amendment of a total of 36 pieces of legislation under the *Home Affairs and Integrity Agencies Legislation Amendment Act*. This was done quickly and expediently, and was concluded in May 2018 with the passage of legislation that enabled ASIO to join the Portfolio.

Enterprise Strategy, Risk and Performance Division

Contact: [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Division: Enterprise Strategy, Risk and Performance

Date first prepared: 10 September 2018

Originating Source: MO

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

Date last Updated: 7/02/2019 - 12:50 PM

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:14 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: FOR ACTION: QB18-000246 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good morning [REDACTED],

Thank you for your timely response – we really appreciate it.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
Enterprise Operations Section
Enterprise Strategy and Risk Branch | Enterprise Strategy, Risk and Performance Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Please note: I do not work Fridays

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 10:11 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: FOR ACTION: QB18-000246 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Good Morning,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the below item.

Other than the inclusion of the year (highlighted in red text), there are no further changes required for the below paragraph.

Following AUSTRAC's 2017 launch of civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for 53,700 alleged Anti Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism financing contraventions, in June 2018 the Federal Court ordered the

payment of a \$700 million penalty—the largest ever in Australian corporate history—which has now been paid by CBA.

Please let me know if you require anything further.

Kind Regards,

[Redacted]

Office of the CEO

P: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]

@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, 5 February 2019 2:10 PM
To: [Redacted]
Cc: [Redacted]
Subject: FOR ACTION: QB18-000246 Home Affairs achievements across the Department and whole Portfolio since stand-up (Dec 17) [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good afternoon colleagues,

We request your update and review on a QTB we are currently tasked with. Please see the highlighted text below and provide us with any updates or comments **by midday tomorrow**, 6 February 2019. If this is not your area, can you please forward it to the area responsible.

Following AUSTRAC's 2017 launch of civil penalty proceedings against the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (CBA) for 53,700 alleged Anti Money Laundering and Counter Terrorism financing contraventions, in June the Federal Court ordered the payment of a \$700 million penalty—the largest ever in Australian corporate history—which has now been paid by CBA.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries.

Kind regards,

[Redacted]

Enterprise Operations Section
Enterprise Strategy and Risk Branch | Enterprise Strategy, Risk and Performance Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs

P: [Redacted]
E: [Redacted]

Please Note: I do not work on Fridays

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From: Executive and Ministerial
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 2:40 PM
To: QTB Mailbox
Cc: [REDACTED]; Executive and Ministerial
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBS for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL]
[DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

Categories: [REDACTED]
Security Classification: UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Thanks [REDACTED].
No problem.

Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au
Mo Tu We Th Fr
✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓



Australian Government
AUSTRAC

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 1:25 PM
To: [REDACTED] au>
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: FW: Weekly QTBS for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

See below advice from MO regarding the NFA.

Regards

[REDACTED]
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 1:17 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Thanks [REDACTED]

We still need it in the Minister's QTB folder so just send it back up with no updates

Thanks
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
Office of the Hon Peter Dutton MP
Minister for Home Affairs
Suite MG.46, Parliament House, Canberra
T: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 1:16 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: FW: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED],

See below advice from Austrac. Can you confirm you still would like this QTB or we can NFA?

Thanks

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 1:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Thanks [REDACTED]

As discussed, I can confirm that this item will not require any further updates and that the advice below still stands. Please refer to previous copy in the event that the MO considers there to be a need for its inclusion. Happy for you to add a note to the instructions accordingly and please let me know if I can assist further.

Have a great weekend.
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Executive & Ministerial

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au
Mo Tu We Th Fr
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Friday, 29 March 2019 12:54 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Subject: FW: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

FYI

[REDACTED]
Parliamentary Officer | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division |
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

Please note I work part-time: 8am to 4pm, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 7 February 2019 10:57 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good morning [REDACTED]

The Minister's Office acknowledges that even though there may not be any updates to this QTB, the preference is still to keep the QTB active.

If there are no updates to this QTB, I am happy to process this to the Minister's Office noting nil updates.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 14:16
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Great, thanks [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]
Executive and Ministerial

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 1:40 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

hi [REDACTED]

We haven't heard back from the Minister's Office yet.

I have followed up again and I will let you know as soon as I have received a response.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Wednesday, 6 February 2019 13:26
To: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

Hi [REDACTED]

Did we receive a response back on this one by any chance?

Regards

[REDACTED]

Executive and Ministerial

Office of the CEO

P: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]
@AUSTRAC W: www.austrac.gov.au



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, 4 February 2019 4:08 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

hi [REDACTED]

Thanks for the email.

QTB requests are initiated by the Ministers' Offices and as such, we have no control over what QTBs will be requested.

I will go back to the Minister's Office now and advise that there is no update to this QTB and request that this QTB be now closed. I will update you as soon as I hear back from the Minister's Office.

Thanks,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Monday, 4 February 2019 10:40
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >

Subject: RE: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Hi [REDACTED]

I see this QTB is still on the list:

QB18-000013	AUSTRAC Commonwealth Bank action	PA - AUSTRAC
-------------	----------------------------------	--------------

We advised the last few times that AUSTRAC has no updates for this one and the matter is closed.

We will update the agency key facts QTB though.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | AUSTRAC | P [REDACTED]

UNCLASSIFIED For Official Use Only

From: [REDACTED] >

Sent: Monday, 4 February 2019 10:29 AM

Subject: Weekly QTBs for updating - Due 3pm Thursday, 07 February 2019 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Good morning,

In preparation for the resumption of Parliament sitting from **Tuesday 12 February 2019**, Minister Dutton's Office requested the following QTBs be provided. Please note these are the weekly QTB updates which are requested prior to a sitting week. 'Hot Issues' and new QTBs will be requested on a daily basis separately during the sitting period.

We are assigning the below QTBs in PDMS to relevant line areas now.

Minister Coleman

Due 3pm, Thursday 07 February 2019	
PDR No	
QB17-000064	
QB16-000101	
QB16-000013	
QB15-000100	
QB15-000121	
QB16-000146	
QB18-000191	
QB15-000017	
QB16-000132	

QB15-000051
QB15-000631
QB15-000052
QB15-000065
QB15-000098
QB15-000109
QB18-000036
QB16-000074
QB17-000061

Minister Dutton

Due 3pm, Thursday 07 February 2019

PDR No
QB15-000485
QB15-000484
QB15-000480
QB15-000479
QB15-000481
QB16-000006
QB18-000056
QB18-000020
QB18-000018
QB18-000170
QB18-000053
QB15-000073
QB18-000019
QB15-000023
QB18-000048
QB18-000008
QB18-000017
QB18-000049
QB16-000133
QB18-000010
QB18-000169
QB18-000054
QB18-000013
QB18-000052
QB18-000009
QB18-000051
QB17-000062
QB15-000170
QB15-000083
QB18-000012
QB18-000030
QB18-000021

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Please note: If there are any matters not captured above that are currently, or may soon be, of interest in Parliament or in the media, a QTB may be required. Should this be the case, please contact the QTB team to discuss.

Once we receive QTB requests from Minister Coleman's Office, we will assign to relevant line areas in PDMS and notify via email.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact the QTB Team at [REDACTED].

For any technical issues with PDMS access or views, please contact the PDMS Team on [REDACTED] or at [REDACTED].

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 17 August 2018 9:00 AM
To: [REDACTED]; QTB Mailbox
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

For-Official-Use-Only

Hi [REDACTED]

I have asked the MO to confirm if the Commonwealth Bank QTB can be closed and if not, will send through the QTB with nil updates.

Can you please confirm whether the other QTB (AUSTRAC key facts) has any updates?

Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

For-Official-Use-Only

From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 16 August 2018 12:31 PM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [EXTERNAL] [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only]

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Hi [REDACTED]

AUSTRAC recommended last time that the Commonwealth Bank QTB be closed as the legal matter is finalised. Was there any feedback on that recommendation?

Otherwise we will not have any updates for it and our comment in the current version still stands as our response.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

Parliamentary and Planning

P: [REDACTED]
E: [REDACTED]

[@AUSTRAC](#) [W: www.austrac.gov.au](http://www.austrac.gov.au)



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From: [REDACTED] >
Sent: Thursday, 16 August 2018 11:36 AM
To: [REDACTED] >
Cc: [REDACTED] >
Subject: QTB(s) due at 10:00am Friday 17 August 2018 [DLM=For-Official-Use-Only] [EXTERNAL]

For-Official-Use-Only

Dear colleagues,

The Minister's Offices have requested updates to the attached QTB(s). They are to be cleared (at the SES level) and returned to Parliamentary by **10:00am Friday 17 August 2018**.

Please highlight all updates in yellow. If no updates are required, please state "nil updates" in the processing instruction. Please note if the QTB is expected to be provided later than 10:00am, it is the relevant SES Officer's responsibility to contact the MO to provide a status update.

Please let us know if you require any further information or assistance. Thank you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED] | Parliamentary
Ministerial and Parliamentary Branch | Executive Coordination Division
Executive Group
Department of Home Affairs
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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How to answer a Question Time Brief (QTB)

General

- QTBs **MUST NOT** CONTAIN “PROTECTED” INFORMATION OR BE ABOVE “For Official Use Only”
- Timeframes are initiated by the Minister’s Office and must be met. Line areas are required to contact Parliamentary Coordination immediately if any foreseeable delays.
- Line areas are responsible for preparing the QTB and the coordination of material from relevant business areas across the Home Affairs Portfolio.
- Following allocation, if your SES Officer decides that the QTB has not been allocated correctly, it is your responsibility to determine the lead area and obtain their agreement to accept the QTB. You will then need to assign the PDMS record to the relevant Division for action and notify the QTB Mailbox immediately.

Clearance

- QTBs must be cleared by relevant SES, including the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Statistician for QTBs containing financial or statistical information, then assigned back to Parliamentary Coordinator in PDMS by the time and date specified.
- Name and mobile phone numbers for contact officers (SES band 1 or above) must be included to enable advisers to follow up or verify information contained within QTBs.
 - This includes contributing line areas.
- If QTBs are expected to be provided later than 10am, it is the responsibility of the relevant SES Officer to contact the Minister’s Office to provide a status update

Formatting information

- Do not change the formatting of the QTB template. If you require any assistance or have any questions regarding the template, contact [REDACTED]
- QTB is to be no more than **two pages** in length, Font – Times New Roman, Size – 14.
- “Key Talking Points” should be general talking points for the Minister regarding the main issue of the brief.
- All changes and updates to existing QTBs are to be **highlighted in yellow**.
- Old text can just be deleted.
- **Any text not for public release should be in red.**

Minister’s Office requirements

- QTBs should focus on key statistics and facts.
- Ensure the response addresses the questions as requested by the Minister’s Office.
 - If no question has been added by the Minister’s Office – Business areas must add one.
- Only include factual, accurate information, using the latest verified material. All material must be relevant, up to date and cross checked for accuracy.
- Background information is to be kept short and focus on key detail only.
- If a QTB is dealing with material of complex, difficult or contentious issues, the relevant SES officer should liaise with the relevant adviser in the MO. There should be no surprises, unless a new issue or case has been reported overnight.
- Information relating to cross portfolio subjects must be cleared by all relevant parties. If not possible, this is to be noted clearly in the QTB.
- QTBs may only contain personal information which is **already in the public domain**.

- Ensure that the QTB is clear and concise with no duplications.

Wording preferences

Please ensure the Ministerial correspondence preferences and terminology are followed. Specific to QTBs the following points should be noted:

- **The Department** – Not ‘my Department’.
- **Illegal Maritime Arrivals** - The Minister expects the term, Illegal Maritime Arrivals (IMAs), to be used as it reflects Article 3 of the United Nations Protocol against illegally smuggling migrants. Do not use Unauthorised Maritime Arrivals.
- **Detainees** – Persons held in detention are not there to be provided a service, they are being detained. The term Detainees is to be used, not clients.
- **Transferees** – Persons held in regional processing centres should not be referred to as clients or asylum seekers, they are to be referred to as Transferees.
- **IMAs on Bridging Visas** – IMAs on Bridging Visas should not be referred to as clients, they should be referred to as IMAs on Bridging Visas.

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How to answer a Question Time Brief (QTB)

General

- QTBs **MUST NOT** CONTAIN “PROTECTED” INFORMATION OR BE CLASSIFIED ABOVE “FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY”
- Timeframes are initiated by the Minister’s Office and must be met. Line areas are required to contact Parliamentary Coordination immediately if any foreseeable delays.
- Line areas are responsible for preparing the QTB and the coordination of material from relevant business areas.
- Following allocation, if your SES Officer decides that the QTB is not for your Branch, it is your responsibility to determine the lead area and obtain their agreement to accept the QTB. You will need to assign the PDMS record to the relevant Division for action and notify the QTB Mailbox immediately.

Clearance

- QTBs must be cleared by relevant SES, including the Chief Financial Officer and Chief Statistician for QTBs containing financial or statistical information, then assigned back to Parliamentary Coordination in PDMS by the time and date specified.
- Name and mobile phone numbers for contact officers (SES band 1 or above) must be included to enable advisers to follow up or verify information contained within QTBs.
 - This includes contributing line areas.

Formatting information

- Do not change the formatting of the QTB template. If you require any assistance or have any questions regarding the template, contact [REDACTED]
- QTB is to be no more than **two pages** in length, Font – Times New Roman, Size – 14.
- “Key Talking Points” should be general talking points for the minister regarding the main issue of the brief.
- All changes and updates are to be **highlighted in yellow**.
- **Any text not for public release** should be in red.

Minister’s Office requirements

- QTBs should focus on key statistics and facts.
- Ensure the response addresses the questions requested by the Minister’s Office.
- Only include factual, accurate information, using the latest verified material. All Material must be relevant, up to date and cross checked for accuracy.
- Background information is to be kept short and focus on key detail only.
- If a QTB is dealing with material of complex, difficult or contentious issues, the relevant SES Officer should liaise with the relevant advisor in the MO. There should be no surprises, unless a new issue or case has been reported overnight.
- Information relating to cross portfolio subjects must be cleared by all relevant parties. If not possible, this is to be noted clearly in the QTB.
- QTBs may only contain personal information which **is already in the public domain**.
- Ensure that the QTB is clear and concise with no duplications.

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- **Transferees** – Persons held in regional processing centres should not be referred to as clients, or asylum seekers, but continue to be referred to as Transferees.
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HOME AFFAIRS
QUESTION TIME BRIEF (QTB)
<SUBJECT>

KEY TALKING POINTS:

- Text
- Text
- Text

BACKGROUND AND CHRONOLOGY

<Subheading if needed>

Text

- Bullets if needed
- Bullets if needed

Department Contact: [REDACTED]

Transnational Crime Branch

Phone: [REDACTED]

Action Officer: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], Financial Crime Section

Date first prepared: 24 August 2016

Originating Source: HA

AUSTRAC Contact:

Branch

Phone:

Date last Updated: 12/03/2018 - 1:54 PM

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