

QUESTION ON NOTICE
Senate Economics References Committee
Inquiry into Influence of International Digital Platforms
22 August 2023

Agency: Australian Communications and Media Authority

Hansard page number 30

Topic: Enforcement and disruption options

The Committee asked:

Senator SHOEBRIDGE: Could you do me a favour and provide, perhaps from 1 January last year, what that suite of enforcement actions has been and then what the response has been?

Ms Chapman: That is correct, yes. We take action against online and offshore operators, and offshore is extremely difficult, yes.

Senator SHOEBRIDGE: Conscious of that, would you mind providing that information on notice: what action was taken and what the response has been from the entity that's being regulated? And we could maybe even do a third column, which is what actually happened out there in the real world as a result of it.

Ms Chapman: Are you asking in relation to all actions against all entities?

Senator SHOEBRIDGE: Yes, all enforcement actions you've taken in the online gambling space. I'm not trying to minimise it. It's a difficult job given the nature of the market you're dealing with.

Answer:

The Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) has a range of enforcement and disruption options available for contraventions of the *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* and the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

These include:

- Formal warnings
- Infringement Notices
- Website blocking
- Enforceable Undertakings
- Remedial Directions
- Civil action
- Notification to International regulators
- Reports of URLs to Family friendly filter providers
- Referrals to Family Friendly Filters
- Referrals to Australian border protection for inclusion of individuals on the Movement Alert List

Between 1 January 2022 and 31 August 2023 the ACMA taken the following actions:

Formal Warnings	85
Infringement Notices issued	2
Civil action	1
Notifications to international regulators	20
URLs reported to Family friendly filter providers	155
Movement Alert List referrals	3
Website blocking – number of domains blocked (primary and mirror sites)	448

The ACMA has seen a number of positive results flowing from our enforcement options including the withdrawal of illegal websites from the Australian market and reduced traffic from Australia to illegal sites that have been blocked.