

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement

Response to Question on Notice

Attorney-General's Portfolio

Inquiry into crystal methamphetamine (ice)

Wednesday 14 October 2015

Question No: 1

Hansard Reference: Page 8

Committee Member: Senator the Hon Lisa Singh, Deputy Chair

Witness: Mr Iain Anderson, First Assistant Secretary, Criminal Justice Division, Attorney-General's Department

Question:

Senator SINGH: Can you provide a list, in accordance with the act, of where the minister has allocated those funds?

Mr Anderson: Historically I would say that ministers have tended to roughly split the proceeds, with about half going towards community crime prevention programs and about half going towards law enforcement programs.

Senator SINGH: Yes, but can you take on notice and provide this committee with a list of those programs that have been provided out of the proceeds of crime funds?

Mr Anderson: Within which period? It has been around since 2002.

Senator SINGH: In the last financial year.

Mr Anderson: Certainly.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

In the 2014-15 financial year, the Minister committed funding of \$29.8 million for five law enforcement programmes being delivered by the ACC (\$18.107m for three programmes), AFP (\$8.413m for one programme) and NSW Police (\$3.294m for one programme).

In the 2013-14 financial year, the Minister committed funding of \$19.4 million under Round One of the Safer Streets Programme. This is being paid to successful organisations across 2013-14 to 2016-17.

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement

Response to Question on Notice

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Inquiry into crystal methamphetamine (ice)

Wednesday 14 October 2015

Question No: 2

Hansard Reference: Page 9

Committee Member: Senator the Hon David Johnston

Witness: Mr Paul Jevtovic, Chief Executive Officer, AUSTRAC

Question:

Senator JOHNSTON: Roughly, off the top of your head, how many successful prosecutions have we had for failure to comply with our money laundering and cash transaction legislation?

Mr Jevtovic: I cannot give you a number off the top of my head, but what I can say to you is that it is part of the holistic approach we now take. When law enforcement takes action against a particular entity we then look at how they moved their money—if it was a particular financial business or a remitter. This year we have had an unprecedented number of remitters who have been suspended or terminated permanently. This is very much that holistic approach to how we are tackling the supply. I can get those figures for the committee if you require them.

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

Since July 2013, AUSTRAC has made 27 reviewable decisions in relation to remitters, and has taken eight enforcement actions.

Remitter decisions:

- conditions placed on registration x 7
- suspensions x 3
- cancellations x 11
- refusal to register x 5, and
- refusal to renew registration x 1.

Enforcement actions:

- commenced one civil penalty proceeding in the Federal Court
- received payment in respect of four infringement notice penalties
- gave one remedial direction
- issued one notice to appoint an external auditor, and
- accepted one enforceable undertaking.