CYBER-SAFETY

Overview

- The Government committed funding of $125.8 million over four years in the 2008-09 Budget for a package of cyber-safety measures that include education, international co-operation, research, law enforcement and internet service provider (ISP) filtering.

- The *Cyber-safety Plan* comprises:

  - Australian Federal Police's (AFP's) Child Protection Operations Team - $49.0 million over four years for detection and investigation of online child sex exploitation;

  - Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions - $11.3 million over four years to help deal with the increased activity resulting from the work of the AFP to ensure that prosecutions are handled quickly;

  - filtering - $44.2 million over four years for:

    o ISP level filtering - to develop and implement ISP filtering; this includes $1 million in 2008-09 to undertake the live 'real world' pilot; and

    o free PC filters - for the National Filter Scheme to provide free filters until 31 December 2008, and free ongoing technical support until 30 June 2010;

  - education and outreach activities - $9.9 million over four years to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to implement a comprehensive range of education and outreach activities;

  - Websites / Online helpline - $4.3 million over four years to ACMA to improve the current NetAlert website and to make it easier for parents to use, and to provide up to date information. ACMA will also develop a children's cyber-safety website to provide information specifically for children, and improve the online helpline to provide a quick and easy way for children to report online incidents that cause them concern;

  - a Consultative Working Group - $0.8 million over four years for a Consultative Working Group to consider the broad range of cyber-safety issues and provide advice to Government to ensure properly developed and targeted policy initiatives;

  - a Youth Advisory Group - $3.9 million over four years for a Youth Advisory Group and online forum to provide advice on cyber-safety issues from a young person's perspective; and

  - research - $2.3 million over four years for research into the changing digital environment to identify issues and target future policy and funding.