

National Anti-Scam Centre Advisory Board

Communique

20 October 2023

The National Anti-Scam Centre Advisory Board (the Advisory Board) held its fourth meeting, in-person, on Monday 16 October 2023.

The Advisory Board discussed a case study that highlighted the impact of job and employment scams on victims. They noted the challenge in distinguishing between real and fake employment opportunities. The Advisory Board noted different disruption methods to combat these scams.

The Advisory Board provided comments on the draft National Anti-Scam Centre Quarterly Report which will be published in November 2023.

The Advisory Board discussed issues following presentations from:

- the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) about the development of the SMS Sender ID Registry, the aim of which is to provide protections against scammers impersonating trusted brands and government agencies.
- the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA) about key scam statistics and trends as well as actions needed to disrupt and stop scams.

The Anti-Scam Centre also updated the Advisory Board on:

- The Investment Scam Fusion Cell (Fusion Cell) which is exploring initiatives aimed at preventing and breaking contact with scammers and blocking payments to investment scammers. The Fusion Cell is developing strategies in partnership with industry to disrupt investment scams.
- Scams Awareness Week which will run from 27 November and focus on the theme of impersonation scams.

The next meeting of the Advisory Board will be on 13 December 2023.

This communique is jointly released by the members of the Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board is Chaired by ACCC Deputy Chair – Consumer, Catriona Lowe and comprised of:

- Anna Bligh, CEO, Australian Banking Association
- Andrew Williams, CEO, Australian Communications Consumer Action Network
- Scott Lee, Assistant Commissioner, Australian Federal Police represented by Paula Hudson
- Andy White, CEO, Australian Payments Network
- Simon Callaghan, CEO, Blockchain Australia
- Rosie Thomas, Director of Campaigns and Communications, CHOICE representing Consumers' Federation of Australia represented by Andrew Kelly
- John Stanton, CEO, Communications Alliance
- Michael Lawrence, CEO, Customer Owned Banking Association
- Sunita Bose, Managing Director, Digital Industry Group Inc.
- Stephanie Tonkin, CEO, Consumer Action Law Centre
- Peter Gartlan, National Coordinator, Financial Counselling Australia
- David Lacey, Managing Director, IDCARE (an apology)