


## PROTECTED: CABINET

 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS20-000953</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** eSafety Commissioner Supplementary Response to Questions of Notice

**Critical Date:** Routine

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information provided in this brief</p> <p>Minister's Signature:.....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p> <p>Date:..../..../ 2020</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<p>1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent</p>

**Purpose:**

1. To brief you on a supplementary response that will be provided by the eSafety Commissioner to a Committee inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence after 17 December.

**Key Issues:**

2. On 17 November the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, appeared for a second time at a hearing of the Social Policy & Legal Affairs Committee inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence. Ms Inman Grant took on notice a request from the Chair of the Committee, Mr Andrew Wallace MP, to provide a 'shopping list' of powers necessary for the eSafety Commissioner to deal with technology-facilitated abuse and other online harms impacting women and children in domestic and family violence situations (see public hearing transcript at **Attachment C**).
3. On 10 December, Ms Inman Grant signed the supplementary response, and provided the list (**Attachment B**) to the Department. The list will be sent to the Chair of the Committee at a date after 17 December. eSafety's recommendations include ongoing funding to eSafety Women and providing dedicated funding for eSafety's Safety by Design initiative, amongst other measures.
4. The supplementary response may risk informing attack points about the level of funding for the eSafety Commissioner, or the Government's commitment to preventing family violence and abuse more broadly. As such, talking points (**Attachment A**) provide information about the Australian Government's commitment to protecting women and children from online harms, and measures for preventing family violence and abuse.

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5. Prior to the 2020-21 Budget, the Department developed a number of funding proposals for the eSafety Commissioner, including an option to establish ongoing funding. The Cabinet decided to include \$39.4 million in additional funding for eSafety over three years, which is sufficient funding to meet the increased demand for resources and support, and to fulfil its regulatory functions. This includes funding to continue the eSafety Women initiative and to maintain additional funding levels for the *Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children* through to 2022-23. s 47C

s 47C

**Financial Implications:** N/A

**Background/Issues:** N/A

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

**Consultation:** N/A

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Talking Points

Attachment B: eSafety Supplementary Response to Questions on Notice

Attachment C: 17 November Public hearing transcript

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Instructions for MAPS: Nil

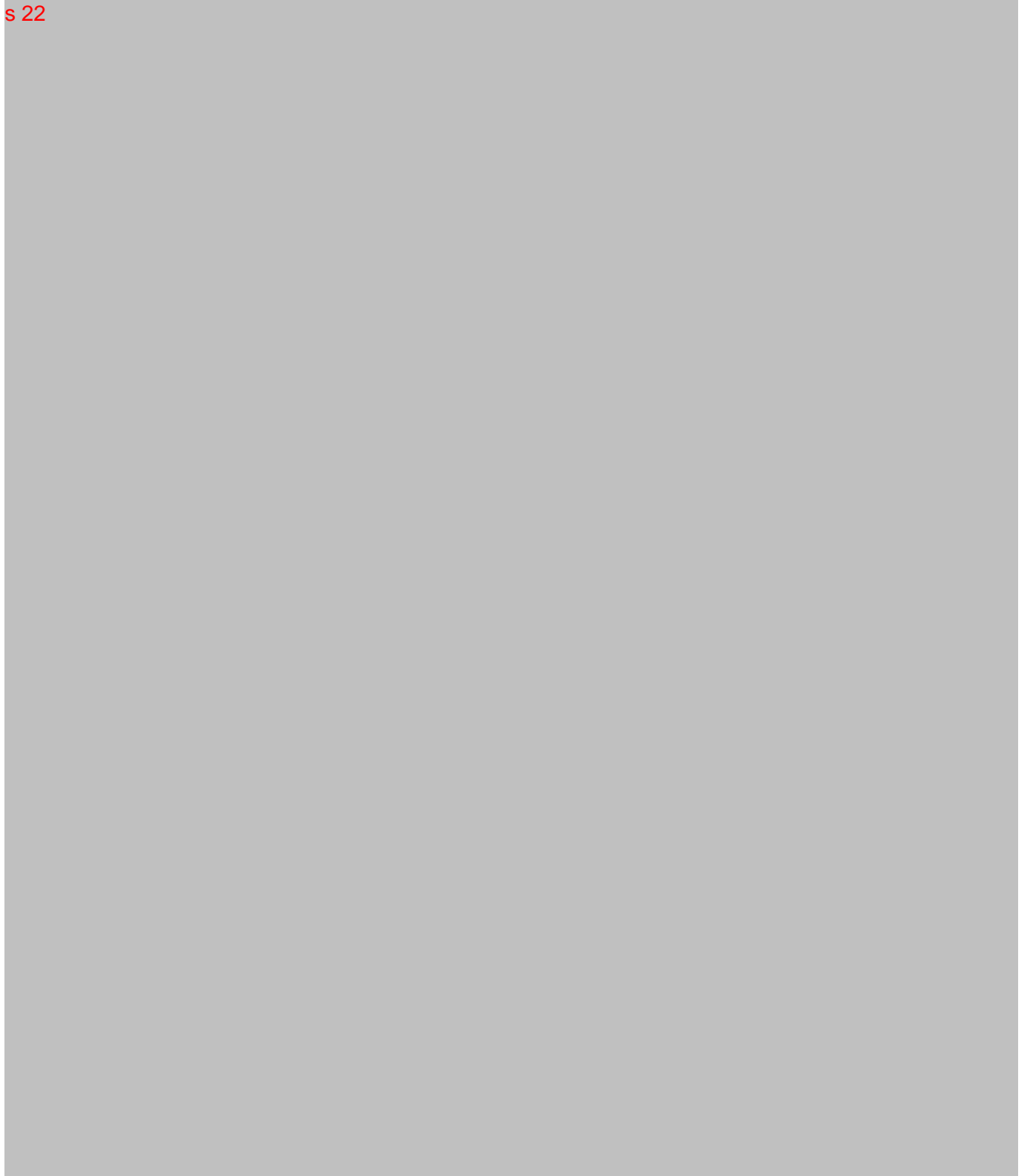
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**Additional information:**

s 22







TALKING POINTS

- The Australian Government's view is that family violence is unacceptable and cannot be tolerated.
- The Government is committed to taking action to prevent family violence and abuse, and to improving the protections offered through the family law system to those affected by violence and abuse.
- The Australian Government is investing \$98.4 million in new funding from 2019-20 for family law services and initiatives through the Women's Economic Security Package.
- The package includes:
  - \$31.8 million over three years (ongoing) for existing Commonwealth-funded specialist domestic violence units and health justice partnerships, to continue existing services and expand services to include integrated financial support services.
  - \$7 million over three years to establish the new Family Violence and Cross-examination of Parties Scheme.
- Announced on 5 March 2019, the government is also investing \$328 million to support the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022.
- As part of this funding package, the Attorney-General's Department is providing funding of \$11 million to improve information sharing and coordination between the family law, family violence and child protection systems. This comprises:
  - \$10.4 million in seed funding to pilot a co-location model, which will embed state and territory family safety officials (such as child protection or policing officials) in family law courts across Australia.
  - \$0.582 million to scope technological solutions to facilitate timely information sharing between the family law courts and the family violence and child protection systems.
- In further support of the Fourth Action Plan, the Australian Government is providing \$7.84 million over three years from 1 July 2019 to employ dedicated men's support workers in Family Advocacy and Support Services registry and circuit locations.
- Dedicated men's support workers will provide access to appropriate support services for both male victims and alleged perpetrators of family violence with matters before the family law court. These services include parenting programs and men's behavioural change programs.

*Online safety measures*

- I am very satisfied with the level of funding the Government has provided to the eSafety Commissioner, particularly in the current fiscal environment.
- On 7 October 2020, the Government agreed to provide \$39.4 million in additional funding over three years from 2020-21 to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) to fund the eSafety Commissioner.
- This funding will allow the eSafety Commissioner to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and deliver new functions under a proposed new *Online Safety Act*.
- This funding will also allow eSafety to continue measures under the Fourth Action Plan, which provides training for frontline workers, and creates educational resources to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women, and women with intellectual disability, to combat and protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse.
- The 2020-21 budget included some key additional supports, including an increase to eSafety's staffing levels. This funding recognises the Government's commitment to keeping Australians safe online.

*eSafety Women*

- The Government has committed to keeping women and children safe from domestic and family violence. Technology-facilitated abuse can form part of family violence.
- The eSafety Women program is designed to empower Australian women to take control of their online experiences.
- This initiative forms part of the Australian Government's \$100 million Women's Safety Package to Stop the Violence, announced in September 2015.
- Under this program, the eSafety Commissioner provides physical and online resources, as well as tool kits targeted towards at-risk people and front line staff, such as staff in crisis centres and women's shelters, who support and respond to at risk people and situations.
- The additional funding for the eSafety Commissioner in the 2020-21 Budget included funding for eSafety Women through until 2022-23. The measures include:
  - continuing the eSafety Women program; and
  - maintaining the additional funding level of the terminating Fourth Action Plan measures into 2022-23.
- The additional funding will enable the eSafety Commissioner to continue providing advice to frontline workers to help women experiencing online abuse, particularly in domestic violence cases.
- Under the current funding arrangements, further decisions will need to be made around funding the program beyond 2022-23.
- On 5 March 2019, as part of the Government's investment in the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children, the Government announced that the eSafety Commissioner would receive an additional \$2.5 million over three years.
- This funding is directed towards supporting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women affected by technology-facilitated abuse.
- The Government also provided \$1.5 million over three-years to support the development of technology-facilitated abuse resources for women with intellectual disability and training for front-line workers.
- The eSafety Commissioner has developed an online portal for Australian women who are at risk of or are experiencing abuse online.
- The portal offers practical advice for women of all ages on how to take control of their technology use.

10 December 2020

Mr Andrew Wallace MP  
Chair  
House of Representatives Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs  
PO Box 6021  
Parliament House Canberra 2600

Via email: [family.violence.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:family.violence.reps@aph.gov.au)

Dear Mr Wallace

**RE: Supplementary response to questions on notice from Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs inquiry into family, domestic and sexual violence**

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the Committee for a second time to discuss the important issue of technology-facilitated abuse and the harms that are occurring online against women and children in domestic and family violence situations.

I am providing supplementary information in response to your invitation to eSafety during the 17 November 2020 public hearing to make further suggestions for the government to consider concerning additional powers or functions that would add to eSafety's impact and effectiveness.

I note that this information should be considered as an adjunct to the more comprehensive written submission, dated 24 July 2020, which eSafety has presented to the inquiry, as well as testimony offered during the course of the inquiry's public hearings.

Please find below additional detail to support our earlier recommendations, which would enable eSafety to address the broad range of risks concerning technology-facilitated abuse and image-based abuse. As new powers, programs and functions, these recommendations would be subject to further resourcing requirements.

Regarding additional regulatory powers, eSafety notes that the Australian Government has announced its intention to introduce a new Online Safety Act.

This would create a new adult cyber abuse scheme to enable eSafety to compel the takedown of seriously harmful material posted online targeting an Australian adult.

eSafety has been working closely with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications to ensure we have the powers and tools we need to facilitate quick take down of harmful material, as well as take action against those posting harmful material so that harm is minimised.

We will also continue to work closely with industry, including to ensure users cannot hide behind the veil of anonymous accounts to evade appropriate enforcement action.

Thank you to the entire Committee for consideration of these recommendations.

Yours sincerely

s 47F

A large grey rectangular box redacting the signature of Julie Inman Grant.

Julie Inman Grant

**eSafety Commissioner**

## **eSafety's remit**

As Australia's independent regulator for online safety, the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) currently has a broad range of powers and functions. This includes investigating complaints, conducting research and undertaking education, training and awareness raising to address online harms and build digital safety, skills and resilience across Australia.

Importantly, eSafety has the scope and scale to work across government and with industry, non-government organisations and the community.

eSafety is therefore uniquely placed to drive online safety efforts to protect women and children online.

In the context of this inquiry, it is important to be aware that eSafety's takedown powers for cyberbullying currently only apply to the targeting of children under 18.

The Australian Government's proposed new Online Safety Act would strengthen eSafety's regulatory arm, enabling eSafety to assist women suffering serious harm online and compel greater transparency from platforms on their safety protections and assistance to users. Of particular note is the adult cyber abuse scheme, which proposes to include the mandatory takedown of serious online abuse experienced as part of domestic and family violence.

eSafety welcomes the increased powers and functions proposed.

## **Challenges and recommendations**

There is a continuing lack of understanding among some sectors that technology-facilitated abuse (TFA) causes real, enduring harm. The physical, psychological, emotional, financial and sexual manifestations of family and domestic violence and abuse are huge. While it may not leave physical marks, the damage can be extensive and may also serve as a red flag for future potentially serious physical harm.

eSafety made 10 primary recommendations in its written submission to the inquiry, with a particular focus on supporting at-risk cohorts, behaviour change initiatives, technical upskilling to combat TFA and broader capacity building, including internationally. eSafety reiterates the importance of these recommendations as part of a suite of measures, which should also include those outlined below.

### **1. Continuation of the eSafetyWomen program**

Launched in 2016 with funding under the Women's Safety Package, eSafetyWomen aims to empower all Australian women to manage technology risks and abuse. It has expanded since 2016, as the demand for its services grows.

The eSafety Women program is currently funded under two sources: an allocation from the Fourth Action Plan and budget appropriation, neither of which have ongoing funding. As a

result, eSafety has not had the resources to conduct more in-depth research and develop programs across all of the groups of women and children who are at risk.

Both sources of funding expire in 2022.

#### *Recommendation*

The eSafety Women program should be funded on an ongoing basis. This should include sustaining initiatives developed to date under the Fourth Action Plan for women from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and women with an intellectual disability, while also providing for the development of resources and training to meet the needs of other at-risk groups of women (such as culturally and linguistically diverse audiences) and children.

### 2. Focus on children

Soon to be published eSafety research shows that over a quarter of domestic violence cases also include TFA involving children. Yet there is a gap in support services, advice and resources intended specifically to address children's needs, including their understanding of online and technology risks. eSafety research provides clear evidence of the harmful effect of TFA on children, including the impact on their mental health and education, their relationship with the non-abusive parent, as well as their everyday lives. It shows that children are directly abused via digital technology, as well as used by domestic violence perpetrators as a conduit in the TFA of their mothers.

Training and resources are needed to increase awareness of TFA and how to mitigate and protect against it. In particular, tailored resources are needed for children and for adult victims who are parents of affected children. Education for perpetrators is also needed, as perpetrators do not always recognise their misuse of technology as abusive or as part of domestic violence.

Increasing knowledge among professionals is an important area for consideration, as it supports improved identification of, and responses to, TFA within a range of organisations and formal systems. These responses include well-considered protection or intervention orders that explicitly address communication through children's devices and accounts.

#### *Recommendation*

Establish a new program within eSafety that provides training and support for frontline workers, including in family and domestic violence, child welfare and other relevant sectors such as education, about how children are involved in TFA as an extension of family and domestic violence cases involving their parents.

### 3. Safety technology resources and advice

There is no single body at the national level that can provide objective and specialised technical advice and support to women and children experiencing TFA in the context of family and domestic violence. This leads to some at-risk women and children not being

aware of how technology can be used to facilitate abuse, and what safety controls and technology are available to prevent abuse.

eSafety's legislative functions include supporting and encouraging the implementation of measures to improve online safety for Australians (section 15(1)c) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015*) and collecting, analysing, interpreting and disseminating information (section 15(1)(e) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015*).

eSafety is seeking to expand its work under these functions in relation to safety technical solutions. This work could involve scoping, mapping, analysing and evaluating technical solutions that address the specific risks and harms faced by women and children experiencing TFA in the context of family and domestic violence. It would also feed into eSafety's centralised repository for innovations and development in the online safety technology sector, while allowing for the provision of a distinct category that focuses on women and children in family and domestic violence.

#### *Recommendation*

eSafety should be funded to scope, analyse, evaluate and advise on technical solutions designed to protect women and children experiencing TFA in the context of family and domestic violence, so that eSafety can develop frameworks, criterion and guidance for industry. Research could also be undertaken to investigate how digital platforms and services are used to facilitate TFA. This would allow eSafety to develop bespoke guidance for women and the children, as well as frontline workers and law enforcement.

#### 4. Promoting the adoption of Safety by Design

Technology companies and digital platforms need to do more to make their platforms safe, particularly for women and children. eSafety has observed how established and emerging platforms can be weaponised for abuse. There are also systemic inadequacies in the way platforms respond to user complaints.

eSafety's Safety by Design initiative (SbD) encourages organisations to put user safety and rights at the centre of the design, development and release of online products and services.

SbD emphasises the need to address online harms, alongside user safety and rights, in the product development lifecycle so that safety is systematically embedded into organisations' culture and operations.

It is a global initiative that has been developed with industry for industry, and encourages strong links between government, industry and advocacy organisations in helping to protect and safeguard citizens online.

Protecting voices at risk online is critical and the needs of diverse and at-risk groups should be effectively considered, incorporated and actioned within SbD practices.

Safety's SbD initiative is currently funded from existing resourcing.

## *Recommendation*

Safety by Design should be provided dedicated funding to assist in extending its rollout and impact. This would assist eSafety to work collaboratively with technology companies, digital platforms and at-risk women and children to co-design and develop targeted resources and guidance for industry to improve the safety and responsiveness of their services.

### 5. Expanded training and education for the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement

The findings of research conducted by eSafety and others indicate that the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement do not always have a sufficient understanding of how technology can be weaponised and the prevalence of technologically perpetuated harms in society. The legal profession includes legal practitioners, but also extends to court staff and court advocates, among others.

This lack of understanding has serious implications for safety planning, legal responses and, critically, the safety of women and children. It also increases the risk that victims will be re-traumatised through their interaction with the legal system.

The judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement need more in-depth education and training on the nature, drivers, impacts and harms of TFA as it impacts on women and children. This needs to be trauma-informed and gender responsive, recognising that TFA within family and domestic violence is a form of gender-based violence.

Judicial education should address court processes, such as factors that could reduce the risk of re-traumatisation of victims in hearings, and inform judicial decision-making, including when assessing risk and harm to women and children, as well as sentencing.

Legal profession training should address their advocacy and advice role and extend to matters such as questioning and cross-examination, as well as the particular support needs of people who have been abused and traumatised through technology.

Law enforcement training should address their role as providing frontline support to victims. They are responsible for many of the key materials, such as witness statements, which will be presented to a court, as well as safety and risk planning and protection orders. Ensuring law enforcement agencies have an appropriate understanding of TFA will help ensure that when matters that involve TFA go to court, a more comprehensive assessment of abuse is presented for consideration.

Given the ubiquity of technology in society, and therefore the potential for TFA, it is important that this training not be narrowed to specialist areas of law. Rather, it should be extended to judicial officers, legal practitioners, legal support staff and law enforcement who may encounter someone who has experienced TFA or is at risk of TFA.

Critically, by providing the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement more in-depth education and training on the nature, drivers, impacts and harms of TFA, it will also assist in shifting attitudes and behaviours in the community.



eSafety already collaborates with the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement to raise awareness of TFA and online harms more broadly. With further resourcing eSafety could deliver a more comprehensive program across all jurisdictions.

As Australia's national regulator on online safety, eSafety has the authority and expertise to facilitate the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement to undertake this training, while also having the extensive research and regulatory insights to draw on.

### *Recommendation*

Expand the eSafety Women program to deliver education and training nationally to the judiciary, legal profession and law enforcement. This should outline the nature, drivers, impacts and harms of TFA, while also giving practical advice about handling TFA matters.

This education and training should be trauma-informed and gender responsive, recognising that technology-facilitated abuse within family and domestic violence is a form of gender-based violence.

This education and training should form part of broader online safety training to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the broader picture of online safety.

## 6. Dating apps

Dating apps are increasingly a modern form of romantic or sexual connection, while also connecting those in the community who may be more socially isolated due to personal circumstance or geographic location.

However, as highlighted in recent media reports, there are risks associated with the use of these platforms that can lead to online abuse, financial exploitation and sexual violence. It should be noted, though, that while dating platforms facilitate the initial meeting and interactions between users, harm can occur offline after this initial online connection has been made.

Recidivism, reporting and access to advice and support can be a problem in dating platforms. Users can circumvent a platform's policies and repeatedly create new profiles where they are free to target others, while those targeted by abuse are not provided with streamlined reporting routes or access to support services. While there is a range of legal remedies open to victims of this kind of abuse, there is a need for an increased focus on prevention and disruption on dating sites, including education about the pathways to help and support that are available to dating app users.

eSafety's website provides information and advice about online dating apps, including safety advice when using these platforms.

eSafety also works through its Safety by Design initiative to support and encourage industry, including dating platforms, to look at how the design of platforms can be used to inflame, encourage and facilitate harms – and what steps or interventions can be applied that both empower and protect their customers.

### *Recommendation*

Develop an education and awareness campaign that explores the core issues relating to safety and dating apps, including the issue of consent, safety mechanisms on apps and reporting options, including to eSafety, law enforcement and industry. This should also include a cultural change element that counters victim blaming associated with dating apps and increases awareness among the community and frontline services about the abuse facilitated by dating apps.

there are a range, but I'm not aware of any other government programs around the world that focus specifically on these issues.

**Ms CLAYDON:** My final question was on your expert opinion as to whether those apps had a duty of care to be in any way checking or vetting users. These are the dating apps that I'm talking about.

**Ms Inman Grant:** I know a number of the dating apps that are based in the United States are trying to look at how they utilise sex offender registers. There are lots of vexed issues there. I think they found that, in a number of cases, a lot of the sexual assaults that were happening were not committed by people who were already on the sex offender registry. It is a hard and vexing problem, but that is precisely why I think the companies do have a preventative duty of care. They should be guiding people not to meet in a private place with someone they have never met in the real world before. They should always be meeting in a public place. They may want to bring a friend; they may want to have a ride organised. There are practical things that they could advise their clients who are meeting people on their sites to do that I'm not seeing happening on a regular basis. There are the risky behaviours as well that we want to tackle.

**Ms CLAYDON:** I'd be pleased if you would take on notice to provide this committee with any advice around what you regard now as the most significant challenges for protecting victims of sexual violence on these apps. Is it about needing different kinds of regulatory powers? Does that need to be part of your remit in a way that it wasn't originally? I'm interested in getting some advice from you about what is needed. If we're going to lead the world in e-safety, let's not leave behind what is an incredibly significant part of ongoing violence against women and children through these applications.

**Ms Inman Grant:** Thank you. We welcome that opportunity.

**CHAIR:** My comments and questions are directed more towards Julie Inman Grant, but, Samantha and Mia, you don't get off too easily, so don't disappear just yet. Ms Inman Grant, it's going to take far too long and it's probably not practical in the five or six minutes we've got left, but what I would like you to do is put a shopping list together. The deputy chair has asked you for some suggestions, specifically in relation to dating apps. I want to expand upon that much further and ask what you would like to see us recommend to government for the powers that you believe are necessary to enable you to do your job more effectively? This is a classic opportunity for you to put a shopping list together. You could deliver that to us and I have no doubt that the committee will take it into consideration. Will you do that for me, please?

**Ms Inman Grant:** We will. And I'd like to take Ms Yorke up on her offer of the opportunity to meet with industry, but with our minister's office and the department, around what is in the realms of the possible in terms of compelling device information as a regulatory authority so that we can deliver these infringement enforcement notices. This is a time-sensitive one, and one that I think we need to get to the bottom of.

**CHAIR:** Yes, but I don't think we have the luxury of too much time. We're looking to provide a report to government by March at the latest, so we've got a lot of work to do between now and then in putting pen to paper. The beauty of you and your role is that you've come from industry and, without overstating things, I've got confidence in you and your abilities to give us some workable suggestions as to what you need to do to assist in this sphere. I don't think you're going to make suggestions that are just simply not practical for industry. I think you're a very pragmatic woman in that role. So I'll ask you to do that—that would be great.

Now, respectfully, I just want to 'park' you for my further questions—


**Ms Inman Grant:** I'm sure my colleagues will be happy that I'm being parked!

**CHAIR:** But not necessarily for the extent of it. Mrs Garlick and Ms Yorke—particularly Mrs Garlick: you and I have had this conversation before. What concerns me greatly about where we are in relation to social media generally, and with an emphasis on domestic and family violence, is that, in my view—and I know that some of my colleagues have questioned you on this—the issue of anonymity is perhaps a cornerstone of the problems that are experienced with social media. People feel that they can say what they want with absolute anonymity and impunity, and get away with it.

I accept that you are doing a lot of work in this space, and I thank you for that. I acknowledge the work that you're doing. To be totally honest, I acknowledge that you're fronting up here today when others have not—and I'm going to talk about that shortly. That indicates a willingness to engage and, of course, that's expected of you. So I do acknowledge that you're here and fronting up.

But anonymity is front and centre. Why won't your organisations, more broadly, just say: 'We've got the technology, and we've identified it in our previous report in relation to age verification for porn and gambling. We know we have the technology.' It's not hard and it's not onerous; in fact, the Queensland government has changed its rules around entry into Queensland now. You have to upload a drivers licence, a birth certificate or a passport

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 <b>Australian Government</b> <b>Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</b>	<b>Ministerial Submission</b> <b>MS20-000718</b>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Formal notification to the eSafety Commissioner of Budget outcome

**Critical Date:** Please action and send the letter to the eSafety Commissioner on 6 October 2020

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information provided in this brief and sign the attached letter to formally notify the eSafety Commissioner of the 2020-21 Budget outcome, and the Government's expectations for this funding.	Noted and Signed / Please discuss
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose:**

1. That you write to the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, to officially notify her of the 2020-21 Budget outcome for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety), and outline the Government's expectations for the additional funding that has been allocated.

**Key Issues:**

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5. The draft letter at **Attachment A** asks that in addition to fulfilling its current statutory functions and the anticipated functions under a proposed new Online Safety Act, eSafety also:
- complete research and develop a robust framework to assess filtering solutions that could reduce the level of harm presented by public WiFi services;
  - develop a comprehensive roadmap for a mandatory age verification regime for online pornography in Australia, setting a deadline of December 2022 for this work; and
  - deliver updated guidance around online safety products and technologies for Australian families.

s47C

**Financial Implications:** As above.

**Background/Issues:**

8. The Digital Platforms and Online Safety Branch continues to progress the Online Safety Reform package, including working with eSafety, Australian Communications and Media Authority, the Department of Finance and other stakeholders on eSafety's governance. We will brief you as work progresses.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

**Consultation:** N/A

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Letter to Ms Inman Grant noting the Budget outcome

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Instructions for MAPS: Nil

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s 47F

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s 47F


PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

s34(3)





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 <p><b>Australian Government</b>  <b>Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  Regional Development and Communications</b></p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b>  MS20-000697</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner, October 2020

**Critical Date:** Please action by 9 October to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign the letter to Ms Razavi at Attachment B appointing her as acting Commissioner between 10 and 18 October 2020</li> <li>2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at Attachment C advising her of the appointment</li> </ol> <p><b>Minister's Signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Date:..../..../ 2020</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint Ms Rebecca Razavi as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away on personal leave from 10 to 18 October 2020.

**Key Issues:**

2. On 16 September 2020, the eSafety Commissioner wrote to you to advise that she intends to take personal leave from 10 to 18 October 2020, and recommended that Ms Rebecca Razavi serve as acting eSafety Commissioner during this period (**Attachment A**).
3. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) states that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia so long as that person meets the criteria outlined in Section 50 of the Act.
4. Ms Razavi meets the criteria outlined in Section 50 of the Act. Ms Razavi has knowledge of online safety, including child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues. She also has substantial experience



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in public sector management and strategic policy. A draft letter of appointment for Ms Razavi is at **Attachment B**. A draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

## Background/Issues:

5. Ms Razavi was employed as Chief Operating Officer at eSafety in April 2020. Prior to her current role, Ms Razavi worked as an Executive Director at the NSW Treasury. Ms Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience in both the public and private sector, and holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford.

6. The eSafety Commissioner has provided a detailed biography of Ms Razavi at **Attachment D**.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

## Consultation:

7. eSafety Commissioner, Human Resources Branch (Department).

## Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner of 16 September 2020.

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Razavi

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Attachment D: Detailed biography of Ms Razavi

Contact Officer:	Bridget Gannon	Cleared by:	Bridget Gannon
Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary	Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 / s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 / s 47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser: s 47F

Distribution CC List: Simon Atkinson, Richard Windeyer, Pauline Sullivan, Bridget Gannon, s 47F

16 September 2020

Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of personal leave I intend to take from 10 to 18 October 2020.

During this absence I have asked Chief Operating Officer, Ms Rebecca Razavi to act as Commissioner. Ms Razavi has the necessary skills and experience and has previously acted in the Commissioner role.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Yours sincerely

s 47F



Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner

MS20-000420

Ms Rebecca Razavi  
Chief Operating Officer  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
SYDNEY NSW 1230

Dear Ms Razavi

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period Saturday 10 September 2020 to Sunday 18 September 2020, when Ms Inman Grant is absent on personal leave.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided that they are eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. Under section 50 of the Act, I must be satisfied that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant standing, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am satisfied that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2020

MS20-000420

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
SYDNEY NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 16 September 2020 about your intention to take personal leave from 10 to 18 October 2020.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Rebecca Razavi be appointed acting Commissioner for the duration of your leave. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Razavi to this effect.

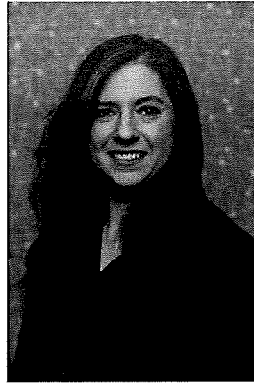
Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is Bridget Gannon, A/g Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 7079.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2020

## Rebecca Razavi Bio



Rebecca Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience with a 20-year career in public and private sector management roles that has taken her to Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia and included more than a decade in senior diplomatic and other roles with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Prior to her current role as Chief Operating Officer at eSafety, Rebecca worked at NSW Treasury as an Executive Director leading the design and development of the NSW Government's Industry, Trade and Investment Strategy. Between 2015 and 2018 she was Executive Director at Ernst & Young, establishing a practice focused on sustainability, corporate reporting, green finance and clean tech. Her leadership roles in the UK's Foreign Office and Home Office included oversight of child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues, including negotiation and design of EU regulation and international cooperation mechanisms.

Rebecca holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford and is also an alumnus of the University of New South Wales with bachelor degrees in Science (Hons) and Arts. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a qualified sustainability reporting specialist.

### Background CV

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#### Education

2017-2019	<i>Executive Masters of Business Administration (Distinction)</i> , Oxford Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, UK
1995-2000	<i>Bachelor of Science (Hons) (First Class)</i> , Environmental Science, University of New South Wales, Sydney
1996-2000	<i>Bachelor of Arts</i> , Political Science (International Relations), University of New South Wales (4 <sup>th</sup> year/Maîtrise completed at University of Aix-Marseille, France).

Strategic Management Program, National University of Singapore Business School (2013)  
Crisis Leadership Training (FCO, 2010, 2014)  
Certified Sustainability Reporting Specialist, NCSR (2017)

**Languages:** Indonesian, French

Nationality: Australian, British

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Work Experience

April-20 - current. Chief Operating Officer, eSafety

s 47F Executive Director, NSW Treasury

s 47F

s 47F Advisor, Trade, Diplomatic Academy, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

s 47F

s 47F Executive Director, Climate Change and Sustainability Practice Leader, EY (Ernst & Young), Indonesia

s 47F

s 47F Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), UK

s 47F Deputy Ambassador and Consul General to Indonesia and Timor-Leste

s 47F

s 47F Deputy Ambassador and Consul General to Sudan

s 47F

s 47F First Secretary, Security, UK Permanent Representation to the EU

s 47F

s 47F First Secretary, Borders and migration, UK Permanent Representation to the EU

s 47F

s 47F Home Office, UK

s 47F Seconded National Expert, European Commission, Brussels

s 47F Head of Spending Review Team, Special Financial Projects, Corporate Affairs

s 47F Private Secretary to the Home Secretary, Home Office

s 47F Senior Management Team, Immigration Directorate, Home Office

s 47F University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia  
Research Assistant

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#### Additional Information

##### *Board Positions and Affiliations:*

Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors (MAICD)

Member of Board of Management, British Chamber of Commerce, Indonesia s 47F

Member of Board of Trustees + Governance Chair, Jakarta Intercultural School s 47F

Advisory Board member, *Common Purpose* South East Asia s 47F

Board of Supervisors, Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation s 47F

Member of Foreign and Commonwealth Office Operations Committee s 47F


Member of Foreign and Commonwealth Office HR Committee s 47F

##### *Other Achievements:*

Recipient of Oxford University Executive MBA Scholarship in association with 30% Club

s 47F

## OFFICIAL

 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS20-000420</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner in July 2020

**Critical Date:** Please action by 5 July 2020 to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign the letter to Ms Razavi at <b>Attachment B</b> appointing her as acting Commissioner between 6 and 10 July 2020</li> <li>2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at <b>Attachment C</b> advising her of the appointment</li> </ol> <p><b>Minister's Signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Date:..../..../ 2020</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint Ms Rebecca Razavi as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away on personal leave from 6 to 10 July 2020.

**Key Issues:**

2. On 9 June 2020, the eSafety Commissioner wrote to you to advise that she intends to take personal leave from 6 to 10 July 2020, and recommended that Ms Rebecca Razavi service as acting eSafety Commissioner during this period (**Attachment A**).
3. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) states that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia so long as that person meets the criteria outlined in Section 50 of the Act.
4. Ms Razavi meets the criteria outlined in Section 50 of the Act. Ms Razavi has knowledge of online safety, including child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues. She also has substantial experience



## OFFICIAL

in public sector management and strategic policy. A draft letter of appointment for Ms Razavi is at **Attachment B**. A draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

### **Background/Issues:**

5. Ms Razavi was employed as Chief Operating Officer at eSafety in April 2020. Prior to her current role, Ms Razavi worked as an Executive Director at the NSW Treasury. Ms Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience in both the public and private sector, and holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford.

6. The eSafety Commissioner has provided a detailed biography of Ms Razavi at **Attachment D**.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

### **Consultation:**

7. eSafety Commissioner, Human Resources Branch (Department).

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner of 9 June 2020.

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Razavi

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Attachment D: Detailed biography of Ms Razavi

Contact Officer:	Bridget Gannon	Cleared by:	Bridget Gannon
Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary	Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 / s 47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser s 47F

Distribution CC List: Simon Atkinson, Richard Windeyer, Pauline Sullivan, Bridget Gannon, s 47F

9 June 2020

Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of personal leave I intend to take from 6 to 10 July 2020.

During this absence I have asked my recently appointed Chief Operating Officer, Ms Rebecca Razavi to act as Commissioner. Ms Razavi has the necessary skills and experience to undertake the role.

I have attached Rebecca's bio for your information.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Yours sincerely

s 47F



Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner

MS20-000420

Ms Rebecca Razavi  
Chief Operating Officer  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Razavi

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period Monday 6 July 2020 to Friday 10 July 2020, when Ms Inman Grant is absent on personal leave.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided that they are eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. Under section 50 of the Act, I must be satisfied that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant standing, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am satisfied that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2020

MS20-000420

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 9 June 2020 about your intention to take personal leave from 6 July to 10 July 2020.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Rebecca Razavi be appointed acting Commissioner for the duration of your leave. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Razavi to this effect.

Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is Bridget Gannon, A/g Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 7079.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2020

## Rebecca Razavi Bio



Rebecca Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience with a 20-year career in public and private sector management roles that has taken her to Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia and included more than a decade in senior diplomatic and other roles with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Prior to her current role as Chief Operating Officer at eSafety, Rebecca worked at NSW Treasury as an Executive Director leading the design and development of the NSW Government's Industry, Trade and Investment Strategy. Between 2015 and 2018 she was Executive Director at Ernst & Young, establishing a practice focused on sustainability, corporate reporting, green finance and clean tech. Her leadership roles in the UK's Foreign Office and Home Office included oversight of child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues, including negotiation and design of EU regulation and international cooperation mechanisms.

Rebecca holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford and is also an alumnus of the University of New South Wales with bachelor degrees in Science (Hons) and Arts. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a qualified sustainability reporting specialist.

### Background CV

---

#### Education

2017-2019	<i>Executive Masters of Business Administration (Distinction)</i> , Oxford Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, UK
1995-2000	<i>Bachelor of Science (Hons) (First Class)</i> , Environmental Science, University of New South Wales, Sydney
1996-2000	<i>Bachelor of Arts</i> , Political Science (International Relations), University of New South Wales (4 <sup>th</sup> year/Maîtrise completed at University of Aix-Marseille, France).

Strategic Management Program, National University of Singapore Business School (2013)  
Crisis Leadership Training (FCO, 2010, 2014)  
Certified Sustainability Reporting Specialist, NCSR (2017)

**Languages:** Indonesian, French

Nationality: Australian, British

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Work Experience

April-20 - current. Chief Operating Officer, eSafety

s 47F [REDACTED] Executive Director, NSW Treasury

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] Advisor, Trade, Diplomatic Academy, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office

s47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] Executive Director, Climate Change and Sustainability Practice Leader, EY (Ernst & Young), Indonesia

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), UK

s 47F [REDACTED] Deputy Ambassador and Consul General to Indonesia and Timor-Leste

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] Deputy Ambassador and Consul General to Sudan

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] First Secretary, Security, UK Permanent Representation to the EU

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] First Secretary, Borders and migration, UK Permanent Representation to the EU

s 47F [REDACTED]

s 47F [REDACTED] Home Office, UK

s 47F [REDACTED] Seconded National Expert, European Commission, Brussels

s 47F [REDACTED] Head of Spending Review Team, Special Financial Projects, Corporate Affairs

s 47F [REDACTED] Private Secretary to the Home Secretary, Home Office

s 47F

Senior Management Team, Immigration Directorate, Home Office

s 47F

University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia

Research Assistant

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#### **Additional Information**

##### *Board Positions and Affiliations:*

Member, Australian Institute of Company Directors (MAICD)

Member of Board of Management, British Chamber of Commerce, Indonesia s 47F

Member of Board of Trustees + Governance Chair, Jakarta Intercultural School s 47F

Advisory Board member, *Common Purpose* South East Asia s 47F

Board of Supervisors, Jakarta Centre for Law Enforcement Cooperation s 47F

Member of Foreign and Commonwealth Office Operations Committee s 47F


Member of Foreign and Commonwealth Office HR Committee s 47F

##### *Other Achievements:*

Recipient of Oxford University Executive MBA Scholarship in association with 30% Club

s 47F

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 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Communications and the Arts</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS19-001167</p>
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**To: Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP**  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner in January 2020

**Critical Date:** Please action by 6 January 2020 to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<b>Recommendations for Minister Fletcher: That you</b>	
1. Sign the letter to Ms Trotter at <b>Attachment B</b> appointing her as acting Commissioner between 7 and 14 January 2020	Signed / Not Signed
2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at <b>Attachment C</b> advising her of the appointment	Signed / Not Signed
<b>Minister's Signature:</b> .....	<b>Date:</b> ...../...../ <b>2019</b>
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint Ms Sharon Trotter as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away from Australia on official business from 7 to 14 January 2020.

### Key Issues:

2. On 11 December 2019, the eSafety Commissioner write to you to advise that she intends to travel to the United States of America to participate in an event co-hosted by the WePROTECT Global Alliance and the UK Home Office (**Attachment A**). The Commissioner will join a 'response and reaction' panel to discuss an anti-grooming algorithm that will be adopted across the tech industry to detect and halt the grooming of children for sexual purposes on any platform that facilitates social interaction.
3. The Commissioner will also attend a session that will focus on Five Eyes/WePROTECT principles. This session will be facilitated by the UK Home Office.



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4. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) states that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia.
5. The Commissioner has proposed that Ms Sharon Trotter serve as acting eSafety Commissioner during the period of 7 to 14 January 2020.
6. The Department does not have any concerns with the proposed acting arrangements. Ms Trotter has substantial experience in, and knowledge of, online safety issues and the work of the eSafety Office. A draft letter of appointment for Ms Trotter is at **Attachment B** and a draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

### Background/Issues:

7. Ms Trotter meets the criteria outlines in subsection 50(2) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* for acting appointments to the role of the Commissioner.
8. Ms Trotter has previously acted in the role of the Commissioner whilst the Commissioner has been on leave.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A.

### Consultation:

9. eSafety Commissioner.

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner of 11 December 2019

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Trotter

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Contact Officer:	s47F	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Assistant Secretary	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932 / s47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932 / s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser s47F

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Mike Makin, James Penprase, s47F  
s47F

11 December 2019

Senator the Hon Paul Fletcher  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of an overseas trip I will be undertaking in January 2020.

I have been asked by Microsoft to participate in an event which is a follow-on session on *Preventing Online Grooming: working together for maximum impact – Part II: Available of Industry Detection Technique*. The event is co-hosted by the WePROTECT Global Alliance and the UK Home Office.

I attended the first *Preventing Child Online Grooming* event in November 2018 in Redmond, Washington. This brought together engineering, policy and legal practitioners to address the issue of online grooming of children.

The meeting will see the launch of the final anti-grooming algorithm that will be adopted across the tech industry to detect and halt the grooming of children for sexual purposes on any platform that facilitates social interaction. I have been asked to join a '*response and reaction*' panel about the technique, which will be moderated by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The afternoon session will focus on Five Eyes/WePROTECT Principles and be facilitated by the UK Home Office.

Not only is this an important milestone but it will be an important opportunity to continue engaging with key global leaders in online safety at this event and in side meetings before and after.

The period that I will be away from Australia on official business, inclusive of travelling time, is Tuesday 7 January 2020 to Tuesday 14 January 2020. The total estimated cost for the trip is \$12,800 which comprises flights, accommodation and travel allowance. The Office has available budget for this trip.

#### **Acting Commissioner Arrangements**

For my absence I have asked Sharon Trotter to act as Commissioner from Tuesday 7 January 2020 to Tuesday 14 January 2020. Ms Trotter has previously acted in the Commissioner role.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Communications and the Arts. If you have any questions regarding this travel, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

s 47F



**Julie Inman Grant**  
eSafety Commissioner

MS19-001167

Ms Sharon Trotter  
Acting General Manager  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Trotter

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period 7 to 14 January 2020, when Ms Inman Grant is absent from Australia on official business.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided I am satisfied that the person is eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. That is, that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant understanding, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am confident that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

MS19-001167

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 11 December 2019 about your intention to travel overseas on official business from 7 to 14 January 2020.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Sharon Trotter be appointed acting Commissioner for the duration of your official business. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Trotter to this effect.


Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is James Penprase, Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 1932.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 20

## OFFICIAL

 <b>Australian Government</b> <b>Department of Communications and the Arts</b>	<b>Ministerial Submission</b> <b>MS19-001122</b>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Revised acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner (December)

**Critical Date:** Please action by 6 December 2019 to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Sign the letter to Ms Trotter at <b>Attachment B</b> appointing her as acting Commissioner between 9 and 15 December  2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at <b>Attachment C</b> advising her of the appointment  <b>Minister's Signature:</b> .....	Signed / Not Signed  Signed / Not Signed    <b>Date:</b> ....../.... / 2019
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint Ms Sharon Trotter as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away from Australia on official business from Monday, 9 December to Sunday, 15 December 2019.

**Key Issues:**

2. The Commissioner has accepted an invitation to sit as the 'Global Expert' on the Policy Board of the WePROTECT Global Alliance, which will meet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 13 December, following the WePROTECT Global Summit held between 11 to 12 December.
3. Whilst in Ethiopia, the Commissioner will also launch and chair a panel on the Global Strategic Response at the summit on behalf of WePROTECT.
4. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) provides that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia.

## OFFICIAL

5. You previously appointed Ms Maria Vassiliadis to act as eSafety Commissioner during the period 9 to 15 December 2019 (MS19-001013). However, in a letter to you of 2 December 2019 (**Attachment A**), the eSafety Commissioner advised that Ms Vassiliadis is now unable to fulfil this commitment, and has proposed that Ms Trotter serve as acting Commissioner for this period.
6. The Department does not have any concerns with the proposed acting arrangements. Ms Trotter is Manager, Youth, Education and Parents, within the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, and is currently acting in the position of Executive Manager during the period of Ms Vassiliadis's absence. Ms Trotter has substantial experience in, and knowledge of, online safety issues and the work of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner.
7. A draft letter of appointment is at **Attachment B** and a draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A.

### **Background/Issues:**

8. Ms Trotter meets the criteria outlines in subsection 50(2) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* for acting appointments to the role of the Commissioner.
9. Ms Trotter has previously acted in the role of the Commissioner whilst the Commissioner has been on leave.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

### **Consultation:**

10. eSafety Commissioner

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner of 2 December 2019

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Trotter

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Contact Officer:	James Penprase	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Assistant Secretary	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932 / s47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932 / s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser s47F

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Mike Makin, James Penprase, s47F  
s47F s 47F

2 December 2019

Senator the Hon Paul Fletcher  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of changes to acting arrangements whilst I travel to Ethiopia in December 2019.

As you are aware I have been invited to attend the WePROTECT Global Alliance and to sit as the 'Global Expert' on their Policy Board. The first board meeting is to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 13 December, following the WePROTECT Global Summit which has been scheduled on 11-12 December.

The period that I will be away from Australia on official business, inclusive of travelling time, is Monday 9 December to Sunday 15 December 2019.

**Acting Commissioner Arrangements**

Previously I advised that Ms Maria Vassiliadis would act as Commissioner during this period, which you approved in a letter dated 29 October 2019. Unfortunately, Ms Vassiliadis is now unable to fulfil this commitment, so I have asked Ms Sharon Trotter to act as Commissioner for this period. Ms Trotter has previously acted in my role and has substantial experience in, and knowledge of, online safety issues and the work of the eSafety Office.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Communications and the Arts.

If you have any questions regarding these changes, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

s 47F



Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner

MS19-001122

Ms Sharon Trotter  
Acting General Manager  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Trotter

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period from Monday 9 December to Sunday 15 December 2019, when Ms Inman Grant will be absent from Australia on official business.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided I am satisfied that the person is eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. That is, that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant understanding, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am confident that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019



MS19-001122

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 2 December 2019 about your intention to travel overseas on official business from 9 to 15 December 2019.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Sharon Trotter be appointed acting Commissioner for the duration of your official business. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Trotter to this effect.


Should you wish to discuss this matter further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is James Penprase, Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 1932.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

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 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Communications and the Arts</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS19-001013</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner

**Critical Date:** Please action by 1 November 2019 to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign the letter to Ms Vassiliadis at <b>Attachment B</b> appointing her as acting Commissioner between 4 and 8 November 2019 and between 9 and to 13 December</li> <li>2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at <b>Attachment C</b> advising her of the appointment</li> </ol> <p><b>Minister's Signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p><b>Date:</b>....../....../ 2019</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint Ms Maria Vassiliadis as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away from Australia on official business from Monday 4 November to Friday 8 November 2019, and from Monday 9 December to Friday 13 December 2019 (**Attachment A**).

**Key Issues:**

2. The Commissioner will travel to Boston, United States of America to attend the OECD Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocol (VTRP) workshop as a keynote speaker at the event from 6 to 7 November 2019. The Commissioner has also accepted an invitation as a 'Global Expert' to sit on the Policy Board of the WePROTECT Global Alliance, which will meet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 13 December, following the WePROTECT Global Summit held between 11 and 12 December.

3. Whilst in Ethiopia, the Commissioner will also launch and chair a panel on the Global Strategic Response at the summit on behalf of WePROTECT.

## For Official Use Only

4. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) states that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia.

5. The Commissioner has proposed that Ms Maria Vassiliadis serve as acting eSafety Commissioner during the period of 4 November to 8 November 2019 and during the period of 9 December to 13 December 2019.

6. The Department does not have any concerns with the proposed acting arrangements. Ms Vassiliadis has substantial experience in, and knowledge of, online safety issues and the work of the eSafety Office. A draft letter of appointment is at **Attachment B** and a draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

### Background/Issues:

7. Ms Maria Vassiliadis meets the criteria outlines in subsection 50(2) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* for acting appointments to the role of the Commissioner.

8. Ms Vassiliadis is Executive Manager at the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. She has previously acted in the role of the Commissioner whilst former Commissioner, Mr Alastair MacGibbon, and the current Commissioner have been on leave.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

**Consultation:** eSafety Commissioner

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Maria Vassiliadis

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Contact Officer: James Penprase

Position: Assistant Secretary

Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety

Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 1932 / s47F

Cleared by:

James Penprase

Position:

Assistant Secretary

Branch

Digital Platforms & Online Safety

Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 1932 / s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Advisor: s47F

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Mike Makin, James Penprase, s47F

s47F s 47F

17 October 2019

Senator the Hon Paul Fletcher  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of two upcoming overseas trips I will be undertaking before the end of 2019.

OECD VTRP Workshop – November 2019

I have been asked by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet (PM&C) to be the keynote speaker at the OECD Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocol (VTRP) workshop being held in Boston, Massachusetts, USA on 6 and 7 November 2019.

In July 2019, the OECD Committee on Digital Economic Policy (CDEP) agreed to support Australia's proposal for the CDEP to take forward the development of a Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocol (VTRP). The Prime Minister agreed to provide a voluntary contribution to commence work on a four-phased programme of work, culminating in the development of the VTRP. eSafety were initially invited to attend the Expert Workshop that was planned to kick-start the process, as one of 60 experts from around the globe. Shortly after receiving the invitation from OECD, colleagues from PM&C asked whether I would be willing to provide the keynote address at the Expert Workshop. The work on the OECD VTRP is expected to assist in the achievement of the various calls to action in the 2019 G7 Digital Ministers Chair's Summary, the 2019 G20 Leaders' Statement on Preventing Exploitation of the Internet for Terrorism and Violence Extremism Conducive to Terrorism, and the Christchurch Call. Additionally, it complements the ongoing work on the domestic front and goes to implementing recommendations from the Australian Taskforce to Combat Terrorist and Extreme Violent Material Online.

The period that I will be away from Australia on official business, inclusive of travelling time, is Monday 4 November to Saturday 9 November 2019.

The Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet will pay for my flights so the total estimated cost to eSafety for the trip is \$3,000 which comprises accommodation in Boston and travel allowance. The Office has available budget for this trip. There is no personal travel involved.

Global Online Child Sexual Exploitation (OCSE) Summit

In July 2019, I accepted the invitation extended to me by the WePROTECT Global Alliance to sit as the 'Global Expert' on their Policy Board. The first board meeting is to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 13 December, following the WePROTECT Global Summit which has been scheduled on 11-12 December.

On 10<sup>th</sup> October, I was invited to launch and chair a panel on the Global Strategic Response at the summit on behalf of WePROTECT. The Strategic Response is scheduled to be launched on day two of the Summit.

As has been expressed previously, having a representative on the policy board of this global initiative provides Australia with a tremendous leadership opportunity, as well as a unique chance to contribute and help shape the work of the Alliance moving forward. I am committed to working closely with key partners here in Australia, and will inform colleagues at Home Affairs, the AFP and ACCCE Board about my involvement in the summit, and to share the proposed agenda.

I have been informed that the UK Home Secretary will attend the summit, and as such, that there is hope that other Ministers from across the globe will also attend. Again, I will work with Home Affairs to better understand what the delegation to Ethiopia will look like, and will ensure that you are kept abreast of developments as they occur.

The period that I will be away from Australia on official business, inclusive of travelling time, is Monday 9 December to Sunday 15 December 2019.

The total estimated cost for the trip is \$9,300 which comprises flights, accommodation in Addis Ababa and travel allowance. The Office has available budget for this trip. There is no personal travel involved.

#### Acting Commissioner Arrangements

For my absence I have asked Maria Vassiliadis to act as Commissioner from Monday 4 November to Friday 8 November 2019 and Monday 9 December to Friday 13 December 2019.

Yours sincerely

s 47F



Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner

MS19-001013

Ms Maria Vassiliadis  
Executive Manager  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Vassiliadis

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period from Monday 4 November to Friday 8 November, and the period from Monday 9 December to Friday 13 December 2019, when Ms Inman Grant will be absent from Australia on official business.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided I am satisfied that the person is eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. That is, that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant understanding, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am confident that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is absent from Australia.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

*MS19-001013*

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 17 October 2019 about your intention to travel overseas on official business from 4 November to 8 November 2019, and from 9 December to 13 December 2019.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Maris Vassiliadis be appointed acting Commissioner for the duration of your official business. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Vassiliadis to this effect.


Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is James Penprase, Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 1932.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

## OFFICIAL

 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Communications and the Arts</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS19-000927</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** Information Brief – Recent eSafety Programs

**Critical Date:** Routine

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information provided in this Brief</p> <p><b>Minister's Signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p> <p><b>Date:</b>.../.../ 2019</p>
<p><b>Minister's Comments</b></p>	<p><b>Quality Rating</b></p>
	<p>1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent</p>

**Purpose:**

1. You requested an update on the implementation of recent eSafety program commitments, encompassing the Online Safety Grants Program, the Early Years Program and two online safety measures included under the Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children 2010-2022 (the Fourth Action Plan).

**Key Issues:**

2. The **Online Safety Grants Program** will enable Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to apply for grant funding to deliver projects to improve the online safety of Australian children. Funding of \$2.25 million will be available over the four years from 2019-20 to 2022-23. Grant opportunities are expected to be targeted at education initiatives, assistance for parents and community and frontline support groups, and the online safety needs of vulnerable communities.

s47C



## OFFICIAL

4. The **Early Years Online Safety Program** will provide eSafety with an additional \$2.5 million over two years (commencing 2018-19) to develop and roll out competency-based training for early childhood educators to ensure they have the online safety skills and knowledge necessary to support the youngest Australians. eSafety will also develop targeted resources and information for parents and carers of children in the 0 to 5 years cohort and distribute through childcare centres and other early learning settings.

5. eSafety has consulted with key stakeholders and gathered evidence from focus groups with families and early educators to scope the program. eSafety is also working closely with experts in this space, including professor Susan Edwards, Director of Early Childhood Futures at Australian Catholic University, to ensure the resources are practical, relevant and engaging. Resources will be rolled out in 2020, with hard copy information packs for parents and carers delivered to early learning centres in early 2020, followed by online professional learning modules for early childhood educators being developed in collaboration with Early Childhood Australia. eSafety is also collaborating with ABC Children and the makers of PlaySchool on a special episode exploring online safety. eSafety is also scoping a range of other resources, such as play-based activities for early learning centres.

6. There were two specific online safety measures included in the 2019-20 Budget as part of the **Fourth Action Plan (2019 22) to reduce violence against women and their children**. Funding for these measures is also part of Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2019-20. The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources** program will provide \$2.5 million over three years (commencing 2019-20) for eSafety to co-develop and roll out a program of resources and training to frontline workers, to equip them with the tools they need to protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children from technology-facilitated abuse. The eSafety program will be developed and delivered in partnership with identified Aboriginal-owned and staff-support organisations to ensure resources are culturally appropriate for frontline workers and fit for purpose. Detailed project scoping is underway, including the recruitment of a dedicated project officer. The program will be delivered in phases to 2022.

7. The **Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources for Women with Intellectual Disability Program** will provide \$1.5 million over three years (commencing in 2019-20) for accessible and targeted resources and training for specialist frontline workers, to help women with intellectual disabilities identify, report and protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse. This program will be developed in collaboration with the disability sector and include an audit of existing resources as well as the development of new resources to support frontline workers. The program will be delivered in phases to 2022.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

**Background/Issues:** N/A

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

**Consultation:** Office of the eSafety Commissioner.


Contact Officer:	s47F	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Director	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1429 / s47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932 / s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Responsible Adviser: s47F

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Mike Makin, James Penprase, s47F

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 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Communications and the Arts</p>	<p><b>Ministerial Submission</b> MS19-000821</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for decision)

**Subject:** Acting arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner

**Critical Date:** Please action by 18 September 2019 to allow acting arrangements to be confirmed.

**Recommendations for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sign the letter <b>s47F</b> at <b>Attachment B</b> appointing her as acting Commissioner between 22 September and 4 October 2019.</li> <li>2. Sign the letter to Ms Inman Grant at <b>Attachment C</b> advising her of the appointment.</li> </ol> <p><b>Minister's Signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p>Signed / Not Signed</p> <p><b>Date:</b>.../.../ 2019</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose:**

1. For you to appoint **s47F** as acting eSafety Commissioner while the current Commissioner is away from Australia on official business.

**Key Issues:**

2. The eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner), Ms Julie Inman Grant, has written to you advising that she will be away from Australia on official business from 22 September to 4 October 2019 (**Attachment A**).
3. The Commissioner will travel to the United States to meet with social media and gaming companies regarding Safety by Design, and attend the International Telecommunication Union/United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation Broadband Commission report launch at the UN Headquarters in New York.
4. Paragraph 52(1)(b) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) states that you may appoint a person to act as the Commissioner during any period when the Commissioner is absent from duty or from Australia.
5. The Commissioner has proposed that **s47F** serve as acting eSafety Commissioner during the period from Sunday 22 September to Friday 4 October 2019.

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6. The Department does not have any concerns with the proposed acting arrangements. s47F has substantial experience and knowledge and significant standing in the fields of public engagement on issues relating to online safety. A draft letter of appointment for s47F is at **Attachment B**, and a draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

### Background/Issues:

7. s47F meets the criteria outlined in subsection 50(2) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) for an acting appointment to the role of Commissioner. She has over 20 years' experience in the child protection and human services sector, in both Commonwealth and state government agencies. As a Director at the Commonwealth Ombudsman she was responsible for oversight of complaints, systemic issues and decisions relating to matters of public administration in the Communications portfolio.

8. Most recently s47F was General Manager at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse which included managing stakeholder engagement and overseeing key volumes of the final report, including those relating to child safety and online safety issues. s47F has a deep understanding of the risks associated with the online environment and sits on numerous senior official working groups focused on these issues. s47F is currently the Executive Manager at the Office of the eSafety Commissioner responsible for education, prevention and programs aimed at addressing online safety issues across the Australian community. She has previously acted in the role of Commissioner.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

### Consultation:

9. eSafety Commissioner

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to s 47F

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Contact Officer:	s47F	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Director	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1429/s47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 1932/s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Carolyn Patteson, James Penprase, s47F  
s 47F



22 August 2019

**Senator the Hon Paul Fletcher**  
**Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts**  
**Parliament House**  
**CANBERRA ACT 2600**

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of an upcoming overseas trip I will be undertaking from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

#### **Travel Purpose**

During the course of eSafety's consultation process for Safety by Design (SbD), a number of social media and gaming companies extended an invitation for eSafety to visit their Headquarters in the United States to meet with their global policy teams and safety leads. This invaluable opportunity will allow eSafety to undertake in-depth examination of their safety processes and procedures with their technical and engineering teams, allow me to discuss our SbD principles in person and seek further commitment by them to support SbD principles. This opportunity will also allow eSafety to develop robust and evidence-based guidance, resources and templates for the next phase of the SbD initiative.

I will then be attending the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission's report launch, taking place at the UN Headquarters in New York. The invitation to this event was extended to me by the President and CEO of the World Childhood Organisation and Commissioner of the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Sustainable Development. Attendance at this event will proffer a unique opportunity for me to promote the work of eSafety and Australia's leadership in online safety issues, and to connect with global experts and share our best practice initiatives, particularly relating to SbD. I will also capitalise on being in New York by having meetings with a number of organisations based there to advance both SbD and eSafety's work on child sexual exploitation and abuse.

### Travel details

The period that I will be away from Australia on official business, inclusive of travelling time, is Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

The total estimated cost for the trip is \$20,500 which comprises flights, accommodation and travel allowance. The Office has available budget for this trip. There is no personal travel involved.

### Acting Commissioner Arrangements

For my absence I have asked **s47F** to act as Commissioner from Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 to Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Communications and the Arts. If you have any questions regarding this travel, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

**s 47F**

**Julie Inman-Grant**  
eSafety Commissioner

MS19-000821

s47F

Executive Manager  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear s47F

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period Sunday 22 September to Friday 4 October 2019, when Ms Inman Grant will be absent from Australia on official business.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided I am satisfied that the person is eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. That is, that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant understanding, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am confident that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

MS19-000821

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO BOX Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 22 August 2019 about your intention to travel overseas on official business from 22 September to 4 October 2019.

In your letter you recommended that s47F be appointed as acting Commissioner for the duration of your personal leave. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to s47F to this effect.

Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is James Penprase, Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 1932.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019





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4. The Department does not have any concerns with the proposed acting arrangements. Ms Vassiliadis and has substantial experience and knowledge, and significant standing in the field of public engagement on issues relating to online safety. A draft letter of appointment for Ms Vassiliadis is at **Attachment B**, and a draft letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment is at **Attachment C**.

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Financial Implications:** N/A

### Background/Issues:

5. Ms Vassiliadis meets the criteria outlined in subsection 50(2) of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act) for an acting appointment to the role of Commissioner.

6. Ms Vassiliadis is Executive Manager at the Office of the eSafety Commissioner. She has previously acted in the role of the Commissioner whilst former Commissioner, Mr Alastair MacGibbon, and the current Commissioner, have been on leave.

**Communication/Media Activities:** N/A

### Consultation:

7. eSafety Commissioner

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Letter from the eSafety Commissioner

Attachment B: Letter of appointment (acting) to Ms Maria Vassiliadis

Attachment C: Letter to Ms Inman Grant advising her of the appointment

Contact Officer: James Penprase  
Position: Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 1932/s47F

Cleared by: Carolyn Patteson  
Position: First Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Content  
Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 1418/s47F

Instructions for MAPS: Nil

Distribution CC List: Mike Mrdak, Richard Eccles, Richard Windeyer, Carolyn Patteson



24 June 2019

Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

I would like to inform you of personal leave I intend to take from 8 to 12 July 2019. During this absence I have asked Maria Vassiliadis to act as Commissioner.

A separate letter requesting this will be provided to you by the Department of Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts.

Yours sincerely

s 47F

Julie Inman-Grant  
eSafety Commissioner

MS19-000587

Ms Maria Vassiliadis  
Executive Manager  
Office of the eSafety Commissioner  
PO Box Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Vassiliadis

I am writing to appoint you, under section 52 of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* (the Act), to act as the eSafety Commissioner (the Commissioner) during the period 8 to 12 July 2019, when Ms Inman Grant is on personal leave.

Under subsection 52(2) of the Act, when appointing a person to act as the Commissioner during her absence, I may appoint the person provided I am satisfied that the person is eligible for appointment as the Commissioner. That is, that the proposed person has substantial experience or knowledge, and significant understanding, in at least one of the following fields:

- the operation of social media services;
- the operation of the internet industry;
- public engagement on issues relating to online safety;
- public policy in relation to the communications sector; or
- child welfare or child wellbeing.

I am confident that your skills and experience will enable you to act in the position of the eSafety Commissioner while Ms Inman Grant is on leave.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

MS19-000587

Ms Julie Inman Grant  
eSafety Commissioner  
PO Box Q500  
Queen Victoria Building  
Sydney NSW 1230

Dear Ms Inman Grant

I am writing in response to your letter dated 24 June 2019 about your intention to take personal leave from 8 to 12 July 2019.

In your letter you recommended that Ms Maria Vassiliadis be appointed as acting Commissioner for the duration of your personal leave. I agree to this acting arrangement and have written to Ms Vassiliadis to this effect.


Should you wish to discuss these matters further, the relevant contact officer within the Department is James Penprase, Assistant Secretary, Digital Platforms & Online Safety, who can be contacted on 02 6271 1932.

Yours sincerely

Paul Fletcher

/ / 2019

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000418
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
 (for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.     <b>Minister's signature:</b> .....	Noted / Please Discuss     <b>Date:</b> ...../...../ 2020
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. Your regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, is an opportunity to discuss legislative reform and other online safety issues. Following your last meeting with the Commissioner you requested that an official from the Department attend future meetings. Mr Richard Windeyer, Deputy Secretary Communications and Media, will attend in this capacity.

s22

PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

s 22

*House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs – Family, domestic and sexual violence*

7. The House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs is conducting an inquiry into and family, domestic and sexual violence, with a view to report to Government by March 2021. The terms of reference for this inquiry includes “coercive control and technology-facilitated abuse”. The eSafety Commissioner has appeared before the Committee twice (8 September and 17 November), and was asked by the Committee to provide a “shopping list” of recommendations to Government for the powers that the Commissioner believes are necessary to enable her to do her job more effectively. We have asked eSafety to provide a copy of this list to the Department before providing to the Committee. s 47C

s 47C

s47C

**Departmental Funding:** N/A

s 22

**Attached Biographical Details:** See Attachment C.

**Background:** N/A

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: eSafety Commissioner’s advice on the fake tweet of Australian soldier

Attachment B: Letter from Twitter to the Prime Minister on the fake tweet of Australian soldier

Attachment C: Biographies of Julie Inman Grant and Rebecca Razavi

Contact Officer:	s 47F	Cleared by:	Bridget Gannon
Position:	Director	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 s 47F

**TALKING POINTS**

s 22




s 22



*House Standing Committee on Social Policy and Legal Affairs – Family, domestic and sexual violence*

- I appreciate your continuing efforts to advocate for women exposed to technology facilitated domestic, family and sexual violence.
- I am aware that the Committee has asked you to provide recommendations to Government for the powers that you believe are necessary to enable you to do your job more effectively.
- I would appreciate you providing an advance copy of your recommendations to the Department.

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000368
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
 (for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, 3 November 2020.

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.     Minister's signature:.....	Noted / Please Discuss     Date:...../...../ 2020
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. Your regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, is an opportunity to discuss a range of online safety issues and legislative reform.

s 22

s 47C



## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

### Department Funding:

*Funding for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner*

5. On Budget night, the Government announced additional funding to eSafety of \$39.4 million over three years. Although the Cabinet did not agree to the Technology Safety Centre proposal, it did note the importance of the activities to be undertaken by the Centre. Cabinet therefore asked that eSafety deliver these activities as part of the additional \$39.4 million in funding.

s 47C

s 22

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Consultation:** N/A

**Attached Biographical Details:** See Attachment A

**Background:** N/A

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Biographies of Julie Inman Grant and Rebecca Razavi

Contact Officer: s 47F  
Position: Director  
Branch: Digital Platforms and Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s 47F

Cleared by: Bridget Gannon  
Position: Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms and Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s 47F

**TALKING POINTS**

s 22

*eSafety Governance*


- Cabinet signed off on my proposal to deliver improvements to the current governance arrangements where your staff remain employed by ACMA.
- Your staff are working productively with my Department on the development of these arrangements.
- Thank you for these efforts.

*Funding for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner*

- The Cabinet has agreed to provide your office with a funding boost of \$39.4 million over three years.
- This was a significant achievement given the current fiscal environment.
- I look forward to receiving a response to my letter about this funding and how you will deliver the important activities agreed by the Cabinet.

s 22

- Thank you for the assistance of your agency in developing the response.

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Biography</b> Attachment A
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**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner

**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017.

Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe. Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.



**Name:**

Ms Rebecca Razavi

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner

**Biography:**

Ms Razavi is eSafety's Chief Operating Officer.


Ms Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience with a 20-year career in public and private sector management roles that has taken her to Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia and included more than a decade in senior diplomatic and other roles with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Ms Razavi's most recent role was at NSW Treasury as an Executive Director leading the design and development of the NSW Government's Industry, Trade and Investment Strategy. Between 2015 and 2018 she was Executive Director at Ernst & Young, establishing a practice focused on sustainability, corporate reporting, green finance and clean tech. Her leadership roles in the UK's Foreign Office and Home Office included oversight of child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues, including negotiation and design of EU regulation and international cooperation mechanisms.

Ms Razavi holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford and is also an alumnus of the University of New South Wales with bachelor degrees in Science (Hons) and Arts. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a qualified sustainability reporting specialist.



PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <div>Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</div>	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000359
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.	Noted / Please Discuss
Minister's signature:.....	Date:...../...../ 2020
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

s 34(3)

s47C

s 47C

s 22

*Be Connected Program*

9. On 27 August, ERC agreed to extend the Be Connected program for four years as part of the 2020-21 Department of Social Services Portfolio Budget Submission, which was fully offset. This measure provides eSafety with approximately \$16 million in administered funding over four years to continue creating and hosting online tools and resources to support digital literacy for older Australians.

s 22

**Department Funding:** N/A

s 22

**Consultation:** N/A

**Attached Biographical Details:** See Attachment A

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Biographies of Julie Inman Grant and Rebecca Razavi

Attachment B: Open letter to the Attorney-General on online racism

Contact Officer: s 47F  
Position: Director  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s 47F

Cleared by: Bridget Gannon  
Position: Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 7079 / s 47F

MB20-000359


**TALKING POINTS**

s34(3)



s 22



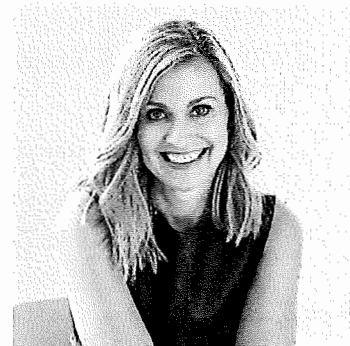
 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Biography</b> Attachment A
---	----------------------------------

**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner



**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017.

Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe. Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.

**Name:**

Ms Rebecca Razavi

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner



**Biography:**

Ms Razavi is eSafety's Chief Operating Officer.


Ms Razavi has extensive management and strategic policy experience with a 20-year career in public and private sector management roles that has taken her to Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia and included more than a decade in senior diplomatic and other roles with the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Ms Razavi's most recent role was at NSW Treasury as an Executive Director leading the design and development of the NSW Government's Industry, Trade and Investment Strategy. Between 2015 and 2018 she was Executive Director at Ernst & Young, establishing a practice focused on sustainability, corporate reporting, green finance and clean tech. Her leadership roles in the UK's Foreign Office and Home Office included oversight of child protection, privacy and transnational crime issues, including negotiation and design of EU regulation and international cooperation mechanisms.

Ms Razavi holds an Executive MBA from the University of Oxford and is also an alumnus of the University of New South Wales with bachelor degrees in Science (Hons) and Arts. She is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is a qualified sustainability reporting specialist.



## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000249
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
 (for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.   Minister's signature:.....	Noted / Please Discuss   Date:...../...../ 2020
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

s34(3)

3. Ms Inman Grant is likely to raise the progress of the online safety reform package. In recent weeks, eSafety has approached your office and the Department with a number of proposed changes to the package of NPPs, the policy framework and the proposal for base funding. s47C

s47C

s34(3)

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

5. The Department is also seeking further information from eSafety to develop advice for you about their requests to modify or develop new proposals. This advice will be provided to you in the week commencing 27 July.

*Other matters*

s 22

7. Ms Inman Grant may wish to discuss the future of the Be Connected program, which is delivered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) in partnership with the eSafety Commissioner. The program, which provides resources to improve the digital literacy of older Australians, terminates in 2020-21. We have been informed by DSS that it will seek funding to continue this program for an additional four years and we will be consulted throughout the development of their proposal.

s 22

### Department Funding:

9. On 28 June 2020, eSafety received an additional \$10 million in surge funding in 2020-21. This funding boost brings eSafety's funding through decisions to \$31.406 million in 2020-21.

### Sensitivities:

10. Changes to Australia's online safety legislative framework will have a significant impact on the eSafety Commissioner. These changes will require additional resourcing and support which are being considered in the context of the 2020-21 Budget process.

**Consultation:** N/A

**Attached Biographical Details:** See Attachment A

**Background:** N/A

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Biography of Ms Inman Grant

Contact Officer:	s 47F	Cleared by:	Bridget Gannon
Position:	Director	Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	02 6271 7079 s 47F

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

### TALKING POINTS

#### *Online safety legislative reform*

- Thank you for your active engagement in the online safety reform process.

s34(3)


- The updated version of the package will, at the very least, need to change to reflect the COVID-19 Online Safety Measures Package which I announced on 28 June.
- My priorities are to seek policy authority to commence the drafting of a new online safety Act, to secure sustainable base funding for eSafety s47C
- I thank you for the support your staff are providing to update the proposals and to strengthen the case for my funding proposals.

s 22

#### *Be Connected program*

- The Department of Social Services has informed my Department that it will be seeking further funding for the eSafety Commissioner to continue this valuable program.

s 22

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Biography</b> Attachment A
---	----------------------------------

**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner


**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017.



Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe. Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <p><b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</p>	<p><b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000240</p>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information contained in this Brief.</p> <p>Minister's signature:.....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p> <p>Date:...../...../ 2020</p>
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	<p>1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent</p>

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. Your regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, provides you with an opportunity to discuss the outcome of the COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure.

**Main Issues and Expected Outcomes:**

*Outcome of the COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure and progressing longer-term reform*

2. The additional \$10 million in surge funding for the eSafety Commissioner in 2020-21 is expected to be announced on Sunday 28 June. This funding will enable eSafety to continue its existing work and to establish a new 24/7 crisis response capability to respond rapidly to terrorist and extreme violent material online. s47C

s47C

s34(3)

*Be Connected program*

5. The eSafety Commissioner will likely raise with you the future of the Be Connected program. On 21 January 2020, you announced an additional \$9.3 million to extend the program for an additional

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

12 months (ending 30 June 2021). DSS have recently received a draft evaluation report for the program conducted by Swinburne University which is highly supportive of the program and recommends its expansion. The program is delivered by the Department of Social Services (DSS) in partnership with the eSafety Commissioner. You recently met with s 47F National Director of the Good Things Foundation, who manages the network of community organisations that deliver digital literacy training under the program (MB20-000205 refers).

s 47C

s22

s 22

### *Other matters*

s 22

9. The eSafety Commissioner has advised that she will be taking personal leave from 6 to 10 July 2020. The Department has recommended (MS20-000420) you approve arrangements for eSafety's Chief Operating Officer, Ms Rebecca Razavi, to act as eSafety Commissioner in Ms Inman Grant's absence.

s47C

**Sensitivities:** N/A

**Consultation:** N/A

**Background:** N/A

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Biography of Ms Julie Inman Grant

Contact Officer: s 47F  
Position: Director  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s 47F

Cleared by: Bridget Gannon  
Position: A/g Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 7079 / s 47F

## PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

### TALKING POINTS

#### *COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure - \$10 Million Surge Funding*

- I am pleased that the Government has secured a \$10 million funding boost for your office for 2020-21. This boost will ensure that you are able to increase your investigations of content and provide Australians with new resources to stay safe online.
- The funding will also support your ability to respond rapidly to terrorist and extreme violent material online. I am interested in hearing about your Office's progress in establishing this capability in future meetings.

s 34(3)



#### *Be Connected program*


- The Department of Social Services has been in discussions with my Department about the future of the Be Connected program. DSS is working with Swinburne University to finalise an evaluation of the program, which will then be provided for consideration to my colleague, Senator the Hon Anne Rushton, Minister for Families and Social Services.
- I understand that the draft evaluation report is highly supportive of the program and recommends its expansion.

s 47C



s 22



 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Biography</b> Attachment C
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**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner

**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017.



Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe. Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.



**PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet**



**Australian Government**

**Department of Infrastructure, Transport,  
Regional Development and Communications**

**Meeting Brief**  
MB20-000155

**To: Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP**  
(for information)

**Subject:** Regular meeting with eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information contained in this Brief.</p>    <p><b>Minister's signature:</b> .....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p>    <p><b>Date:</b>...../...../ 2020</p>
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. Your regular meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, provides an opportunity to talk about the status of the COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measures Package and the longer term online safety legislative reform and research agendas.

### Main Issues and Expected Outcomes:

### COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measures

2. A revised submission was provided to you on 30 April (MS20-000311). The Department worked closely with eSafety to develop the revised proposals and costings.

s 47C

s47C

s34(3)

## PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet

*Online safety legislative reform*

s34(3)

s 22

*Online Harms Working Group*

10. eSafety hosted a meeting to explore online harms on 29 April with key industry, government, non-government and academic stakeholders. Participants discussed defining and setting parameters on what constitutes 'seriously harmful material'. Industry participants included Google, Facebook, Optus, DIGI and the Communications Alliance. The Department and eSafety will use the information gained during the meeting to inform the development of the Government's online safety reforms.

### **Department Funding:**

11. See **Attachment B** for Online Safety Research Program funding.

### **Sensitivities:**

12. Refer to points 4 and 5 above.

### **Consultation:**

13. N/A

### **Background:**

14. N/A

### **Attachments:**

Attachment A: Meeting Agenda

Attachment B: Online Safety Research Program funding

Attachment C: Biographies

Contact Officer: s47F

Position: A/g Director

Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety

Phone s47F

Cleared by: Bridget Gannon

Position: A/g Assistant Secretary

Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety

Phone/Mobile: 02 6271 7079 / s47F

## PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet

### TALKING POINTS

#### *COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measures*

- Your Office has demonstrated resilience and flexibility in responding to the increase in demand for eSafety's services during the COVID-19 crisis.
- I appreciate the significant demands on eSafety's investigative teams and resources and the need to boost eSafety's capacity to respond to this demand.
- I thank your Office for its close collaboration with the Department in progressing the proposal to Cabinet on the COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measures, especially on options for cost adjustments.
- Despite the difficult fiscal environment, I am committed to ensuring that eSafety is equipped to perform its role during the COVID-19 crisis and beyond.
- I am interested in hearing the mitigation options that eSafety might consider in the situation of resource funding not being able to be secured immediately.

s 22

#### *Online Harms Working Group*

- I hear that eSafety held a meeting to explore online harms with key industry, government, non-government and academic stakeholders last week.
- I recommend continued engagement with these stakeholders as we progress the online safety legislative reforms.


s 22

**Meeting Agenda**

Monthly meeting with Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner  
5 May 2020

Item	Topic
s34(3)	
2	<b>Longer term initiatives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Online safety legislative reform</li><li>- Online safety research program</li><li>- Update on Online Harms Working Group</li></ul>

**PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet**

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000130
---	-------------------------------------

**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
 (for information)

**Subject:** Meeting with Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief     Minister's signature:.....	Noted / Please Discuss     Date:...../...../ 2020
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. You are meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, for your monthly meeting.

**Main Issues and Expected Outcomes:**

2. Due to the deferral of Budget until October 2020, you will not be able to seek additional funding for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) at this time. There may be scope for consideration of the legislative reform proposals as online safety reform was scheduled for consideration by Cabinet on 21 April. However, it is unclear whether this schedule will be adhered to given the evolving COVID-19 crisis. s47

s47C

s 47C

s 22

5. eSafety launched its blocking protocol for websites hosting terrorist or extreme violent material on 24 March. The protocol was developed by eSafety and the Communications Alliance, and sets out the

## PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet

arrangements for ISPs to block websites hosting terrorist or extreme violent material during an online crisis event following a direction from eSafety.

s22

### Department Funding:

7. See **Attachment B** for Online Safety Research Program funding.

### Sensitivities:

8. N/A

### Consultation:

9. N/A

### Background:

10. N/A

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Biography

Attachment B: Online Safety Research Program funding

Contact Officer: s 47F  
Position: Director  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s 47F

Cleared by: James Penprase  
Position: Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: (02) 6271 1932 / s 47F

## PROTECTED: Sensitive Cabinet


### TALKING POINTS

- The work of eSafety remains more important than ever as Australians increasingly depend on the online environment during this current crisis.
- While current circumstances have delayed online safety reform, they also provide an opportunity to further refine our proposals to Cabinet.
- I am keenly aware that the proposals for reform to strengthen and broaden your role cannot occur without consideration of additional funding for your agency.
- I and my Department remain committed to working with your Office on the reforms and will keep you informed on any updates.
- I would like to hear your thoughts on how the COVID-19 crisis will impact the operations of eSafety and how the Department can support eSafety during this challenging time.

s 22

#### *Launch of blocking protocol for websites hosting terrorist or extreme violent material*

- I commend eSafety on the launch of the blocking protocol for websites hosting terrorist or extreme violent material.
- The development of the protocol is a testament to eSafety's strong relationship with the Communications Alliance and ISPs, and will help the Government respond rapidly and effectively to future online crisis events.
- I will continue to progress the proposal for a clear and unambiguous content blocking power for eSafety as part of the proposed Online Safety Act.

 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications	<b>Biography</b> Attachment A
---	----------------------------------

**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner



**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017. Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe.


Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.

**Sensitivities:**

Changes to Australia's online safety framework will have a major impact on the eSafety Commissioner. These changes will require additional resourcing and support, which is currently made uncertain due to the Government's priority response to the COVID-19 crisis.



PROTECTED Sensitive: Cabinet

 <div>Australian Government Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications</div>	<b>Meeting Brief</b> MB20-000100
---	-------------------------------------

**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** Meeting with Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.	Noted / Please Discuss
Minister's signature:.....	Date:...../...../ 2020
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. You are meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, for your monthly meeting.



6. Safer Internet Day – the eSafety Commissioner may wish to discuss the success of the Safer Internet Day event that the Commissioner hosted at Parliament House on 11 February.

**Department Funding:**

7. See **Attachment B** for details on online safety funding arrangements.

**Sensitivities:**

8. Changes to Australia's online safety framework will have a major impact on the eSafety Commissioner. These changes will require additional resourcing and support which will be considered in the context of the 2020-21 Budget process. The Department has been and will continue to work closely with eSafety in the development of these proposals.

**Consultation:** N/A

**Attached Biographical Details:** N/A

**Background:**

9. Consultation on the new Online Safety Act closed on 19 February. 86 submissions were received in response to the proposals outlined in the Online Safety Legislative Reform Discussion Paper.

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Biography

Attachment B: Online Safety Funding Arrangements

Contact Officer: s47F  
Position: Director  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: s47F


Cleared by: James Penprase  
Position: Assistant Secretary  
Branch: Digital Platforms & Online Safety  
Phone/Mobile: (02) 6271 1932 / s47F

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**TALKING POINTS**

s 22



 <b>Australian Government</b> Department of Communications and the Arts	<b>Biography</b> Attachment A
---	----------------------------------

**Name:**

Ms Julie Inman Grant

**Organisation:**

Office of the eSafety Commissioner

**Biography:**

Ms Inman Grant has been the eSafety Commissioner since 2017. Ms Inman Grant has extensive experience in the non-profit and government sectors and spent two decades working in senior public policy and safety roles in the technology industry at Microsoft, Twitter and Adobe.



Ms Inman Grant plays an important global chair role as Chair of the Child Dignity Alliance's Technical Working Group and as a Board Member of the WePROTECT Global Alliance.

**Sensitivities:**

Changes to Australia's online safety framework will have a major impact on the eSafety Commissioner. These changes will require additional resourcing and support which will be considered in the context of the 2020-21 Budget process.

**eSafety Commissioner – specific funding (newest to oldest)**

<b>Program</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Funding</b>
<b>NGO Grants Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$9.957 million over four years (2019-20 to 2022-23), comprising a \$2.25 million grant allocation for each year</li> </ul>
<b>Fourth Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>• Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</li> </ul>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22), comprising:</li> <li>• \$1.520 million over three years</li> <li>• \$2.513 million over three years</li> </ul>
<b>Third Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IBA Portal</li> <li>• Technology trials</li> </ul>	Social Services portfolio (2016-17 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4.8 million over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19 for IBA Portal</li> <li>• \$1.05 million in total over two years (2018-19 to 2019-20) for tech trials</li> </ul>
<b>Early Years Online Safety Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 MYEFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2.484 million over two years</li> </ul>
<b>Be Connected</b>	Social Services portfolio (2017-18 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$16.9 million from 2017-18 to 2019-20</li> <li>• One year extension \$9.3 agreed to 2021, with a comeback on a further extension in the context of the budget process.</li> </ul>
<b>National Schools Chaplaincy Program</b>	Education portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$320,000 (July 2019 – Dec 2020).</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.2 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Cyberbullying and cyber abuse</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.7 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Online Safety Education</b> (training of certified providers)	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1.2 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Image-based abuse</b>	Comms portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$4.0 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>IT infrastructure</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$6.0 million</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	PM&C portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$2.1 million over three years from 2015-16 to 2017-18</li> </ul>
<b>Online safety education programs</b>	Treasury portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$7.5 million over the period 2015-16 to 2019-20)</li> </ul>

### eSafety Commissioner – total funding

Budgeted Expense as per 2019-20 PBS	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
Office of the eSafety Commissioner	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Departmental	17,341	15,115	15,028	13,920	61,404
Administered <sup>(a)</sup>	7,749	7,749	7,754	7,668	30,920
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>25,090</b>	<b>22,864</b>	<b>22,782</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>92,324</b>

Source: 2019-20 Portfolio Budget Statement table 2.1.1 Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1 page 98;

(a) Administered items include funding for the Digital Literacy for Older Australians

### Department of Communications and the Arts

#### Keeping Our Children Safe Online Package (\$17 million)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Administered						
Online Safety Campaign - Administered	8,960	0	0	0	0	8,960
Departmental						
Online Safety Campaign – Departmental	410	0	0	0	0	410
Online Safety Research Program	789	864	822	827	478	3,780
Enhanced Regulation for Online Safety	352	865	0	0	0	1,217
<b>Total Departmental</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5,407</b>

EVENT BRIEF FOR MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS, CYBER SAFETY AND THE ARTS	
<b>EVENT TITLE: Safer Internet Day 2020 launch</b>	<b>MB19-000495</b>
<b>SPEAKING POINTS FROM DoCA</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I'm delighted to be here to recognise Safer Internet Day 2020.</li> <li>• Safer Internet Day is a chance for all of us to <i>Start the Chat</i> by having meaningful conversations about what steps we can take to be safe online.</li> <li>• I commend the work that the eSafety Commissioner is doing today and every day in working to create a better internet for everyone.</li> <li>• The world first eSafety Commissioner is a great policy success story – administering take-down schemes for cyberbullying, image-based abuse and harmful online content alongside playing an essential role in educating and informing the public about how to best protect themselves from online harm.</li> <li>• eSafety is getting its message out in exciting ways – for example by collaborating with SBS to create resources about image-based abuse to align with the themes explored in SBS drama <i>The Hunting</i>.</li> <li>• As a Government, it's our role to not only support the work of the eSafety Commissioner in bringing about behavioural change, but to put in place the right settings to protect Australians from online harms and to give them recourse when harms occur.</li> <li>• We take online safety seriously, which is why we are currently consulting on proposals for a new Online Safety Act.</li> <li>• This new Act will introduce a new scheme to facilitate the take-down of cyber abuse against adults, and set a higher bar for industry accountability and transparency.</li> <li>• These are appropriate, practical measures that will make a tangible difference in Australians' lives.</li> </ul>	
<b>EVENT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>KEY INDIVIDUALS</b>
<p><b>PURPOSE:</b> The event is formally launching Safer Internet Day 2020, a global awareness event that encourages everyone to help create a better internet. The global theme for Safer Internet Day is "Together for a better internet" while eSafety is encouraging parents and carers to "start the chat" about online safety.</p> <p><b>STYLE:</b> Morning tea with formal proceedings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP</li> <li>• s47F Fiji's Online Safety Commissioner</li> <li>• Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner</li> </ul>
<b>TIMING/ RUN SHEET</b>	
<b>EVENT DATE / LOCATION</b>	11 February 2020 Mural Hall B, Parliament House, Canberra
<b>ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE TIME</b>	11:15 am, 12:05 pm (departure to coincide with Prime Minister)
<b>ORGANISATION / CONTACT</b>	eSafety, s47F eSafety, s47F
<b>MINISTER TO BE MET BY</b>	Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner s47F Executive Engagement Officer, eSafety
<b>MEDIA ATTENDING</b>	PM's office will alert press gallery of launch event
<b>ANY OTHER DETAILS</b>	The event commences at 11:00am and will conclude at approx. 12:00pm. You will be speaking at approx. 11:33am for 3mins to introduce the Prime Minister. TPs based on outline provided by eSafety.
<b>BRIEF PREPARED BY</b>	s47F

<b>EVENT BRIEF FOR MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS, CYBER SAFETY AND THE ARTS</b>
<b>EVENT TITLE: Safer Internet Day 2020 launch</b>
<b>BACKGROUND/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>

***Launch event***

1. Morning tea will be served at the launch in Parliament House followed by a Welcome to Country and three short speeches by the eSafety Commissioner, yourself, and the Prime Minister.
2. Approximately 100 guests are expected. All have registered with eSafety as Safer Internet Day 'champions' for the SID2020 campaign and include business and technology representatives, education and early childhood professionals, academics, government officials and advocacy groups.
3. **s 47F** Fiji's Online Safety Commissioner, (appointed Dec 2018) is on an official visit to Australia to see eSafety's work, as part of the DFAT Cyber Cooperation Program. She will be learning about eSafety's abuse reporting schemes and the range of resources eSafety has developed over an immersive three days with their office.
4. eSafety has made early childhood the focus for SID2020, with the release of the *Early Years* booklet to coincide with Safer Internet Day. The *Early Years* booklet was developed under the Government's \$17 million Keeping Children Safe Online package.
5. The booklet is being sent every early learning service (day care centres, pre-schools etc) across Australia. It is also available for download and can be ordered free by parents.

***Safer Internet Day background***

6. Safer Internet Day (SID) is a global awareness day - celebrated in 150 countries - to raise awareness about online safety issues and promote the responsible and positive use of digital technology, especially among young people. It typically falls on the second day of the second week of the second month each year.
7. More than 1000 registered supporters are participating in SID2020 across Australia of which around 70 per cent are schools which are marking Safer Internet Day as a key date on the school calendar.
8. Thousands of Australian students have signed up for the 'virtual classroom' lessons on "Keeping Safe in the Game" which eSafety is running through the week to teach students about creating safe online gaming environments.
9. The eSafety Commissioner (eSafety) leads Safer Internet Day nationally as the officially designated SID committee. eSafety has planned other activities to mark SID2020 including hosting parent information webinars and running 'virtual classroom' lessons for schools that week.
10. eSafety is using the tagline "start the chat" from the Government's 2019 online safety awareness campaign as the theme for SID2020. Key audiences are parents and educators.



*\*Full details to be provided by eSafety.*

Running order outline:

11.00 - 11.25am

- Guest arrivals and participation in 'Start the Chat' selfies to show how they are supporting SID2020. Chat bubbles pinned to "Champions' Wall". Morning tea served.

11.25am

- *Following arrival of Prime Minister*, eSafety MC Kellie Britnell welcomes guests and introduces **s47F** to give the Welcome to Country.

11.27am

- 2 mins **Welcome to Country** – **s47F** Aboriginal Community Liaison & Projects Officer, Queanbeyan-Pelarang Regional Council.

11.30am

- 3 mins – Short speech by eSafety Commissioner **Julie Inman Grant** and handover introduction to Minister for Communications, Paul Fletcher
- 3 mins - **Minister Fletcher** to welcome the Prime Minister.
- 5 mins - **Prime Minister** Morrison officially launches SID2020.

11.45am

- **Julie Inman Grant** thanks Prime Minister and invites guests to continue with morning tea.
- Prime Minister's meet and greet/photos with guests

11.55am

- (if required, doorstep/media picfac?)

12.05pm

- Prime Minister departs

*\*eSafety to provide more updated list separately*

#### VIPs and MPs

First name	Last name	Title/Position	Organisation name
s 47F		Online Safety Commissioner	Online Safety Commission, Fiji
		Prime Minister, Member for Cook	Parliament of Australia
		Federal Member for Moreton & Shadow Assistant Minister for Education & Training	Parliament of Australia
		Federal Member for Moncrieff	Parliament of Australia
		Senator for Victoria	Parliament of Australia
		Senator for New South Wales	Parliament of Australia
		Federal Member for Fisher	Parliament of Australia
		Member for Robertson	Parliament of Australia
		Member for Greenway, Shadow Minister for Communications	Parliament of Australia
		Federal Member for Tagney, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister & Cabinet	Parliament of Australia
		Federal Member for Curtin	Parliament of Australia
		Member for Higgins	Parliament of Australia

#### All attendees

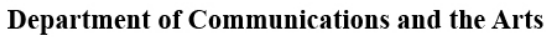
First name	Last name	Title/Position	Organisation name
s 47F		Communications Manager	1800RESPECT
		Executive Producer, ABC Children's	ABC
		Assistant Director, Awareness Raising and Behaviour Change	ACSC
		Executive GM, Service Design and Delivery	ACT Education
		Director Operations Libraries ACT	ACT Government
		Chief Executive Officer	Alannah & Madeline Foundation
		Head of Public Policy	Amazon Web Services
		Media	Angie Bell MP
		Manager, Security Behaviours & Influence	ANZ
		Cyber Security Engineer	ANZ Banking Group
		Director, ASCCA. Also: Technology Editor, iTWire.com	ASCCA.org.au / iTWire.com
			ASPI
		Communication and Engagement Manager	AustCyber
		Manager, Cyber Security Education	Australia Post
		Deputy National Education Leader	Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority
		IP President	Australian Computer Society
		Manager Child Protection	Australian Federal Police
		Coordinator Outreach, Prevention & Engagement	Australian Federal Police
		Team Leader Online Child Safety	Australian Federal Police
		Coordinator Operations - Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation	Australian Federal Police
		Sex Discrimination Commissioner	Australian Human Rights Commission
		General Manager	Australian Information Industry Association

Director	Australian Library and Information Association
Director Public Affairs	Australian Local Government Association
Media adviser	Australian Taxation Office
Assistant Commissioner	Australian Taxation Office
Founder	Burrage Foundation
Founder	Burrage Foundation
Director Program Management	Communications Alliance
Executive Director Cyber Influence	Department Human Services
Director	Department of Communications and the Arts
Assistant Secretary	Department of Social Services
Managing Director	DIGI
Executive Manager, Policy and Government Relations	Early Childhood Australia
ECA Learning Hub Executive Manager	Early Childhood Australia
Head of GR, AUNZ	eBay Australia
Business Manager	eSafety Commissioner
Exec Officer	eSafety Commissioner
Senior Marcomms Adviser	eSafety Commissioner
Senior Communications Adviser	eSafety Commissioner
Communications Adviser	eSafety Commissioner
Executive Manager Programs and Education	eSafety Commissioner
Stakeholder Manager	eSafety Commissioner
Manager - Education and Outreach	eSafety Commissioner
Communications Manager	eSafety Commissioner
Senior Outreach Coordinator	eSafety Commissioner
Policy Programs Manager	Facebook
Manager, Public Policy Australia	Facebook
Director of Policy	Facebook
Public Policy Manager	Facebook
Australian Digital Leader	GHD Digital
Regional Manager	GoFundMe
Government Affairs and Public Policy	Google Australia
Head of eheadspace	headspace National Youth Mental Health Foundation Ltd
Public Policy & Economics Manager (APAC)	LinkedIn
Head of Public Policy & Economics	LinkedIn
Government Engagement Manager	LinkedIn
Head of Junior School	Merici College
Senior Consultant- Information Security Awareness and Education	MLC Life Insurance
Associate Professor of Criminology	Monash University
CEO	National Mental Health Commission
Adviser	National Office for Child Safety
	National Office for Child Safety
Country Manager	Nextdoor
Director, Sustainability	Optus
General Manager	Playgroup Australia
CEO	Playgroup NSW
Director	Probus South Pacific Limited
GLOBAL CYBER SAFETY & ENGAGEMENT	QBE
Director, Strategic Communications and Government Relations	ReachOut Australia

s 47F

Communications and Strategy Advisor	Rebekha Sharkie Member for Mayo
Secretary General	SEARCC
General Manager	Snap Inc
Senior Manager, Law Enforcement Operations	Snap Inc.
	Sport Australia
Communications Manager	TAL
Director	TechSolvers
Cyber Security External Engagement	Telstra
Senior Advisor, Digital Inclusion and Strategy, Telstra	Telstra
Senior Adviser	The Department of Prime Minister & Cabinet
Head of Public Policy	Twitter
Cyber Resilience Lead	UniSuper
Policy Director Safety and Wellbeing	Universities Australia
Director	UNSW Canberra Cyber
Principal Advisor, Cyber Strategy & Engagement	Victorian Department of Premier & Cabinet
	Vodafone Australia
Virtual Services Manager	yourtown (Kids Helpline)





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**Department Funding:**

6. See **Attachment A** for details on online safety funding arrangements.

s 47C



**Consultation:** N/A

**Attached Biographical Details:** N/A

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**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Online Safety Funding Arrangements

Contact Officer:	s 47F	Cleared by:	s 47F
Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary	Position:	A/g Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	s 47F

**TALKING POINTS**

Industry Forum

- Thank you for your valuable contribution to this morning's discussion with industry on the online safety legislative reform proposals and election commitments.
- I'm interested to hear your thoughts on the issues you expect industry will raise at the upcoming forum on 17 February with digital platforms and game developers.

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Other issues

- I am also interested in hearing more about your recent visit to the UK.



**eSafety Commissioner – specific funding (newest to oldest)**

Program	Source	Funding
<b>NGO Grants Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$9.957 million over four years (2019-20 to 2022-23), comprising a \$2.25 million grant allocation for each year</li> </ul>
<b>Fourth Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</li> </ul>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22), comprising:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.520 million over three years</li> <li>\$2.513 million over three years</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Third Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IBA Portal</li> <li>Technology trials</li> </ul>	Social Services portfolio (2016-17 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.8 million over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19 for IBA Portal</li> <li>\$1.05 million in total over two years (2018-19 to 2019-20) for tech trials</li> </ul>
<b>Early Years Online Safety Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 MYEFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.484 million over two years</li> </ul>
<b>Be Connected</b>	Social Services portfolio (2017-18 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$16.9 million from 2017-18 to 2019-20</li> <li>One year extension \$9.3 agreed to 2021, with a comeback on a further extension in the context of the budget process.</li> </ul>
<b>National Schools Chaplaincy Program</b>	Education portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$320,000 (July 2019 – Dec 2020).</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.2 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Cyberbullying and cyber abuse</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.7 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Online Safety Education</b> (training of certified providers)	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.2 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Image-based abuse</b>	Comms portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.0 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>IT infrastructure</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$6.0 million</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	PM&C portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.1 million over three years from 2015-16 to 2017-18</li> </ul>
<b>Online safety education programs</b>	Treasury portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$7.5 million over the period 2015-16 to 2019-20)</li> </ul>

**eSafety Commissioner – total funding**

Budgeted Expense as per 2019-20 PBS	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
Office of the eSafety Commissioner	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Departmental	17,341	15,115	15,028	13,920	61,404
Administered <sup>(a)</sup>	7,749	7,749	7,754	7,668	30,920
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>25,090</b>	<b>22,864</b>	<b>22,782</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>92,324</b>


Source: 2019-20 Portfolio Budget Statement table 2.1.1 Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1 page 98;

(a) Administered items include funding for the Digital Literacy for Older Australians

**Department of Communications and the Arts****Keeping Our Children Safe Online Package (\$17 million)**

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Administered						
Online Safety Campaign - Administered	8,960	0	0	0	0	8,960
Departmental						
Online Safety Campaign – Departmental	410	0	0	0	0	410
Online Safety Research Program	789	864	822	827	478	3,780
Enhanced Regulation for Online Safety	352	865	0	0	0	1,217
<b>Total Departmental</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1729</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5,407</b>

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 <div>Australian Government Department of Communications and the Arts</div>	<div>Meeting Brief MB19-000515</div>
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**To:** Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP  
(for information)

**Subject:** Meeting with Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

1. Note the information contained in this Brief.	Noted / Please Discuss
Minister's signature:.....	Date:...../...../ 2019
Minister's Comments	Quality Rating
	1. Very Poor 2. Poor 3. Satisfactory 4. Good 5. Excellent

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. You are meeting with the eSafety Commissioner, Ms Julie Inman Grant, for your monthly meeting.

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3. International Engagement – the eSafety Commissioner will provide you with an update on her recent participation in the WePROTECT board meeting held in Addis Ababa, and an update on the launch of the Global Strategy Response at the WePROTECT Global Summit. The Commissioner has also been invited by Microsoft to participate in an online grooming event in early January in the UK, co-hosted by WePROTECT and the UK Home Office. The event will see the launch of an anti-grooming algorithm to be adopted across the tech industry.

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5. Safer Internet Day – the eSafety Commissioner will provide an update on upcoming media events, including plans for Safer Internet Day (11 February), to which they have expressed interest in inviting the Prime Minister to a launch at Parliament House.

## OFFICIAL

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### Department Funding:

8. See **Attachment A** for details on online safety funding arrangements.

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**Attached Biographical Details:** N/A

### Background:

10. Consultation on the new Online Safety Act began 11 December, with a period of ten weeks for public submissions, alongside targeted consultation with industry, states and territories and civil society.

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Online Safety Funding Arrangements

Contact Officer:	s 47F	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Director	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	(02) 6271 1932 / s 47F

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## PART 1 - TALKING POINTS

s 22



### *International Engagement* To be included

- I am interested in your recent trip to the WePROTECT Global Alliance meetings held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.
- I am also interested in your planned trip to the UK early next year, and your thoughts on the effectiveness of AI in preventing online grooming of children.

s 22



**eSafety Commissioner – specific funding (newest to oldest)**

Program	Source	Funding
<b>NGO Grants Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$9.957 million over four years (2019-20 to 2022-23), comprising a \$2.25 million grant allocation for each year</li> </ul>
<b>Fourth Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</li> </ul>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22), comprising:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.520 million over three years</li> <li>\$2.513 million over three years</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Third Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IBA Portal</li> <li>Technology trials</li> </ul>	Social Services portfolio (2016-17 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.8 million over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19 for IBA Portal</li> <li>\$1.05 million in total over two years (2018-19 to 2019-20) for tech trials</li> </ul>
<b>Early Years Online Safety Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 MYEFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.484 million over two years</li> </ul>
<b>Be Connected</b>	Social Services portfolio (2017-18 Budget; MYEFO 2019-20)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$16.9 million from 2017-18 to 2019-20</li> <li>One year extension \$9.3 agreed to for 2020-21</li> </ul>
<b>National Schools Chaplaincy Program</b>	Education portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$320,000 (July 2019 – Dec 2020).</li> </ul>
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<b>Online Safety Education</b> (training of certified providers)	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.2 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Image-based abuse</b>	Comms portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.0 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
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<b>eSafety Women</b>	PM&C portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.1 million over three years from 2015-16 to 2017-18</li> </ul>
<b>Online safety education programs</b>	Treasury portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$7.5 million over the period 2015-16 to 2019-20)</li> </ul>

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## eSafety Commissioner – total funding

Budgeted Expense as per 2019-20 PBS	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
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Departmental	17,341	15,115	15,028	13,920	61,404
Administered <sup>(a)</sup>	7,749	7,749	7,754	7,668	30,920
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>25,090</b>	<b>22,864</b>	<b>22,782</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>92,324</b>

Source: 2019-20 Portfolio Budget Statement table 2.1.1 Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1 page 98;

(a) Administered Items include funding for the Digital Literacy for Older Australians

## Department of Communications and the Arts

### Keeping Our Children Safe Online Package (\$17 million)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Administered</b>						
Online Safety Campaign - Administered	8,960	0	0	0	0	8,960
<b>Departmental</b>						
Online Safety Campaign – Departmental	410	0	0	0	0	410
Online Safety Research Program	789	864	822	827	478	3,780
Enhanced Regulation for Online Safety	352	865	0	0	0	1,217
<b>Total Departmental</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5,407</b>

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**Australian Government**

Department of Communications and the Arts

## Meeting Brief

MB19-000418

**To: Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts, the Hon Paul Fletcher MP**  
(for information)

**Subject:** Meeting with Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information contained in this Brief.</p>   <p><b>Minister's signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p>   <p><b>Date:</b>...../...../ 2019</p>
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

**Purpose of Meeting:**

1. You are meeting with the eSafety Commissioner for your first monthly meeting, to discuss key online safety issues and programs, including the Online Safety Act consultation paper.

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5. International engagement – the eSafety Commissioner participated in a workshop in Boston on 6-7 November related to implementing the OECD Voluntary Transparency Reporting Protocol (VTRP). The VTRP project aims to establish a common global standard for online platforms to report what steps they are taking to prevent, detect and remove terrorist and violent extremist content. On the sidelines of the G7 Summit in France on 26 August, Prime Minister Morrison announced that Australia (AUD\$300,000), together with New Zealand (NZ\$50,000) and the OECD (in kind contribution), would fund the VTRP.

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### Department Funding:

7. See **Attachment A** for details on online safety funding arrangements.

s 47C

Consultation: N/A

Attached Biographical Details: N/A

### Background:

9. Consultation on the new Online Safety Act is expected to begin 11 December, with a period of ten weeks for public submissions, alongside targeted consultation with industry, states and territories and civil society.

### Attachments:

Attachment A: Online Safety Funding Arrangements

Attachment B: Twelve month plan for new Act and governance arrangements

Contact Officer:	s 47F	Cleared by:	James Penprase
Position:	Director	Position:	Assistant Secretary
Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety	Branch:	Digital Platforms & Online Safety
Phone/Mobile:	s 47F	Phone/Mobile:	(02) 6271 1932 / (s 47F)

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**PART 1 - TALKING POINTS**

s 22



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### Attachment A Online Safety Funding Arrangements

#### eSafety Commissioner – specific funding (newest to oldest)

Program	Source	Funding
<b>NGO Grants Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$9.957 million over four years (2019-20 to 2022-23), comprising a \$2.25 million grant allocation for each year</li> </ul>
<b>Fourth Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Women with intellectual disabilities</li> <li>Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders</li> </ul>	Comms portfolio (2019-20 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22), comprising: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.520 million over three years</li> <li>\$2.513 million over three years</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Third Action Plan</b> to reduce violence against women and their children <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IBA Portal</li> <li>Technology trials</li> </ul>	Social Services portfolio (2016-17 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.8 million over the period 2016-17 to 2018-19 for IBA Portal</li> <li>\$1.05 million in total over two years (2018-19 to 2019-20) for tech trials</li> </ul>
<b>Early Years Online Safety Program</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 MYEFO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.484 million over two years</li> </ul>
<b>Be Connected</b>	Social Services portfolio (2017-18 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$16.9 million from 2017-18 to 2019-20 (two year funding extension currently being sought through 2019-20 MYEFO)</li> </ul>
<b>National Schools Chaplaincy Program</b>	Education portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$320,000 (July 2019 – Dec 2020).</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.2 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Cyberbullying and cyber abuse</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.7 million over the period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>Online Safety Education</b> (training of certified providers)	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1.2 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
Comms portfolio	Comms portfolio	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$4.0 million over period 2018-19 to 2021-22</li> </ul>
<b>IT infrastructure</b>	Comms portfolio (2018-19 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$6.0 million</li> </ul>
<b>eSafety Women</b>	PM&C portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.1 million over three years from 2015-16 to 2017-18</li> </ul>
<b>Online safety education programs</b>	Treasury portfolio (2015-16 Budget)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$7.5 million over the period 2015-16 to 2019-20)</li> </ul>

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### eSafety Commissioner – total funding

Budgeted Expense as per 2019-20 PBS	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
Office of the eSafety Commissioner	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Departmental	17,341	15,115	15,028	13,920	61,404
Administered <sup>(a)</sup>	7,749	7,749	7,754	7,668	30,920
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>25,090</b>	<b>22,864</b>	<b>22,782</b>	<b>21,588</b>	<b>92,324</b>

Source: 2019-20 Portfolio Budget Statement table 2.1.1 Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1 page 98;

(a) Administered items include funding for the Digital Literacy for Older Australians

### Department of Communications and the Arts

#### Keeping Our Children Safe Online Package (\$17 million)

	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Administered</b>						
Online Safety Campaign - Administered	8,960	0	0	0	0	8,960
<b>Departmental</b>						
Online Safety Campaign – Departmental	410	0	0	0	0	410
Online Safety Research Program	789	864	822	827	478	3,780
Enhanced Regulation for Online Safety	352	865	0	0	0	1,217
<b>Total Departmental</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>1,729</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>827</b>	<b>478</b>	<b>5,407</b>









## Department of Communications and the Arts

MB19-000252

**Recommendation for Minister Fletcher:** That you

<p>1. Note the information contained in this Brief.</p>   <p><b>Minister's signature:</b>.....</p>	<p>Noted / Please Discuss</p>   <p><b>Date:</b>...../...../ 2019</p>
<b>Minister's Comments</b>	<b>Quality Rating</b>
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very Poor</li> <li>2. Poor</li> <li>3. Satisfactory</li> <li>4. Good</li> <li>5. Excellent</li> </ol>

1. You are meeting with Ms Julie Inman Grant, eSafety Commissioner, to discuss the Taskforce to Combat Terrorist and Extreme Violent Material Online (the Taskforce).

2. Ms Inman Grant has been closely involved in Australia's response to the Christchurch terrorist attacks. The passage of the *Criminal Code Amendment (Sharing of Violent Abhorrent Material) Act 2019* gave the eSafety Commissioner the power to issue written notices stating that, at the time of issue, a content or hosting service could be used to access abhorrent violent material. Ms Inman Grant was also a member of the Taskforce and will have responsibility for implementing a number of the report's recommendations:

- a) Recommendation 5.1, to consider using subsection 581(2A) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* to direct the ISPs currently blocking domains hosting the footage of the Christchurch attacks and the alleged perpetrator's manifesto to maintain these blocks; and
- b) Recommendation 5.2, to work with Communications Alliance to develop a protocol to govern the interim use of subsection 581(2A) of the *Telecommunications Act 1997* in the circumstances of an online crisis event.

3. The Office of the eSafety Commissioner (OeSC) has worked closely with the Department in the development of the Cabinet Submission for the Taskforce to Combat Terrorist and Extreme Violent Material



## PROTECTED: Sensitive - Cabinet

Online, which you are scheduled to bring forward to the Strategic Expenditure Review Committee **s3**  
**s34(3)**

**s 47C**

**s 47C**

### Department Funding:

6. The costs of the landing page are being settled, although the Department has agreed to cover the initial costs.

**Deliberative**

**Sensitivities, Background, Consultation and Biographical Details:** N/A (as requested)

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Cleared by: James Penprase  
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**PART 1 - TALKING POINTS**

s 34(3)



*Content blocking*

- I appreciate your proactive approach to the content blocking and the interim protocol development work, particularly in supporting efforts to find a workable solution to address the concerns of ISPs.

s47C



- I look forward to continuing to work with you as the Government pursues an ongoing blocking arrangement through legislative amendments as part of our broader online safety reforms.

*Abhorrent Violent Material legislation*

- I understand that eSafety has issued several notices under the *Criminal Code Amendment (Sharing of Abhorrent Violent Material) Act 2019*.
- I would be interested in hearing about your experience of the effectiveness of these notices.

SB20-000100

## ESAFETY AND COVID-19

LEAD/SUPPORT: RICHARD WINDEYER / PAULINE SULLIVAN

### KEY STATEMENT:

The eSafety Commissioner is supporting Australians to safely move online to keep our workplaces, schools and households connected during the pandemic and into the future.

### KEY ISSUES

- Australians are increasingly moving online to stay connected during the pandemic for work, study and socialising.
- The internet provides opportunities for Australians to connect, but also increases our exposure to online harms.
- In the first months of pandemic outbreak in Australia (February-April) there was increased demand for the services of the eSafety Commissioner.
  - There was a 50 per cent increase in reports and complaints to the eSafety Commissioner regarding image-based abuse and cyber abuse
  - The eSafety Commissioner experienced a near doubling (86 per cent increase) in demand for its services
  - Website traffic to [esafety.gov.au](https://esafety.gov.au) increased from an average of 300,000 page views per month to an average of 625,000 page views per month
  - The 'COVID-19 Key Issues' webpage became the highest trafficked page on the website following the homepage
  - There was an overwhelming demand for new content, webinars and online training packages to support schools, teachers, community organisations and frontline support workers during the pandemic
- On 28 June 2020 the Government announced funding of \$10 million in 2020-21 to enable the eSafety Commissioner to respond to the increased demand for her Office's services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The funding has allowed eSafety to respond to the spike in demand caused by the transition to working and studying online and allowed eSafety to continue to deliver services that Australian families depend on to help them stay safe online.

### BACKGROUND

s 47C

SB20-000100

- Parents, teachers and children are actively seeking out online safety information in unprecedented numbers – mostly for the first time
- Complaints and reporting to the eSafety office have been on a continual upward trajectory as awareness grows
- eSafety's education and awareness webinars have been significantly oversubscribed, and eSafety has scheduled additional webinars to address COVID-related issues

### **2020-21 COVID-19 Funding**

- On 28 June 2020 the Government announced funding of \$10.0 million in 2020-21 to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, to enable the eSafety Commissioner to respond to increased demand for her Office's services during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- This funding will allow eSafety to:
  - employ additional staff to receive and investigate reports from the growing numbers of Australians experiencing image-based abuse and cyberbullying;
  - establish a 24/7 crisis response capability to respond to the growing threat of terrorist and extreme violent material online, and to reduce the potential for significant harm to the Australian community; and
  - develop additional resources to provide Australians with practical tips on how to stay safe online, manage household devices, manage children's exposure to COVID-19 news and misinformation, and address growing levels of technology-facilitated abuse.

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SB20-000101

## **ONLINE SAFETY REFORM**

**LEAD/SUPPORT: PAULINE SULLIVAN / BRIDGET GANNON**

### **KEY STATEMENT:**

The Australian Government is committed to making the online environment safer for Australians.

The proposed Online Safety Act will enhance protections for Australians from emerging online harms, improve industry accountability, and provide the eSafety Commissioner with greater powers.

### **KEY ISSUES**

#### ***Current work to reform online safety arrangements***

- The Government is developing legislative and administrative reform to address issues raised in the Report of the Statutory Review of the Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015 and the Review of Schedules 5 and 7 to the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 (Online Content Scheme) (Briggs Review 2018) and the feedback received through consultation on online safety legislative reform proposals.
- The COVID-19 pandemic has delayed the delivery of this work.

#### ***Proposed Online Safety Act***

The new Act would replace decades-old provisions that are no longer fit for purpose and:

- introduce a new scheme to address the serious cyber abuse of adults by providing the eSafety Commissioner with powers to issue content removal notices and apply civil penalties for online services;
- include a set of Basic Online Safety Expectations (BOSE) that would encourage digital platforms to prevent online harms and be more transparent;
- enhance the powers of the eSafety Commissioner to order the swift takedown of seriously harmful content, including when it is hosted outside Australia, and to have search engines de-list websites that host illegal material;
- expand and update existing online protections for Australian users that have proven effective, such as the cyberbullying scheme and the image based abuse scheme, which would require platforms respond to takedown notices sooner (from 48 to 24 hours).

#### ***COVID19 has affected reform progress***

- The COVID-19 pandemic has shifted the Government's focus to more immediate work to deal with the economic and social impacts of the pandemic.
- The Government has demonstrated its ongoing commitment to online safety during the pandemic with a \$10 million funding boost to the eSafety Commission to deal with the impacts of COVID-19 on Australians' online activities.

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- Australians have spent more time online, which has increased the risks of online harms. Almost four in 10 respondents have reported negative experiences online during the first few months of the pandemic.
- The funding will bolster eSafety's investigations and support teams across the image-based abuse and cyberbullying functions, which saw complaints increase by over 50 per cent during February and March 2020.

***Budget announcement - eSafety funding***

- The proposed reforms, informed by the Briggs Review, include new functions for eSafety. The additional funding announced in the Budget will allow it to fulfil its existing statutory functions, and provide the required resources to perform the additional functions proposed through the new Online Safety Act.

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## BACKGROUND

### *Briggs Review 2018*

The Briggs Review made an important contribution to the online safety reform process by recommending the Government:

- replace the existing legislation with a single Act;
- increase the expectations on online service providers to be proactive in preventing online harms;
- extend the cyberbullying scheme to include material directed towards adults; and
- change the governance arrangements of the eSafety Commissioner to address limitations and deficiencies in the current arrangements.

A list of Briggs Review recommendations and the Government's implementation measures is at **Attachment A**.

### *Consultation on proposed reforms*

- The proposed Act is informed by extensive consultation, details are at **Attachment B**.

### *Office of the eSafety Commissioner governance arrangements*

- The Government is considering governance arrangements that will balance the need for greater autonomy for the eSafety Commissioner to fulfil their statutory functions with the need to comply with Australian Government governance structure policy that requires activities are undertaken as efficiently as possible by using existing structures.
- Previous answers to Senate Estimates questions on possible changes to the administrative and operational arrangements for eSafety is at **Attachment C**.

## ATTACHMENTS

**Attachment A** – Briggs Review recommendations and Government's response

**Attachment B** – Consultation on online safety reforms

**Attachment C** – Previous Senate Estimates questions

**Attachment D** – Timeline of events leading to proposed reforms

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# ATTACHMENT A – BRIGGS REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION

	Finding/Recommendation	Implementation
Rec 1	It is recommended that the Government introduce the significant and wide ranging changes to the online safety system identified in this review report, which will set out the new norms and standards for the online world, and establish new regulatory arrangements to put them into practice.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In 2019 the Government committed to develop a new online safety Act.</li> <li>The Government consulted on proposals to include in the new Act (from Dec 2019 – Feb 2020) including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a new adult cyber abuse scheme and</li> <li>a new set of Basic Online Safety Expectations (BOSE) to lift the standards of the online services industry.</li> </ul> </li> <li>These reforms have been informed by the recommendations in the Briggs report.</li> </ul>
Rec 2 (a)	<p>To bring about these changes, it is recommended that:</p> <p>a) the regulatory framework for digital and online safety be strengthened by enforcing through legislation a much more proactive regulatory regime, with additional requirements on all of the online and digital industry operating in Australia to implement measures to patrol, detect, remove and deter the posting of and access to illegal and harmful content, enforce their own safety policies and behavioural standards, and to report annually to the eSafety Commissioner on their activities, with serious penalties for non-compliance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This recommendation will be addressed through the new Act, in particular, the BOSE and transparency reporting against these expectations.</li> <li>The Government has also consulted on proposals to expand eSafety's powers to require a broader range of online services to comply, including those based overseas.</li> </ul>
Rec 2 (b)	<p>b) a single, easy to read piece of online safety legislation be created, which will replace the existing pieces of legislation (<i>Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015</i>, Schedules 5 and 7 of the <i>Broadcasting Services Act 1992</i>, and the <i>Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual Sharing of Intimate Images) Act 2018</i>) and set out the core elements of the Government's online safety policy to protect Australians from online harm and illegal behaviour. The new Online Safety Act would incorporate directions set out in this report, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>objectives to protect against harm and promote online safety,</li> <li>the roles and responsibilities of the eSafety Commissioner in online safety and regulation,</li> <li>a technology, platform, service, distribution and device neutral approach to regulation,</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While introduction of a new Online Safety Act has been delayed beyond 1 July 2019, the Government is working to develop proposals to address this recommendation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>objects and a statement of regulatory policy (no policy authority yet)</li> <li>updated functions and powers of the eSafety Commissioner (partial policy authority)</li> <li>a regulatory approach that takes into account what a service does rather than how it does it as well as the level of control a provider has over the flow of content on the service</li> <li>a set of Basic Online Safety Expectations (BOSE), initially only applicable to social media services</li> <li>new industry code requirements (non-mandatory) for the online services industry</li> <li>a new adult cyber abuse scheme</li> <li>a new power for the eSafety Commissioner to require certain social media platforms report against the BOSE</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



ATTACHMENT A – BRIGGS REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION

	<p>iv. new legislative standards for a more proactive regulatory regime and toughened enforcement powers,</p> <p>v. streamlined industry requirements alongside a new mandatory industry code for all industry participants with online and digital activities, with the code commencing within a year of the new legislation being enacted,</p> <p>vi. coverage of all Australians, including cyber-bullying coverage for all children and all adults,</p> <p>vii. data collection and reporting requirements,</p> <p>viii. new classification arrangements that focus on illegal, dangerous and harmful content, and</p> <p>ix. other necessary adjustments as proposed.</p> <p>The timing of introduction of the new Act should be high priority for Government with the aim of it being introduced by 1 July 2019, and passed into law in the second half of 2019, subject to other legislative priorities.</p>	<p>– a system of assessing content that does not rely on the National Classification Scheme so that the eSafety Commissioner can provide a swift response to reported instances of illegal or harmful content</p>
Rec 2 (c)	<p>c) a National Online Safety Plan be produced by the Department of Communications and the Arts and the eSafety Commissioner in consultation with stakeholders, to set out clearly the national online safety strategy framework, operational arrangements and implementation priorities and responsibilities. The new plan would take effect from 1 January 2020.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The development of a National Online Safety Plan was not pursued in 2019.</li> <li>• The Department focussed instead on developing legislative and administrative reforms to improve national online safety coordination and strategic policy development.</li> <li>• This work has informed the proposed Online Safety Act.</li> </ul>
Rec 2 (d)	<p>d) immediate efforts be made to establish more effective collaborative partnerships and co-operative working relationships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• across the sector, through the creation of a new standing eSafety Advisory Committee to advise the eSafety Commissioner, the Departmental Secretary and the Commonwealth Agency Heads Committee on Online Safety on best practice online safety and administration,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An eSafety Advisory Committee, consisting of Government and industry members, was established by the eSafety Commissioner in 2019.</li> <li>• It advises eSafety on technical issues such as how to develop a harms standard for the new Online Safety Act.</li> <li>• The Department has established an Agency Heads Committee on Online Safety, chaired by the Secretary, to coordinate online safety issues across portfolios.</li> <li>• eSafety and the AFP have finalised an updated MOU.</li> </ul>

ATTACHMENT A – BRIGGS REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTATION

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• between law enforcement and the Office of the eSafety Commissioner, in order to activate more effective enforcement arrangements, and</li> <li>• through the introduction of a national rolling program of online safety work, which would maintain strong co-ordination and alignment across the sector.</li> </ul>	
Rec 3	<p>To facilitate these changes, it is additionally recommended that governance arrangements be improved by moving the eSafety Commissioner and her Office (along with associated ASL, contractors, resources, programs and responsibilities) out of the Australian Communications and Media Authority and into the Department of Communications and the Arts. Under this arrangement, the eSafety Commissioner would retain the independence of her office in a new departmental online safety stream of business and assume responsibility for a new departmental online safety outcome, all of her staff and resources, and be brought under the <i>Public Service Act 1999</i> and the <i>Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013</i>, with the special purpose vehicle being abolished.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Government is considering governance arrangements.</li> <li>• Any changes will be introduced as part of the proposed Online Safety Act.</li> </ul>
Rec 4	<p>It is further recommended that these new governance arrangements be reviewed after a transition period of 3 years to assess the possibility of setting up a new standalone online safety entity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted. See Rec 3.</li> </ul>
Rec 5	<p>It is also recommended that the resources and average staffing level of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner be boosted to support the proposed new and expanded functions envisaged in this report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the 2020-21 Budget, the Government announced it will provide \$64.5 million to the eSafety Commissioner over the period 2020-21 to -2023-24 to fulfil its current and new functions and responsibilities under the Online Safety Act.</li> <li>• On 28 June 2020, the Government also announced an additional \$10 million for the eSafety Commissioner in 2020-21 to cope with the surge in demand for its services during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.</li> </ul>

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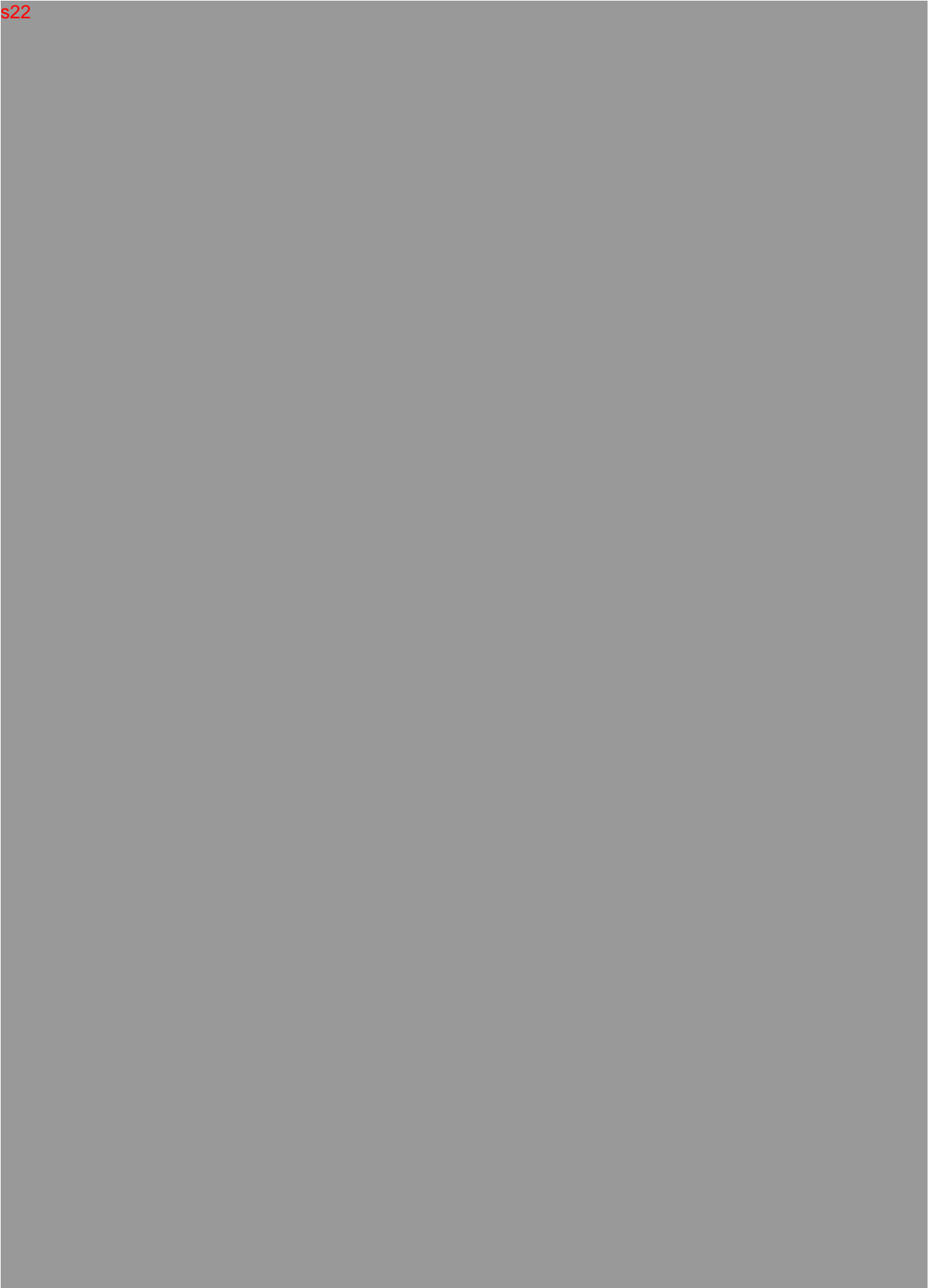
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## ATTACHMENT C - PREVIOUS ESTIMATES QUESTIONS

Communications portfolio question number 79:

In November 2019, Senator Urquhart asked a number of questions with 3 (questions 6-8) relating to governance:

6. Page 3 of the report of the Briggs Review proposes moving the eSafety Office out of the ACMA and into the Department of Communications and the Arts, where, "the Department and the eSafety Commissioner could jointly work on policy, strategy and relationships". Please provide an update on institutional arrangements for the eSafety Office?
7. The Briggs Review reported on relationships between agencies in the eSafety space. For example, page 34 of the report states that: "relationships between the various Chairs of the ACMA and eSafety Commissioners have been poor, with both understandably keen to take full responsibility for their domains. I do not see this changing in the foreseeable."
  - a. What specific actions have been taken to improve relations?
  - b. How have the former and current Minister addressed this issue?
8. Page 26 of the report of the Briggs Review states that: "some processes between the AFP and the eSafety Office are less than ideal. It is possible that there may be enforcement opportunities that are being missed if the two are not proactively working together to share information, identify and chase perpetrators and fill gaps that might maximize the effectiveness of the enforcement regime, such as how to action take-down of terrorist material hosted overseas".
  - a. What specific actions have been taken to address this issue?
  - b. How have the former and current Minister addresses this issue?
  - c. How, if at all, did this lack of coordination between agencies impact the

The answer provided was:

The development of a new Online Safety Act will consider whether changes are warranted to the administrative and operational arrangements for the eSafety Commissioner. This will take into account the findings and recommendations of the review of the Online Content Scheme and the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015*, conducted by Ms Lynelle Briggs AO in 2018.

## ATTACHMENT D – TIMELINE OF EVENTS REGARDING ONLINE SAFETY REFORMS

2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015</i> legislates a takedown scheme for cyberbullying material targeted at Australian children</li> <li>• The Children's eSafety Commissioner is established</li> </ul>
2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The eSafety Commissioner's role is expanded to include all Australians</li> </ul>
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <i>Enhancing Online Safety (Non-consensual sharing of intimate images) Act 2018</i> introduces a civil penalty regime for image-based abuse</li> </ul>
2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christchurch terrorist attack prompts the <i>Criminal Code Amendment (Sharing of Abhorrent Violent Material) Act 2019</i></li> <li>• The Morrison Government makes pre-election commitment to a new online safety act.</li> <li>• Government's Online Safety Charter and legislative reform consultation paper released (December)</li> </ul>
2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government consults on proposed reforms to online safety arrangements December 2019 to February 2020</li> <li>• Government announces a \$10 million funding boost for the eSafety Commissioner to better respond to increased demand for support due to COVID-19</li> <li>• Minister for Communications, Cyber Safety and the Arts publicly states online safety legislation reforms will be introduced into Parliament before the end of 2020.</li> </ul>

SB20-000102

## ONLINE SAFETY MEASURES

LEAD/SUPPORT: RICHARD WINDEYER / PAULINE SULLIVAN

### KEY STATEMENT:

The Government has provided an additional \$39.4 million to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner over three years. eSafety has sufficient funding to fulfil its regulatory functions and meet the increased demand for resources and support.

### KEY ISSUES

- The Government has committed more than \$100 million over three years to keep Australians safe online.

### *2020-21 Budget measures relating to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner*

- The Government has announced **\$39.4 million** from 2020-21 to 2022-23 for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner (eSafety). This will allow eSafety to fulfil its existing functions, perform additional functions under new legislation and meet the increase in demand for resources.
- This provides eSafety with an additional **\$0.4 million** in 2020-21, **\$17.6 million** in 2021-22, and **\$21.5 million** in 2022-23.
- This establishes eSafety's departmental funding at **\$32.1 million** per year in 2021-22.
- This funding is provided in addition to:
  - the **\$10 million** funding boost to eSafety announced in June 2020 as part of the **COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure**, provided to assist eSafety's response to the increased demand for support during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
  - \$11.9 million** to eSafety over three years to continue the **Be Connected** program.

### *Total funding for the Office of the eSafety Commissioner*

Total Budgeted Expense as per 2020-21 PBS (\$ millions)	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	Total
<b>Office of the eSafety Commissioner</b>					
Departmental <sup>(a)</sup>	25.642	32.089	32.027	10.377	100.135
Administered <sup>(b)</sup>	6.386	8.544	6.214	4.020	25.164
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>32.028</b>	<b>40.633</b>	<b>38.241</b>	<b>14.397</b>	<b>125.299</b>

Source: 2020-21 Portfolio Budget Statement table 2.1.1, *Budgeted expenses for Outcome 1*, page 150.

(a) Departmental items include capital funding in 2021-22

(b) Administered Items include funding for the Digital Literacy for Older Australians (Be Connected) referred to in the 2020-21 Budget as "Digital Skills for Older Australians"



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*All current measures relating to the Office of the eSafety Commissioner<sup>1</sup>*

Measure (\$ millions)	Decision taken	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>Online Safety Reform Measure (Attachment A)</b>	2020-21 Budget			0.400	17.596	21.453	
<i>Departmental</i>				0.400	17.228	21.453	
<i>Capital</i>					0.368		
<b>COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure (Attachment B)</b>	2020-21 Budget			10.044			
<i>Departmental</i>				10.044			
<b>Digital Literacy for Older Australians (Be Connected program) – extension (Attachment C)</b>	2019-20 MYEFO & 2020-21 Budget <sup>2</sup>			3.890	3.921	3.964	4.020
<i>Administered</i>				3.890	3.921	3.964	4.020
<b>Online Safety Grants Program (Attachment D)</b>	2019-20 Budget		2.518	2.478	2.480	2.481	
<i>Departmental</i>			0.268	0.228	0.230	0.231	
<i>Administered<sup>3</sup></i>			2.250	2.250	2.250	2.250	
<b>Fourth Action Plan (2019-22) to reduce violence against women and their children<sup>4</sup> (Attachment E)</b>	2019-20 Budget		1.400	1.308	1.325		
<i>Departmental</i>			1.277	1.185	1.202		
<i>Administered</i>			0.123	0.123	0.123		
<b>Office of the eSafety Commissioner – additional funding Measure (Attachment F)</b>	2018-19 Budget	3.505	3.607	3.377	3.197		
<i>Departmental</i>		3.505	3.607	3.377	3.197		
<b>Ongoing departmental funding measures</b>	2014-15 MYEFO	10.631	10.309	10.309	10.309	10.309	10.309
<i>Departmental</i>		10.631	10.309	10.309	10.309	10.309	10.309

Sources: Communications Portfolio Budget Statements for each relevant Budget/MYEFO, and Costings Agreements. *n.b. The 2014-15 MYEFO funding is largely sourced from within ACMA's appropriation, as the Children's eSafety Commissioner was established halfway through that year. Therefore, the PBS figures do not exactly match the discrete eSafety Commissioner measures in that budget paper.*

<sup>1</sup> Further information on these measures can be found in Attachments A-F

<sup>2</sup> Funding was also provided in 2016-17 MYEFO – detail is included in Attachment C. Note: Measure referred to as "Digital Skills for Older Australians" in 2020-21 Budget.

<sup>3</sup> Available funding differs to this table because of the delayed passage of the 2019-20 Appropriation Bills. eSafety moved the 2019-20 funding allocation to 2021-22.

<sup>4</sup> Also referred to as "Technology-facilitated abuse resources for women with disability and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women"

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*NB: This funding is not included in the table on page 2 as it includes a measure for eSafety that has terminated and funding for the Department.*

### ***Keeping our Children Safe Online Package***

In December 2018, the Government announced a **\$17 million Keeping our Children Safe Online Package<sup>5</sup>** (as a 2018-19 MYEFO Measure) to keep children safe online. This included funding to eSafety and funding to the Department.

#### Funding allocated to eSafety

- **\$2.5 million** in funding for eSafety to develop and implement the **Early Years Online Safety Program** to provide targeted training, support and resources to improve online safety for children under five years of age.

Measure (\$ millions)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	Total
Early Years Online Safety Package - Departmental	0.528	1.956				2.484

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<sup>5</sup> More information on the Keeping our Children Safe Online Package is at Attachment G

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## ATTACHMENTS

### ***Additional information on funding measures***

**Attachment A:** Online Safety Reform measure

**Attachment B:** COVID-19 Online Safety Response measure

**Attachment C:** Be Connected program

**Attachment D:** Online Safety Grants program

**Attachment E:** Fourth Action Plan (2019-2022) to reduce violence against women and their children

**Attachment F:** Office of the eSafety Commissioner Additional Funding measure

**Attachment G:** Keeping our Children Safe Online package

### ***Media coverage***

**Attachment H:** Article from the *Sydney Morning Herald* 'Pandemic drives rise in revenge porn', 9 September 2020. The article reports the eSafety Commissioner saying that eSafety does not have the resources needed to deal with the surge in abuse and harassment.

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**ONLINE SAFETY REFORM MEASURE**

- Departmental funding of **\$32.1 million** in 2021-22 will provide eSafety with the resources necessary to fulfil its statutory responsibilities and the proposed expansion of its functions and activities. This will allow eSafety to:
  - Maintain the 2020-21 departmental funding level of **\$26 million**, which represents the minimum level required to maintain its existing functions;
  - Administer new online safety regulatory, policy and enforcement issues conferred through the passage of a new Online Safety Act;
  - Deliver current programs and leadership on online safety at levels consistent with current demand by resourcing:
    - Trusted eSafety Provider Program management;
    - Online Safety Grants Program administration;
    - international policy development; and
    - communications and stakeholder management.
  - Expand the investigations functions (complaints and enforcement) to manage the projected increase in complaints volume, based on existing trajectory paths;
  - Increase corporate staff to support the delivery of eSafety's expanded remit and strengthen eSafety's governance, financial and accountability arrangements. These staff would complement ACMA shared services arrangements and allow eSafety to tailor processes to align with the specialised nature of its regulatory and investigative functions;
  - Create a youth advisor position and online engagement platform to engage a youth voice in the creation of resources and awareness strategies.

(\$ millions)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Online Safety Reform Measure</b>		<b>0.400</b>	<b>17.596</b>	<b>21.453</b>
<i>Departmental funding</i>		0.400	17.228	21.453
<i>Capital</i>			0.368	

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Attachment B**COVID-19 ONLINE SAFETY RESPONSE MEASURE**

- On 28 June 2020, the Government announced additional funding of \$10.0 million in 2020-21 to enable the eSafety Commissioner to respond to the increased demand for the services of the eSafety Commissioner during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- See Estimates Brief SB20-000100: eSafety and COVID-19 for further information.

(\$ millions)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>COVID-19 Online Safety Response Measure</b>		<b>10.044</b>		
<i>Departmental funding</i>		10.044		

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Attachment C**BE CONNECTED PROGRAM**

- The Government's three-year extension to the Be Connected program until 2023-24 (\$11.9 million) will allow eSafety to continue operating the Be Connected portal and to develop new online training modules. The Program offers a range of resources to help older Australians improve their digital literacy, build confidence and engage safely online.
- As part of this program, **Be Connected Young Mentors** is an intergenerational mentoring program between high school-aged youth and older Australians providing older Australians the opportunity to learn from digitally-savvy young people, while equipping young people with valuable communication and leadership skills.
- The 2019-20 MYEFO included **\$9.3 million** to extend the Be Connected program (administered jointly by the Department of Social Services and eSafety) until 2020-21. This funding included **\$3.9 million** to eSafety in 2019-20 to extend the Be Connected program for 2020-21.

(\$ millions)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
<b>Digital Literacy for Older Australians (Be Connected)</b>	<b>5.381</b>	<b>5.381</b>	<b>3.890</b>	<b>3.921</b>	<b>3.964</b>	<b>4.020</b>
<i>Administered funding</i>						
1. 2016-17 MYEFO	5.381	5.381				
2. 2019-20 MYEFO - extension			3.890			
3. 2020-21 Budget - extension <sup>1</sup>				3.921	3.964	4.020

<sup>1</sup> Reported in the 2020-21 Portfolio Budget Statement as "Digital Skills for Older Australians"

**ONLINE SAFETY GRANTS PROGRAM**

- The Online Safety Grants Program is a 2019-20 Budget Measure, announced in February 2019, which provides **\$10.0 million** over four years (2019-20 to 2022-2023).
- **\$2.25 million** in grant funding is available in 2020-21. The eSafety Commissioner announced the eight successful grant recipients on 2 October 2020.
- The Online Safety Grants Program has enabled non-government organisations (NGOs) to apply for grant funding to deliver projects that improve the online safety of Australian children. Grant opportunities are targeted at education initiatives, assistance for parents and community and frontline support groups, and the online safety needs of vulnerable communities.
- The funding available each year differs to the measure in the 2019-20 Budget, which had allocated \$2.25 million in grant funding each year, beginning 2019-20. This is due to the delayed passage of the 2019-20 Appropriation Bills. The eSafety Commissioner moved \$2.25 million from 2019-20 to 2021-22.
- The Minister for Communications does not have decision making authority for this program. Instead, decision making sits with staff supporting the eSafety Commissioner.
- Questions related to the administration of the grants program should be directed to the eSafety Commissioner

(\$ millions)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Online Safety Grants Program</b>	<b>0.268</b>	<b>2.478</b>	<b>4.730</b>	<b>2.481</b>
<i>Grant funding available (Administered funding)</i>		2.250	4.500	2.250
<i>Program administration (Departmental funding)</i>	0.268	0.228	0.230	0.231

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Attachment E**FOURTH ACTION PLAN (2019-2022) TO REDUCE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN**

- This is a 2019-20 Budget Measure.
- The **Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children** provides Funding of **\$4.0 million** over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22) for eSafety to equip women with specific tools and support needed to protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse. This includes:
  - \$2.5 million for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women; and
  - \$1.5 million for women with intellectual disabilities

(\$ millions)	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Fourth Action Plan (2019-20) to reduce violence against women and their children</b>	<b>1.400</b>	<b>1.308</b>	<b>1.325</b>	
<i>Departmental funding</i>	1.277	1.185	1.202	
<i>Administered funding</i>	0.123	0.123	0.123	



**OFFICE OF THE ESAFETY COMMISSIONER – ADDITIONAL FUNDING MEASURE**

- Additional funding of **\$14.2 million** over four years (2018-19 to 2020-21) was provided in the **2018-19 Budget** to enable the eSafety Commissioner to continue work in the areas of image-based abuse and online safety for women.
  - **eSafety Women Program:** Additional funding of **\$1.2 million** enables the eSafety Commissioner to continue providing advice to frontline workers to help women experiencing online abuse, particularly in domestic violence cases.
  - **Certified Providers Program - online safety education:** **\$1.2 million** in funding for the eSafety Commissioner allows eSafety to continue training certified providers to deliver online safety education in schools. This funding continues the Government's support for appropriate training providers to deliver online safety education in schools.
  - **Enhanced remit – cyberbullying and cyber abuse:** An additional **\$1.7 million** in funding to enable the eSafety Commissioner to develop targeted resources for vulnerable Australians experiencing online abuse.
  - **Civil penalty regime for the non-consensual sharing of intimate images (also known as image-based abuse):** **\$4.0 million** in funding to support the eSafety Commissioner to manage complaints and enforce civil penalties against perpetrators and content hosts over four years.
  - **Strengthening IT infrastructure:** **\$6.0 million** to strengthen the eSafety Commissioner's IT infrastructure to safeguard sensitive material including child exploitation and intimate images.

(\$ millions)	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
<b>Office of the eSafety Commissioner – additional funding</b>	<b>3.505</b>	<b>3.607</b>	<b>3.377</b>	<b>3.197</b>
1. <i>Departmental - eSafety Women Program</i>	0.306	0.306	0.308	0.310
2. <i>Departmental - Certified Providers Program</i>	0.306	0.306	0.308	0.310
3. <i>Departmental - Enhanced remit – cyber bullying and cyber abuse</i>	0.452	0.452	0.405	0.407
4. <i>Departmental - Civil penalty regime</i>	0.800	1.001	1.006	1.013
5. <i>Departmental - Strengthening IT infrastructure</i>	1.641	1.542	1.350	1.157
<b>Capital funding</b>	<b>0.500</b>			
6. <i>Capital – Civil penalty regime</i>	0.200			
7. <i>Capital – Strengthening IT infrastructure</i>	0.300			

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Attachment G

## KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE ONLINE PACKAGE

- In December 2018, the Government announced a **\$17 million** package (as a 2018-19 MYEFO Measure) to keep children safe online. This included:

### Funding for eSafety

- **Early Years Online Safety Program – \$2.5 million** over two years from 2018-19 for the eSafety Commissioner to develop an Early Years Online Safety Program that provides targeted training, support and resources to improve online safety for children under five years of age.
  - While the Early Years Online Safety Program has not been extended in 2020-21, eSafety will continue to provide resources and support for this cohort. The resources developed will remain available for use by parents and educators.

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# Pandemic drives rise in revenge porn

By Katina Curtis

The Sydney Morning Herald  
Wednesday 9th September 2020  
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144cm on the page



## Pandemic drives rise in revenge porn

**Katina Curtis**

Online abuse and posting of revenge porn has skyrocketed during the pandemic and the eSafety watchdog says digital platforms have lost control of what happens on their sites.

However, National eSafety Commissioner Julie Inman Grant says her organisation hasn't got the resources needed to deal with the surge in abuse and harassment.

Complaints about revenge porn — people sharing intimate photos and videos online as retribution for ended relationships — are up by 245 per cent compared with the same period last year.

There has also been a 120 per cent increase in child sexual abuse ma-

terial, an 87 per cent jump in cyber bullying among young people and a 63 per cent rise in reports of adult cyber abuse.

Ms Inman Grant said when eSafety Commission investigators identify multiple abusive accounts, or co-ordinated attacks on someone across multiple platforms, tech companies make them flag content post by post. "The platforms will make us go through 300 posts to determine which ones contravene their [terms of] service and I say, 'Hey, this is happening on your platform, you build the roads, you need to build the guard rails, but you also need to police these roads for dangerous drivers and get them off so that other people aren't being damaged'," Ms Inman Grant said.

"You're the only ones that have the tools to be able to identify when attacks like this are happening at scale. The increases in all sorts of abuse out in the open we've seen on the major platforms, I think they've lost control and lost ability to take control of what's happening on their roads."

The government gave the eSafety Commission an extra \$10 million at the end of June. Ms Inman Grant said the commission would have tripled in size by the end of the year, but it would never be able to "go to war with the internet". "Right now we have four investigators working on youth-based cyber bullying and adult cyber abuse whereas Facebook has 40,000 content moderators," she told a parliamentary committee examining domestic violence.

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## ONLINE SAFETY CURRENT MEASURES

LEAD / SUPPORT: RICHARD ECCLES / MIKE MAKIN

### KEY STATEMENT:

The Government has committed more than \$100 million over four years to keep Australians safe online.

### KEY ISSUES

#### *2019-20 MYEFO Measure*

- In January 2020, the Government announced funding of \$9.3 million to extend for another year the **Be Connected** program that helps older Australians navigate the online world safely, of which **\$3.9 million** was allocated to eSafety. The program is delivered jointly by the Department of Social Services and the eSafety Commissioner.

#### *2019-20 Budget Measures*

- **Online Safety Grants Program:** Funding of **\$10 million over four years (2019-20 to 2022-2023)** was announced on 9 February 2019. The program, administered by the eSafety Commissioner, will support non-government organisations to deliver online safety and training projects.
- **Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and Children:** Funding of **\$4.0 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22)** for the eSafety Commissioner, comprising \$2.5 million for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and \$1.5 for women with intellectual disabilities to equip them with specific tools and support needed to protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse.

#### *\$17 million Keeping Australians Safe Online Package*

- In December 2018, the Government announced a \$17 million package to keep children safe online. This includes:

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- **Early Years Online Safety program – \$2.5 million over two years from 2018-19** for the eSafety Commissioner to develop an Early Years Online Safety Program to provide targeted training, support and resources to improve online safety for children under five years of age. Funding for the development of the **Online Safety Charter**, a statement of expectations for social media services, and the **National Online Safety Awareness Campaign**. **BACKGROUND**

Funding for specific online safety programs is summarised below. Progress descriptions are provided in the following section.

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Measures	2018-19 \$m	2019-20 \$m	2020-21 \$m	2021-22 \$m	2022-23 \$m	Total \$m
Be Connected – eSafety [Should include the figure for 2018-19, as it is was funded in that year]	5.4	5.4	3.9			14.7
Early Years Online Safety Program – eSafety [I think this one should be \$2.5 million in total]	0.5	2.0	-	-	-	2.5
Enhanced Regulation for Online Safety – Department [I think this one should be \$1.2 or \$1.3 million over two years.]	0.4	0.9	-	-		1.2
Online Safety Grants Program – eSafety	N/A	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	10.0
4AP: ATSI tech-facilitated abuse – eSafety	N/A	0.8	0.8	0.9		2.5
4AP: Women with intellectual disability – eSafety	N/A	0.6	0.5	0.4		1.5
<b>Total – Expense</b>	<b>7.1</b>	<b>13.1</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>2.5</b>	<b>35.8</b>

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding

The 2019-20 MYEFO included \$9.3 million to extend the **Be Connected program** (administered jointly by the Department of Social Services and eSafety) until 2020-21. This included \$3.89 million for the eSafety Commissioner. An aspect of this program is Be Connected Young Mentors, an intergenerational mentoring program between high school-aged youth and older Australians. It provides older Australians the opportunity to learn from digitally-savvy young people while equipping young people with valuable communication and leadership skills.

The **Early Years Online Safety Program** is providing the eSafety Commissioner with an additional \$2.5 million over two years (commencing 2018-19) to develop and roll out competency-based training for early childhood educators to ensure they have the online safety skills and knowledge necessary to support the youngest Australians. The eSafety Commissioner has developed targeted resources and information for parents and carers of children in the 0 to 5 years cohort and distribute through childcare centres and other early learning settings.

The eSafety Commissioner has consulted with key stakeholders and gathered evidence from focus groups with families and early educators to scope the program. The eSafety Commissioner is also working closely with experts in this space, including Professor s 47F s 47F Director of Early Childhood Futures at Australian Catholic University, to ensure the resources are practical, relevant and engaging. Resources include the eSafety Early Years - Online Safety for Under 5s booklet – which is being sent to every early childcare service across the country. The eSafety Commissioner collaborated also with ABC Children and the makers of Play School on a special episode exploring online safety.

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There were two specific online safety measures included in the 2019-20 Budget as part of the **Fourth Action Plan (2019 22) to reduce violence against women and their children**. The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources program** provides \$2.5 million over three years (commencing 2019-20) for the eSafety Commissioner to co-develop and roll out a program of resources and training to frontline workers, to equip them with the tools they need to protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children from technology-facilitated abuse. The program is being developed and delivered in partnership with identified Aboriginal-owned and staff support organisations to ensure resources are culturally appropriate for frontline workers and fit for purpose.

The **Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources for Women with Intellectual Disability Program** is providing \$1.5 million over three years (commencing in 2019-20) for accessible and targeted resources and training for specialist frontline workers, to help women with intellectual disabilities identify, report and protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse. This program is being developed in collaboration with the disability sector and includes an audit of existing resources as well as the development of new resources to support frontline workers.

The \$17 million Keeping Australians Safe Online package also included \$9.4 million for the **National Online Safety Awareness Campaign**. The campaign was administered by the Department through a series of procurement processes, which were done through competitive tenders and existing whole-of-government procurement arrangements.

The **Online Safety Grants Program** will enable Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to apply for grant funding to deliver projects to improve the online safety of Australian children. Funding of \$2.25 million will be available over the four years from 2019-20 to 2022-23. Grant opportunities are expected to be targeted at education initiatives, assistance for parents and community and frontline support groups, and the online safety needs of vulnerable communities. The eSafety Commissioner is developing the guidelines for the program, including the eligibility criteria and application process. The program will commence in the first half of 2020.

**Technology Trials projects – \$1.05 million over two years until 2019-20** has been provided to the eSafety Commissioner for three projects relating to technology facilitated abuse as part of the **Third Action Plan for the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children**. (This was announced on 16 February 2019.)

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## ONLINE SAFETY MEASURES

LEAD/SUPPORT: RICHARD ECCLES/MIKE MAKIN

### KEY STATEMENT:

The Government is committed to ensuring that Australians can confidently take advantage of the benefits of the digital environment, and that means putting measures in place that protect them from online harms.

### KEY ISSUES

#### *Online Safety Reform*

- The digital environment is changing rapidly, and we need to ensure that the regulatory settings for online safety are fit-for-purpose.
- The Government is committed to modernising and streamlining our regulations through the development of a new Online Safety Act.
- This Act will consolidate the effective elements of our current legislation and build on our strengths.
- The Department is planning to undertake extensive consultation with industry, consumers and organisations to develop a reform proposal.

#### *Online Safety Charter*

- The Government has committed to releasing an Online Safety Charter that sets out the Government's expectations, on behalf of the Australian community, of the online safety practices of digital platforms and technology companies.
- This initiative was announced as part of the Children's Online Safety Package in December 2018. The Government released the draft Charter for industry and public consultation on 16 February 2019.
- It is clear that industry could do more to protect their users by taking greater responsibility for online safety.
- The Charter will set out the responsibilities of service providers, features that services should provide, and transparency and accountability requirements.
- The Charter will not be mandatory or regulatory in nature. However, industry's demonstrated commitment to the Charter principles will be a clear indicator of the seriousness with which technology firms are treating the safety of their users.

#### *Nationally consistent approach to cyberbullying*

- The Government has committed to working with the states and territories to develop national principles and a consistent approach to combatting criminal cyber-bullying and online harassment.
- Our Department is working closely with the Attorney-General's Department and the Department of Home Affairs to take this work forward.



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- This work will seek to address inconsistencies between approaches to criminal cyberbullying across Australia.
- In addition, our Department is developing a proposal for the 'right to be forgotten' for victims of cyberbullying and abuse for the consideration of COAG.

***Online safety funding measures since the 2018-19 budget***

- **Early Years Online Safety program – \$2.5 million over two years from 2018-19** for the eSafety Commissioner to develop an Early Years Online Safety Program to provide targeted training, support and resources to improve online safety for children under five years of age.
- **Technology Trials projects – \$1.05 million over two years until 2019-20** will be provided to the eSafety Commissioner for three projects relating to technology facilitated abuse as part of the Third Action Plan for the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children. (This was announced on 16 February 2019.)
- **Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence Against Women and their Children – \$4.0 million over three years (2019-20 to 2021-22)** for the eSafety Commissioner, announced 5 March, comprising:
  - **\$2.5 million** to co-develop and roll out a program of resources and training to frontline workers, to equip them with the specific tools needed to help Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women identify, report and protect themselves and their children from technology-facilitated abuse. Money to be provided from Indigenous Advancement Strategy.
  - **\$1.5 million** to develop and provide accessible and targeted resources and training for specialist frontline workers, to help women with intellectual disability identify, report and protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse. Money to be provided by Social services portfolio.
- On 9 February 2019 the Government announced that the 2019-20 Budget would include an **Online Safety Grants Program**, providing \$10 million over four years to the eSafety Commissioner to establish a contestable funding pool to support non-government organisations to deliver online safety and training projects. The program will support projects that address gaps in resources or services, particularly for more vulnerable communities and regions.

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## BACKGROUND

### *A new Online Safety Act*

In the context of the 2019 election, the Government committed to introducing a new Online Safety Act.

As a starting point, the new Act will be informed by a 2018 review of the *Enhancing Online Safety Act 2015* and a review of Schedules 5 and 7 to the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* (the Online Content Scheme), conducted by Ms Lynelle Briggs AO. The reviews were completed on 31 October 2018. The report of the reviews (the Briggs review) was tabled in Parliament on 14 February 2019.

The review found that although the world-first initiative of the Office of the eSafety Commissioner has achieved much success since it was established in 2015, there is a need to modernise the legislative framework governing harmful online content and conduct.

The Briggs review recommended five key changes. While the Government has not released an official response to the Briggs Review, the former Minister for Communications and the Arts indicated the Government's position in Estimates hearings on 19 February 2019:

	Overview (note this is a summary, not exact text)	Government position
1	That Government introduce the significant and wide ranging changes to the online safety system identified in the report, which will set out the new norms and standards for the online world, and establish new regulatory arrangements to put them into practice.	Supported in principle
2	It is recommended that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the online regulatory framework be strengthened by enforcing through legislation a more proactive regulatory regime which will place additional requirements on industry to enforce their policies, moderate content on their platforms, and report annually to the eSafety Commissioner, with serious penalties for non-compliance.</li> <li>b. significant legislative reform to be undertaken to establish a new Online Safety Act to replace the current legislation. The new Online Safety Act to be introduced by 1 July 2019, and passed into law in the second half of 2019, subject to other legislative priorities.</li> <li>c. a National Online Safety Plan be produced by the Department of Communications and the Arts and eSafety Office, in consultation with stakeholders. The Plan is to take effect from 1 January 2020.</li> <li>d. immediate efforts be made to establish more effective collaborative partnerships and co-operative working relationships, which includes the creation of a new standing eSafety Advisory Committee.</li> </ul>	Supported in principle
3	Governance arrangements be improved by moving the eSafety Commissioner and her Office from the ACMA to the Department of Communications and the Arts.	Supported in principle

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4	For new governance arrangements to be reviewed after a transition period of 3 years to assess the possibility of setting up a new standalone online safety entity.	Supported in principle
5	Resources and average staffing level of the eSafety Office be boosted to support the proposed new and expanded functions envisaged in this report.	Noted

### ***Online Safety Charter***

The Online Safety Charter was announced as part of the Children's Online Safety Package in December 2018. The Charter will set out the Government's expectations of industry in relation to online safety.

The Government released the draft Charter for industry and public consultation on 16 February 2019. Submissions closed on 5 April 2019. 21 submissions were received, which will inform the Charter. It is intended that the Charter will be released during 2019.

The Charter will not be mandatory or regulatory in nature. However, industry's commitment to the Charter principles will be a clear indicator of the seriousness with which technology firms are treating the safety of their users and will inform further policy development.

### ***Nationally consistent approach to cyberbullying***

Cyberbullying is being given national cross-government attention.

The report of the Senate Inquiry into the Adequacy of Existing Criminal Offences to Capture Cyberbullying, which examined the adequacy of existing Commonwealth, and state and territory criminal offences to capture cyberbullying, was tabled on 28 March 2018. The report recommended that the Australian Government consider increasing the maximum penalty for using a carriage service to menace, harass, or cause offence under section 474.17 of the Criminal Code Act 1995 from three years' imprisonment to five years' imprisonment. The Government made an election commitment to implement this recommendation.

The Queensland Anti-Cyberbullying Taskforce Report, released September 2018, stated the Taskforce heard 'of the considerable distress experienced by people who have had cyberbullying material posted and shared online, sometimes easily discoverable years later through a search engine despite having been removed from social media.' The Queensland Government accepted the Taskforce's recommendation that "the Queensland Government advocate that the Commonwealth Government introduce 'right to be forgotten' or 'right to erasure' legislation in Australia."

At the COAG meeting on 12 December 2018, leaders supported in-principle the 'right to be forgotten' for victims of cyberbullying and abuse and agreed the Commonwealth, in consultation with states and territories, would bring back to COAG a proposal to achieve this. The Department has consulted with all States and Territories in developing a Scoping Paper and is now progressing an Options Paper which will be agreed with all States and Territories prior to providing a final proposal for reform to COAG.

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**Funded programs**

Funding for specific online safety programs is summarised below. Progress descriptions are provided in the following section.

Measures	2018-19 \$m	2019-20 \$m	2020-21 \$m	2021-22 \$m	2022-23 \$m	Total
National Online Safety Awareness Campaign	9.4	-	-	-	-	9.4
Early Years Online Safety Program	0.5	2.0	-	-	-	2.5
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Development and implementation of the Online Safety Charter	0.4	0.9	-	-		1.2
Online Safety Grants Program		2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	10
4AP – ATSI tech-facilitated abuse		0.8	0.8	0.9		2.5
4AP – Women with intellectual disability		0.6	0.5	0.4		1.5
<b>Total – Expense</b>	<b>11.0</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>4.6</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>30.8</b>

Note: Figures may not add due to rounding

The **Online Safety Grants Program** will enable Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) to apply for grant funding to deliver projects to improve the online safety of Australian children. Funding of \$2.25 million will be available over the four years from 2019-20 to 2022-23. Grant opportunities are expected to be targeted at education initiatives, assistance for parents and community and frontline support groups, and the online safety needs of vulnerable communities.

The eSafety Commissioner is developing the guidelines for the program, including the eligibility criteria and application process. However, the program has not commenced as the funding is not yet available. Appropriation Bill (No. 1) 2019-20 has passed the House but is yet to pass the Senate, and the Department of Finance has advised that this is unlikely to occur until mid to late November. Once this occurs, eSafety will finalise the guidelines for release.

The **Early Years Online Safety Program** will provide the eSafety Commissioner with an additional \$2.5 million over two years (commencing 2018-19) to develop and roll out competency-based training for early childhood educators to ensure they have the online safety skills and knowledge necessary to support the youngest Australians. The eSafety Commissioner will also develop targeted resources and information for parents and carers of children in the 0 to 5 years cohort and distribute through childcare centres and other early learning settings.

The eSafety Commissioner has consulted with key stakeholders and gathered evidence from focus groups with families and early educators to scope the program. The eSafety Commissioner is also working closely with experts in this space, including Professors **s 47F** Director of Early Childhood Futures at Australian Catholic University, to ensure the resources are practical, relevant and engaging. Resources will be rolled out in 2020, with hard copy information packs for parents and carers delivered to early learning centres in

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early 2020, followed by online professional learning modules for early childhood educators being developed in collaboration with Early Childhood Australia.

The eSafety Commissioner is collaborating with ABC Children and the makers of PlaySchool on a special episode exploring online safety. The eSafety Commissioner is also scoping a range of other resources, such as play-based activities for early learning centres.

There were two specific online safety measures included in the 2019-20 Budget as part of the **Fourth Action Plan (2019 22) to reduce violence against women and their children**. The **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources program** will provide \$2.5 million over three years (commencing 2019-20) for the eSafety Commissioner to co-develop and roll out a program of resources and training to frontline workers, to equip them with the tools they need to protect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and their children from technology-facilitated abuse. The program will be developed and delivered in partnership with identified Aboriginal-owned and staff support organisations to ensure resources are culturally appropriate for frontline workers and fit for purpose. Detailed project scoping is underway, including the recruitment of a dedicated project officer. The program will be delivered in phases to 2022.

The **Technology-facilitated Abuse Resources for Women with Intellectual Disability Program** will provide \$1.5 million over three years (commencing in 2019-20) for accessible and targeted resources and training for specialist frontline workers, to help women with intellectual disabilities identify, report and protect themselves from technology-facilitated abuse. This program will be developed in collaboration with the disability sector and include an audit of existing resources as well as the development of new resources to support frontline workers. The program will be delivered in phases to 2022.

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