



Date Tuesday, 18 February 2025

National Anti-Corruption Commission to investigate Robodebt referrals

As a result of the decision made by its independent reconsideration delegate, Mr Geoffrey Nettle AC KC, on 10 February 2025, the Commission will investigate the 6 referrals it received from the Royal Commission into the Robodebt Scheme.

The purpose of the investigation is to determine whether or not any of the 6 referred persons engaged in corrupt conduct.

Consistent with its usual practice, the Commission does not publish reasons for commencing an investigation, as doing so may prejudice the investigations, disclose information which the Commission is required by law to keep confidential, compromise investigative pathways and/or unfairly impact reputations and rights of individuals to impartial adjudication.

The Commission is now making arrangements to ensure the impartial and fair investigation of the referrals, as it did with the appointment of Mr Nettle as independent reconsideration delegate.

The Commissioner and those Deputy Commissioners who were involved in the original decision not to investigate the referrals, will not participate in the investigation.

From: Philip Reed
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:37 PM
To: NACC - All Staff
Subject: Decision by Mr Geoffrey Nettle AC KC on Robodebt referrals [SEC=OFFICIAL:Sensitive]

OFFICIAL:Sensitive

Hi - I write to inform you that the Commission has received the decision by the independent delegate, Mr Geoffrey Nettle AC KC, appointed to reconsider the referrals from the Royal Commission into the Robodebt Scheme.

Mr Nettle has decided that each of the 6 referrals raises a corruption issue and that all 6 referrals should progress to corruption investigations under the *National Anti-Corruption Commission Act 2022* (Cth).

The Commission is making arrangements to ensure the impartial and fair investigation of the referrals, as it did with the appointment of Mr Nettle as Independent Delegate.

The Commissioner and Deputy Commissioners Rose and Gauntlett will not participate in the investigation.

We will shortly issue a media release announcing this which you will be able to [view here](#).

There is no doubt this announcement will generate a high level of media interest and commentary on the Commission and our work once again.

I acknowledge this news may upset or frustrate some of you. And I understand you may have questions for us about the announcement or views you want to raise.

As always, I will remind you the dedicated channels we have in place to allow you to seek support or discuss openly about this and all matters that are affecting you.

This includes:

- The [Anonymous feedback form](#)
- Contact with your manager, General Manager, or the People team
- [The Commission's free 24/7 EAP service](#).

I have also asked each General Manager to book in a meeting with you as soon as practicable, to provide a line of direct communication for you to ask questions or share how you are feeling and what you want more information on.

In the meantime, we will continue to progress the Commission's important work, and I will provide you with updates as soon as there is more I can share.

Regards, Philip

From: Peta Hegarty
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 8:14 PM
To: Philip Reed
Subject: Dot points for Philip Peta catch up [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Philip

Sending my usual dot points ahead of our catch-up Tuesday at 4pm.

M&C

- Focus has been on media release, manager TPs, and other internal comms relating to the forthcoming announcement re Robo matters.

Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Peta

Peta Hegarty

General Manager Media, Communications, Corruption Prevention and Education

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material



nacc.gov.au



National Anti-Corruption Commission

In the spirit of reconciliation, the National Anti-Corruption Commission acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Australia and their connections to land, sea and community. We pay our respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

From: Philip Reed
Sent: Monday, 17 February 2025 4:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Rebekah O'Meagher
Subject: Final media release
Attachments: Media Release 20250217 - final.docx

Hi [REDACTED] – please find attached the final version of the media release for use today if required. The date will need to be changed if issued today. Regards, Philip

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:02 PM
To: Philip Reed
Subject: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi Philip – can we advise GMs that the announcement will now not occur at midday?

Most/all have scheduled in meetings with their branches to discuss or field questions.

Regards,

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:40 PM
To: Philip Reed
Subject: RE: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Section 47C - Deliberative processes

From: Philip Reed [REDACTED] >
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:39 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nacc.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

[REDACTED] – email no sent to all staff. Media release imminent at around 12:45pm. Regards, Philip

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nacc.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:09 PM
To: Philip Reed [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nacc.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Understood Philip.

I think at least 2 branches had meetings planned for 2pm but not yet sent out.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

From: Philip Reed [Section 47F - Personal privacy]
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:03 PM
To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nacc.gov.au>
Subject: RE: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED] – I can't tell you when it will be announced. What are times of their staff meetings? Regards, Philip

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nacc.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:02 PM
To: Philip Reed [REDACTED] >
Subject: [FOR ADVICE] Advising GMs [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

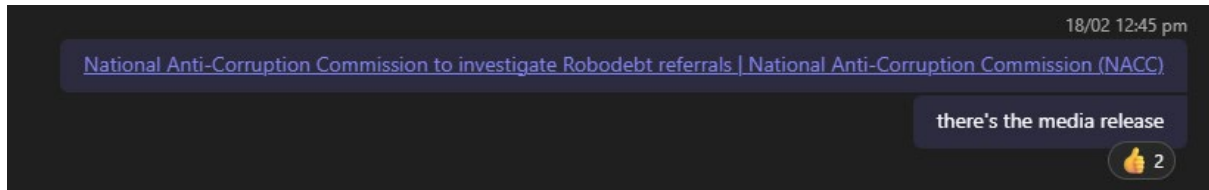
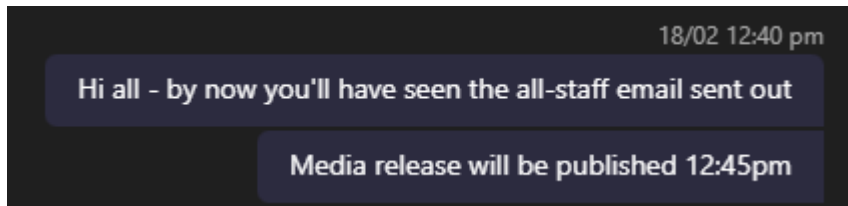
Hi Philip – can we advise GMs that the announcement will now not occur at midday?

Most/all have scheduled in meetings with their branches to discuss or field questions.

Regards,

Section 47F

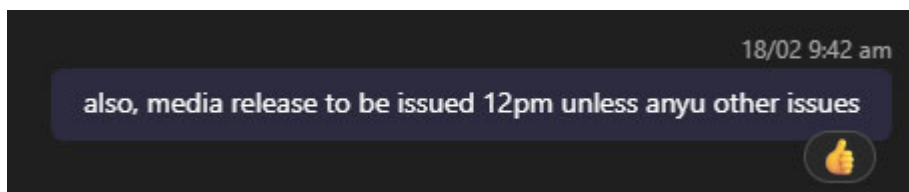
Teams messages with General Managers



Teams messages with Director of Governance

Section 47C - Deliberative processes

Section 47C - Deliberative processes



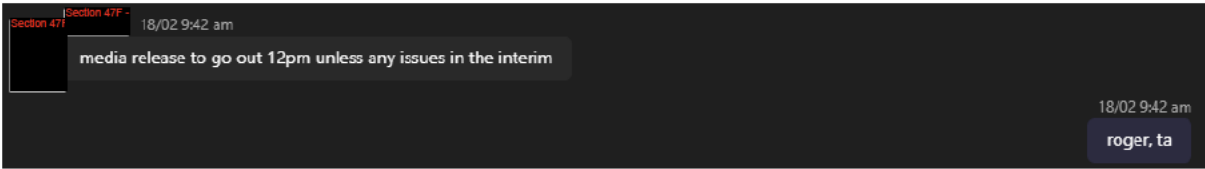
Section 47C - Deliberative processes, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material



Teams messages in chat with Director of Media and Communications

Section 47C - Deliberative processes, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material





Section 47C - Deliberative processes, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material, Section 47F - Personal privacy



Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material, Section 47C - Deliberative processes



Celeste >



Tue, 18 Feb at 10:29 am

Heads up

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

 may call you re media release

As in our media release going out sometime today

Tue, 18 Feb at 12:11 pm

Thanks  I was late to the meeting because  called.

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

FYI media release was to be midday, but now not going out. Unsure what time now.

I'll keep you posted. And just fyi, I'm doing the same for 

Thanks , really appreciate

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material



iMessage





Celeste >

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Hi - media release going out
1245pm
I'll email to you

Thank you 

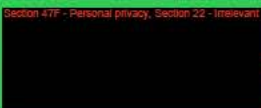
Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

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Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

 - apologies for the delay in coming back to you. The media release (statement) is yet to be settled, and at this rate it's looking like it still won't be settled by the Commission until tomorrow morning. I'll see if I can get an update later this afternoon.



Text Message • SMS



Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material



Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material

Tue, 18 Feb at 11:41 am



- pending any last second issues, we are publishing our media release at midday. I'll send you a copy by email.

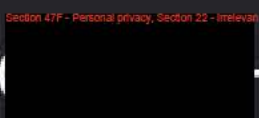
Thank you



. False alarm. Not happening at midday. Am sorry, I'll keep you posted once I know more.



- apologies, media release going out 1245pm I'll send to you



- apologies, media release going out 1245pm I'll send to you'



Text Message • SMS



From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: NACC media release
Date: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:44:00 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[media_release_20250218_final_.pdf](#)

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find attached a copy of the Commission's media release just published.

Regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Executive Officer to the CEO
Office of the CEO and Commissioner

[REDACTED]



nacc.gov.au

From: [REDACTED] Section 47F - Personal privacy
To: [Moran, Celeste](#)
Subject: NACC media release
Date: Tuesday, 18 February 2025 12:44:00 PM
Attachments: [media_release_20250218_final_.pdf](#)
[image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi Celeste,

Please find attached a copy of the Commission's media release just published.

Regards,

[REDACTED] Section 47F

[REDACTED] Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22

Executive Officer to the CEO
Office of the CEO and Commissioner

[REDACTED] Section 47F - Personal privacy, Section 22 - Irrelevant Material



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