

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS

REVIEW OF THE FOUR MAJOR BANKS (SECOND REPORT)

Westpac

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Mr KEOGH: It is not really their money; it is your money that they are spending on a credit card. I understand the scheme rule point. I understand that other smaller banks have started to do this—to prohibit the use of credit cards on online gambling services. If someone uses an online gambling service, is that treated as a purchase or as a cash advance?

Mr Hartzler: I would have to take that on notice. David, do you happen to know?

Mr Lindberg: I believe it is treated as a purchase.

Mr KEOGH: Why is that the case—that it is treated as a purchase instead of a cash advance? Basically, you are transferring cash into another service that—

Mr Hartzler: I do not know. Again, we are happy to come back on notice on this one. I suspect it is a bit like: if you buy a lottery ticket, have you placed a bet or have you bought something? I imagine it has evolved out of some logic like that. As I say, it is something that we are looking at.

Answer: Use of an online gambling service is treated as a cash advance.