

PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON CORPORATIONS AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Report of the inquiry into Financial Services Regulatory Framework in Relation to Financial Abuse

Corrigendum

Delete paragraph 5.55 on page 141

5.55 At the committee's public hearing in Canberra, Ms Anita Challen, Assistant Commissioner at the ATO, expressed concern regarding victim-survivors issued DPNs for companies they are unaware they are directors of:

They can't respond in 21 days. They've got debt collectors coming to their door and saying, 'The only way you get out of this is to declare yourself bankrupt.' They become bankrupt. They've got that on their record forever. That is what that trigger is doing. It's absolutely not working for women in this situation. Is it entirely appropriate where somebody's trying to bludge off the rest of Australia and not pay their tax? I want to keep saying we don't want to find a way out for people who just don't want to pay, but we definitely do not want women becoming bankrupt to comply with a DPN because they have no literacy and no access to services in a timely way. That's a system abuse, really, of that person.