



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA

**PARLIAMENTARY JOINT COMMITTEE ON LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**5 April 2018**

**Law Enforcement Committee examines the theft and export of motor vehicles**

On 28 March 2018, the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement commenced a new inquiry into the theft and export of motor vehicles and parts.

In 2016, motor vehicle thefts increased by 9 per cent, driven entirely by increases in motor vehicle thefts in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia.<sup>1</sup> According to the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, stolen vehicles exported as a whole, parts or scrap account for 4 in 10 profit-motivated thefts.<sup>2</sup> This trend is rising.<sup>3</sup>

The committee will consider the extent of and trends in theft and trafficking of motor vehicles and parts, including:

- rates of motor vehicle theft and recovery in Australia in comparison with other OECD nations;
- the insurance implications of motor vehicle theft;
- the adequacy of Australian export regulations;
- the role and involvement of serious and organised criminal groups;
- the use of Australian banking and financial systems to facilitate the export of stolen motor vehicles and parts; and
- strategies to reduce motor vehicle theft in Australia, including the use of new technologies.

The committee invites submissions addressing the terms of reference from interested individuals and organisations by **17 May 2018**.

Information about the inquiry, including the full terms of reference, is available at:

[https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/Joint/Law\\_Enforcement/Motorvehicletheft](https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Law_Enforcement/Motorvehicletheft).

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For media comment contact the office of Mr Craig Kelly MP, Committee Chair, on (02) 9521 6262.

For information about the inquiry process or making a submission, please contact the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 3419.

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<sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), 'Three states drive increase in vehicle thefts', media release, 6 July 2017.

<sup>2</sup> National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council (NMVTRC), *Strategic Plan 2017-2019: Towards a Secure Future*, p. 14.

<sup>3</sup> NMVTRC, *Strategic Plan 2017-2019: Towards a Secure Future*, p. 15.