



VICTORIA POLICE

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Stephen Palethorpe
Committee Secretary, Commonwealth Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement
Parliament House
PO Box 6100
Canberra ACT 2600

Via email: le.committee@aph.gov.au

Dear Stephen

Inquiry into Combatting Crime as a Service

Thank you for your email dated 4 September 2025, inviting Victoria Police to make a submission to the Committee's Inquiry into Combatting Crime as a Service (the Inquiry).

Victoria Police declines the invitation to provide a submission to the Inquiry however, would welcome the opportunity to appear before the Inquiry to speak to the significant changes and growth in this serious and organised crime environment due to the anonymity, reach and high-yield of cybercrime and the escalation of conflict between organised crime syndicates due to these capabilities.

I also invite the Inquiry to review the following open-source information and reports which highlight the increasing risk and presence of cybercrime networks.

Chainalysis tabled its reporting of 2024 crypto crime trends that was estimated at \$40.9 billion received by illicit addresses known today, though estimated to be closer to \$51 billion given historical trends. Stolen funds increased by approximately 21% year on year to \$2.2 billion with high and low-tech fraud scams prolific, with high-yield investment scams and pig butchering (where the victim is encouraged to make increasing financial contributions over a long period, usually in the form of cryptocurrency) the most successful fraud and scam types. The increased use of artificial intelligence was also consistent with a broader trend across a range of illicit cybercrimes.

TRM labs 2025 Crypto Crime Report identifies crypto transaction volume grew to over USD 10.6 trillion in 2024, up 56% since 2023. Ransomware has remained a prolific and growing threat internationally, with the financial demands of ransomware actors reaching unprecedented levels, exemplified by a record USD 75 million payment made to the Dark Angels Ransomware

group in March 2024, highlighting the increasing boldness and sophistication of threat actors, who are noted as leveraging advanced tools and techniques to maximise their extortion efforts.

Should you wish to arrange an appearance before the Inquiry, an invitation would be welcomed at [REDACTED] If you have any questions or issues, the Victoria Police contact for this matter is [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Mike Bush CNZM
Chief Commissioner of Police

14/10/25.