



# Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement

## Inquiry into illicit tobacco

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**PARLIAMENTARY INQUIRY SPOKEN QUESTION ON NOTICE**

**Joint Committee on Law Enforcement**  
Inquiry into illicit tobacco

**6 December 2019**

**QoN Number: PJCLE/001**

**Subject: Number of seizures from the international mail centre**

***Asked by:*** Craig Kelly

***Question:***

CHAIR: Can you give us the number of seizures that you've made from the international mail centre over the past 12 months?

Mr Duckworth: I don't have those figure to hand.

Ms Huey: I'm not sure if we break it down by that vector, but we could go back and have a look. We can take it on notice.

CHAIR: Is it in the thousands? Is it in the tens of thousands or the hundreds?

Ms Huey: Before 1 July this year—I'm not giving you a fact because I can't give you an actual number. But certainly I would say it's in the thousands, probably, per week.

CHAIR: So a thousand detections a week?

Ms Huey: Potentially. That's just a rule of thumb. It's certainly in the high hundreds.

CHAIR: And you're saying there is a trend recently in that decreasing?

Mr Duckworth: We believe so, yes. We'll take it on notice.

***Answer:***

In the 2018/19 financial year, the Australian Border Force (ABF) made 282,398 tobacco detections in international mail, an increase of 172,660 detections the previous year.

In the 2019/20 year to date, the ABF has made 68,282 tobacco detections in international mail.