Safer Children, Safer Communities.

Work Program



We are committed to reducing the human impact of financial crime, helping to protect children, create safer communities and contribute to long-term change within Westpac Group, across business and in society.

Our ambitions.

The Safer Children, Safer Communities work program involves a series of actions and investments that we intend to deliver in Australia and across the Asia Pacific Region (APAC) over a three-year period (2020 – 2023). The program emerged from the third pillar of Westpac's Response Plan to the AUSTRAC November 2019 Statement of Claim

WE WILL FOCUS OUR EFFORTS ON **FOUR AMBITIONS** WHICH ARE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CHILD SAFETY AND PROTECTION



Catalyse Change

Catayse change in Westpac Group to create deeper awareness and accountability and be an advocate in Australia for safeguarding children.



Raises Awareness

Raise awareness, particularly on the issue of online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC) and the role of business and the community in acknowledging and taking responsibility for safeguarding and protecting children.



Accelerate unity of action

Accelerate unity of action on OSEC, through the development and adoption of collaborative technologies and capabilities to better detect, monitor, report and prevent harm to children associated with financial crime.



Help protect children

Help protect children in Australia, and in those APAC countries where children are at highest risk, by supporting and scaling the efforts of organisations to empower, protect and support children, survivors, their families and carers, and improve their access to restorative justice.

A collective effort

To guide our approach, we have established a Roundtable of experts in human rights, child safety, online safety, and law enforcement. Together, with the Roundtable and our wider Advisory Group, we have developed a work program which focuses on our ambitions for impact to support long lasting change for children, young people, and their families.

TACKLING CHILD EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE REQUIRES **A COLLECTIVE EFFORT**, AND WE CONTINUE TO ENGAGE WITH A RANGE OF STAKEHOLDERS TO LEARN AND SHARE OUR EXPERIENCES



Roundtable

We have established the Safer Children, Safer Communities Roundtable of experts in human rights, child safety, online safety, and law enforcement to guide our approach. They helped us co-design our work program, provide guidance on internal processes and endorse our grant recipients.



Advisory Group

We have invited representatives of civil society groups, national child protection organisations and experts in modern slavery, trafficking and human rights working on the frontline of preventing child exploitation and abuse to provide us with insights on how our programs can help make a difference. They helped us co-design our work program and our grants program.



Strategic Partners

International Justice Mission and Save the Children Australia are two of our key strategic partners working on the frontline of preventing OSEC in APAC. They provide us with insights on the ground and help us reach children and their families in the Philippines.

Expected outcomes.

The Safer Children, Safer Communities work program seeks to contribute to long-term change in collaboration with the Safer Children, Safer Communities Roundtable, the Expert Advisory Group and through our partnerships.

SHORT-TERM OUTCOMES

- Create deeper, sustainable awareness, understanding and accountability for safeguarding children, including the prevention of online sexual exploitation of children and of Westpac Group's commitments and expectations in this space.
- Increased visibility and awareness in Australia of sexual exploitation of children, including the online sexual exploitation of children and its impacts on children and young people.
- Faster adoption of risk typologies and innovative solutions to help prevent, detect, and report online sexual exploitation of children in financial transactions.
- Improved reach and effectiveness of programs and services for children at risk of sexual exploitation and abuse and survivors, their families, and carers.

MEDIUM TO LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

- Be a leading advocate in Australia for safeguarding children through relationships with employees, customers, investors and partners.
- Better understanding of the prevalence and demand for child sexual exploitation, including the online sexual exploitation of children, informing effective prevention, legislative and policy changes.
- Increased collaboration on data sharing, enabling business and authorities to work more effectively together to fight the online sexual exploitation of children.
- Improved rates of detection and reporting of online sexual exploitation of children transactions across the Australian financial services sector.
- Programs and initiatives that empower, engage, and educate children and their families can scale and grow.
- Organisations that provide trauma-informed services including response, recovery and remedy to survivors of child sexual abuse and exploitation are collaborating to deliver critical services to survivors and their families.

Delivery of work program.

The Safer Children, Safer Communities work program involves a series of actions and investments over a three year period (2020 - 2023).

AMBITIONS	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3
Westpac Group Catalyse change in the company to create deeper awareness and accountability and be an advocate in Australia for safeguarding children.	Embed child safety considerations into existing customer vulnerability, financial crime, and sustainability risk architecture at Westpac Group – policies, procedures, training etc. Seek to engage with the financial services sector to raise awareness of child sexual exploitation.	Communicate relevant progress and learnings from our ongoing work into our external and internal reporting as well as modern slavery statements.	Communicate relevant progress and learnings from our ongoing work into our external and internal reporting as well as modern slavery statements. Track the effectiveness of actions taken, drawing feedback from our partners.
Upstream Raise awareness of the issue of online sexual exploitation of children, and the role of business and the community in acknowledging and taking responsibility for safeguarding and protecting children.	Support a communications campaign to share stories and actions to broaden community awareness of online sexual exploitation of children and its impacts across Australia.	Fund a strategic partner to create a training program, associated resources, and best practices on child sexual exploitation and safeguarding children, for the Australian financial services sector. Invest in research to better understand the prevalence and demand for online sexual exploitation of children in Australia and seek to inform effective prevention and policy-making in Australia.	
Midstream Accelerate unity of action on online sexual exploitation of children, through the development and adoption of collaborative technologies and capabilities to better detect, monitor, report and prevent harm to children associated with financial crime.	Finalise a proposed strategic partnership to improve cross-industry data sharing and develop new technologies to fight child exploitation and deliver activities for Year 1.	Participate in existing or new initiatives to develop practical resources, risk typologies, and capabilities to improve the detection and reporting of online sexual exploitation of children. Work with a strategic partner to deliver proposed cross-industry data-related activities for Year 2.	Encourage the adoption of resources and capabilities developed to fight online sexual exploitation of children within Australian financial services sector and the broader business community. Work with a strategic partner to deliver proposed cross-industry data-related activities for Year 3.
Downstream Help safeguard children in Australia, and in those APAC countries where children are at highest risk, by supporting and scaling the efforts of organisations to empower, protect and support children, survivors, their families and carers, and improve their access to restorative justice.	Implement a partnership with International Justice Mission (IJM) to accelerate the Philippines National Program and establish an OSEC Hub & End OSEC Centre. Implement a partnership with Save the Children (STC) to deliver the Protect Children – Philippines project. Establish, fund, and administer a grants program that supports community organisations and notfor-profits working across a range of child safety and protection programs and initiatives, with a focus on child sexual exploitation and abuse. Map existing programs in Australia to identify key capability and capacity gaps in the provision of services to prevent child sexual exploitation and provide care and support for survivors.	 Fund IJM to deliver activities identified for Year 2. Fund STC to deliver activities identified for Year 2. Administer a grants program that supports community organisations and not-for-profits working across a range of child safety and protection programs and initiatives, with a focus on child sexual exploitation and abuse for Year 2. 	 Fund IJM to deliver activities identified for Year 3. Fund STC to deliver activities identified for Years 3 - 6. Administer a grants program that supports community organisations and not-for-profits working across a range of child safety and protection programs and initiatives, with a focus on child sexual exploitation and abuse for Year 3. Organisations delivering critical services 'on the ground' are connected through the grants program to enable a streamlined, collaborative network for at-risk children and survivors, which is also capable of sharing feedback and learning.