



**The Hon Alan Tudge MP
Minister for Human Services**

MEDIA RELEASE

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GOVERNMENT INVESTS IN ONLINE WAGERING BEHAVIOUR RESEARCH

The Government has invested \$75,000 for research into online wagering restrictions and their impact on consumers' behaviour.

This research is a key part of the Government's response to the Review of Illegal Offshore Wagering by Barry O'Farrell.

The investment will fund further research and consultations to explore options that will address the impact of betting restrictions imposed by Australian licenced bookmakers, which have been cited as a factor in decisions to gamble offshore.

The Australian Gambling Research Centre will conduct the research to determine whether decisions to gamble offshore are influenced by industry and government betting restrictions.

This new research is in addition to the Government's work to implement key reforms to combat illegal offshore wagering, which consists of three parts:

1. Crack down on illegal offshore gambling providers;
2. Clarify the law by prohibiting 'click to call' in-play wagering services to respect the original intent of the Interactive Gambling Act; and
3. Establish a strong National Consumer Protection Framework (the Framework).

Legislation is currently before the Federal Parliament to implement the first two points by amending the Interactive Gambling Act.

In November last year the Government reached an in-principle agreement with State and Territory Ministers to establish the Framework for online wagering and will be meeting again this Friday to agree on the detail of the Framework.

The Framework includes a national self-exclusion register for online wagering; a voluntary opt-out pre-commitment scheme for online wagering; and a prohibition on lines of credit being offered by wagering providers, together with other measures.

The Minister for Human Services, Hon Alan Tudge MP, said the research is a key part of the Government's reform to online wagering.

"The Government is delivering on its commitments to provide Australians with a safer online wagering environment," said Minister Tudge.

"The research findings are expected mid-year and will help determine if betting restrictions impact our wagering industry and provide potential solutions for governments to consider.

"Alongside this research investment, the Government is rapidly implementing key reforms to combat illegal offshore wagering."

More information on the review of the impact of illegal offshore wagering, including the Government's full response, is available on the [Department of Social Services website](#).

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