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CRIME STOPPERS AND NATIONAL FUNDING

The decision to commence to close the Crime Stoppers Queensland call centre and put an alternative arrangement in place for reports from the community in that State does not impact on the operational effectiveness of any Crime Stoppers Australia jurisdiction.

From a Crime Stoppers Australia perspective, it is business as usual for the highly-effective crime solving and prevention program across all its member States and Territories, including Queensland.

Crime Stoppers has successfully operated in Australia for more than 30 years and continues to deliver outstanding value for money as a way for the community to help solve some of the nation's most heinous crimes.

Deputy Chair of Crime Stoppers Australia, Ms Sharon Hanlon, said: "Every dollar invested in the program delivers a return of \$11.15 in value, and allows Crime Stoppers to conduct community engagement campaigns across metropolitan and regional communities."

"As a highly-effective, not-for-profit organisation operating across the nation, we remain grateful to our many supporters that help us to achieve amazing year-on-year results. Grant funding is invested back into achieving a safer community, and our long-term partnership with the Australian Government has strengthened our national capability and supported all Crime Stoppers programs to deliver grass-roots community engagement activities," she said.

Crime Stoppers Australia has been recognised as a natural partner for community safety and crime prevention initiatives and was granted \$2,985,000 for the *Crime Stoppers Australia 2015-2019* Project under the Grants to Australian Organisations Program, marking ten years of federal funding support (2009 -2019).

This support from the Australian Government has allowed Crime Stoppers Australia to develop and deliver a number of major national campaigns, including the annual *Operation Roam* to capture wanted fugitives, as well as supporting the recent National Gun Amnesty which saw more than 57,000 firearms taken off the streets.

Commonwealth funding has also seen the delivery of national and state-based campaigns which focus on environmental crime, crimes against children, serious fraud, personal safety, bushfire arson and more.

In 2018, the Australian Government granted \$1,000,000 for the second 'Dob in a Dealer' campaign, following the success of the 2016 initiative, which was recognised by Crime Stoppers International as winner of its Best Specialist Program award category.

"Crime Stoppers Australia is in discussions with the Federal Government about a number of exciting future partnership possibilities which could result in enhanced support for people wanting to contact the program, as well campaigns designed to prevent and remove more criminal activity from within the community," Ms Hanlon said.

"Crime Stoppers in Australia continues to achieve remarkable success. In 2018, more than 319,000 contacts were received, generating 145,000-plus information reports that directly led to police laying nearly 15,600 charges," she said.

Crime Stoppers is an international program that offers anonymity and rewards to people with information who can help solve or prevent crime. This year Crime Stoppers Australia celebrates its 20th anniversary as the parent company to the eight state and territory not-for-profit organisations who administer the program within their jurisdiction. The brand is highly-respected and recognised, receiving 97% prompted awareness in a national brand survey.

National achievements in 2018 included:

- 319,861 Contacts via calls, website and other means
- 145,442 Information reports passed to police
- 5,406 Arrests resulting from our program
- 15,580 Charges laid

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