

Commonwealth of Australia

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999

**Telecommunications (Overall Levy Target Amount)
Statement 2022**

I, JIM BETTS, Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts, make the following Statement under section 42 of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.

Dated:

19 October 2022



JIM BETTS

Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development,
Communications and the Arts

1 Name of Statement

This Statement is the *Telecommunications (Overall Levy Target Amount) Statement 2022*.

2 Commencement

This Statement commences on the day after it is made.

3 Application

This Statement applies in relation to the relevant period.

4 Definitions

In this Statement:

Act means the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*.

relevant period means the eligible levy period that is the 2021–22 financial year.

Note: The terms *Appropriation Act*, *eligible administrative costs*, *eligible levy period*, *overall levy target amount* and *Secretary* have the same meanings as in the Act.

5 Statement

Overall levy target amount

- (1) For the purposes of subsection 42(1) of the Act, the overall levy target amount for the relevant period is \$219,724,826.
- (2) The amount specified in subsection (1) is the sum of the components specified in subsection (3), reduced by the amount specified in subsection (4).

Components of overall levy target amount

- (3) For the purposes of:
 - (a) subsection 42(2) of the Act – the total amount paid by the Secretary on behalf of the Commonwealth during the relevant period under contracts made under section 14 of the Act was \$316,326,689;
 - (b) subsection 42(3) of the Act – the total amount paid by the Secretary on behalf of the Commonwealth during the relevant period under grants made under section 14 of the Act was \$0; and
 - (c) subsection 42(4) of the Act – the total amount of the eligible administrative costs of the Commonwealth incurred during the relevant period was \$3,398,137.

Amounts appropriated by Appropriation Acts

- (4) The total of the amounts appropriated by Appropriation Acts for the purposes referred to in paragraphs 41(1)(d), (e) and (f) of the Act for the relevant period was \$100,000,000.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999

Telecommunications (Overall Levy Target Amount) Statement 2022

Authority

The Telecommunications (Overall Levy Target Amount) Statement 2022 (the Statement) is made by the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts (the Department) under section 42 of the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999* (the Act). Under that section the Secretary of the Department must take all reasonable steps to ensure that a statement setting out the overall levy target amount for an eligible levy period is prepared within four months after the end of that period.

Purpose

The Statement specifies the total expenditure on eligible contracts and grants and the Department's administrative costs incurred during the 2021–22 eligible levy period, less relevant appropriations, that needs to be collected from participating persons (that is, relevant carriers, see section 44 of the Act). Once the overall levy target amount is calculated, the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) is responsible under the Act for assessing and collecting individual levy contributions from participating persons.

The Statement is not a legislative instrument, is not subject to disallowance and does not need to be registered.

Explanation of the Statement

The *overall levy target amount* is set according to the calculation set out in subsection 41(1) of the Act. Under subsection 41(1) of the Act, the overall levy target amount for the 2021–22 eligible levy period is the sum of:

- (a) all amounts paid by the Secretary on behalf of the Commonwealth during that period under contracts made under section 14 of the Act;
- (b) all amounts paid by the Secretary on behalf of the Commonwealth during that period by way of grants made under section 14 of the Act; and
- (c) the total amount of the eligible administrative costs of the Commonwealth incurred during the period;

less the total amount of money appropriated by any Appropriation Act in relation to that period for the purposes of meeting costs under any of these three categories (see paragraphs 41(1)(d) to (f) of the Act).

The total amount paid under relevant contracts¹ made under section 14 of the Act was \$316,326,689. This is based on a fixed amount of \$270,000,000 for contracts relating to the Universal Service Obligation and variable amounts totalling \$46,326,689 for other contracts for voice-only migration, the Emergency Call Service and the National Relay Service. The total amount paid under relevant grants made under section 14 of the Act was \$0. The eligible Departmental administrative costs for the relevant period was \$3,398,137. This gives total expenditure of \$319,724,826. For the 2021–22 financial year, the total amount of money appropriated for the purposes of the three categories under paragraphs 41(1)(d) to (f) of the Act was \$100,000,000. Therefore, the overall levy target amount for the 2021–22 eligible levy period, as noted in subsection 5(1) of the Statement, is \$219,724,826.

¹ www.infrastructure.gov.au/media-technology-communications/phone/phone-services/universal-service-guarantee-telecommunications/telecommunications-contract-and-grant-registers