

Follow up of Asset Confiscation Scheme

Tabled 8 June 2016

This presentation provides an overview of the follow-up audit on the Asset Confiscation Scheme.

About the Asset Confiscation Scheme

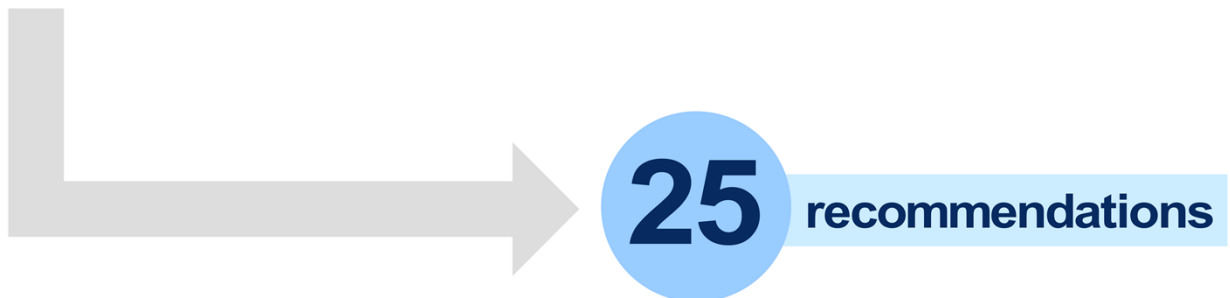


This report is one of three follow-up audits we will table in 2015–16. It provides Parliament and the community with information about the improvements that the Department of Justice & Regulation, the Office of Public Prosecutions and Victoria Police have made in relation to the audit recommendations in our 2013 audit *Asset Confiscation Scheme*.

Findings from our 2013 audit

The Asset Confiscation Scheme:

- was not operating effectively or efficiently
- had weaknesses in identifying assets
- had weaknesses in operations as a whole



Our 2013 audit found that the scheme was not operating as effectively or efficiently as it should. Its ability to deprive people of the proceeds of crime and to deter and disrupt further criminal activity was hampered largely by weaknesses in Victoria Police's approach to identifying assets as well as weaknesses in how the Asset Confiscation Scheme operated as a whole. The audit made 25 recommendations to improve the Asset Confiscation Scheme.

Actions following our 2013 audit

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The Department of Justice & Regulation appointed a consultant to deliver:



**Operational
plan**



**Strategic
plan**



**Governance
framework**



**Performance
framework**

In response, the Department of Justice & Regulation appointed a consultant to develop and implement a strategic plan, an operational plan, a governance framework and a performance monitoring framework.

Progress on implementing recommendations

5



Agencies have been slow to address 2013 recommendations

Hindered by:



leadership
changes



legislative
reform



challenges of
cross-agency
agreement

In this audit, we found that agencies were slow to address the 2013 recommendations. To some extent, they were hindered by leadership changes at two of the agencies, legislative reform and the inevitable challenges of seeking agreement across three independent organisations.

Progress on implementing recommendations

6



Progress made:

- Governance framework
- Strategic plan



Further work required:

- Operational plan
- Performance framework

New leadership appointments



An opportunity to address governance issues

There has been recent progress with the partner agencies agreeing to the governance framework and strategic plan, although further work is required on the operational plan and performance framework.

With new leadership appointments at Victoria Police and the Office of Public Prosecutions, there is an opportunity to ensure that various issues with the governance arrangements for the Asset Confiscation Scheme are addressed in a timely manner.

For further information, please view the full report on
our website: www.audit.vic.gov.au

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