

13 February 2017

Tax and Corporate Whistleblowers Protection Project  
Ms Jodi Keall  
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Dear Ms Keall

### Review into taxation and corporate whistleblowing protections

The Westpac Group (**Westpac**) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the Treasury 'Review of tax and corporate whistleblower protections in Australia' dated 20 December 2016 (**the 'review'**). We note that submissions to the review will be provided to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Corporations and Financial Services inquiry into whistleblower protections in the corporate, public and not-for-profit sectors.

Westpac supports the underlying principles of the review. We have contributed to, and support, the submission being made by the Australian Bankers' Association (**ABA**).

Employees, customers and the community have a legitimate expectation that bankers adhere to the highest standards of practice and behaviour. Westpac has a clear vision to be one of the world's great service companies, helping our customers, communities and people to prosper and grow. This vision is underpinned by a commitment to doing the right thing, including ensuring our whistleblowing policy is consistent with the ABA Guiding Principles by end March 2017.

Westpac, and the banking industry more broadly, believes an effective whistleblowing policy and program is an important aspect of a bank's overall approach to ensure compliance with regulation and prevent and detect misconduct. It is critical that employees and others (such as contractors, consultants, suppliers, third party providers, secondees, brokers, auditors and former employees) have the confidence to raise problems and speak up.

Should you require any further information, please contact Jade Clarke on (02) 8253 8492 or by email at [jadecclarke@westpac.com.au](mailto:jadecclarke@westpac.com.au).