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[REDACTED]

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, 1 September 2023 2:16 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** Leigh DLO; [REDACTED]@treasury.gov.au; !  
EO\_Parliamentary&GovernmentLiaison&Advocacy  
**Subject:** RE: Qantas penalties [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

In the Radio National interview this morning, Gina noted the \$125m penalty for VW and that it would be appropriate to seek more than double that amount here. This was incorrectly reported as referring to 'more than double' the \$300m that was put by the interviewer. We have clarified this comment this morning and in other media interviews throughout the day – hence the revised figure of \$250m. Gina has reiterated the 'more than double' the VW penalty remark, but other than that we haven't commented on a target penalty.

In case it's helpful, the highest penalties under the Australian Consumer Law are below (note this does not include cartel matters).

1. Phoenix - **\$400m (and \$38m for CTI)** - <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/record-penalties-of-438m-ordered-against-phoenix-institute-and-cti-for-acting-unconscionably-and-misleading-students>
2. AIPE - **\$153m** - <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/record-153-million-in-penalties-ordered-against-training-college-aipe>
3. VW - **\$125m** - <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/high-court-denies-volkswagen-leave-to-appeal-125-million-penalty>
4. Google - **\$60m** - <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/google-llc-to-pay-60-million-for-misleading-representations>
5. Telstra - **\$50m** - <https://www.accc.gov.au/media-release/telstra-to-pay-50m-penalty-for-unconscionable-sales-to-indigenous-consumers>

Thank you

[REDACTED]

Director | Government Relations and Advocacy  
**Australian Competition & Consumer Commission**  
Level 17 | Casselden Place | 2 Lonsdale Street Melbourne 3000 | <http://www.accc.gov.au>  
T: [REDACTED] | F: [REDACTED] | M: [REDACTED]

The ACCC acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to the land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures; and to their Elders past, present and future.

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**From:** [REDACTED]@TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Sent:** Friday, 1 September 2023 1:02 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]@ncc.gov.au>  
**Cc:** Leigh DLO <LeighDLO@TREASURY.GOV.AU>  
**Subject:** Qantas penalties [SEC=OFFICIAL]

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## OFFICIAL

Hey [REDACTED]

Thanks for your time on the phone. See below link to the Perth Now and Australian articles referencing the ACCC targeting a \$600m penalty. Both articles seem to have revised the figure to \$250m.

Grateful for any additional information on the ACCC's target penalty, noting that this is a decision for the courts.

Many thanks  
[REDACTED]

 The Australian  
https://www.theaustralian.com.au › ... › "News Story" ⓘ

### ACCC chair Gina Cass-Gottlieb targets \$600m Qantas fine

3 hours ago — Australia's consumer watchdog will target a \$600m payout from Qantas over allegations the national carrier lied to customers about cancelled ...

ACCC chair Gina Cass...~https://www.theaustralian.com.au/breaking-news/accc-chair-gina-cassgottlieb-targets-600m-qantas-payout-in-radio-interview/news-story/ed70a9f9884c3894098d230f771323c2

 PerthNow  
https://www.perthnow.com.au › Business ⓘ

### ACCC chair Gina Cass-Gottlieb targets \$600m Qantas ...

2 hours ago — The ACCC has launched legal action against Qantas, alleging the company misled customers by advertising tickets for more than 8000 flights that ...

ACCC chair Gina Cass...~https://www.perthnow.com.au/business/accc-chair-gina-cass-gottlieb-targets-600m-qantas-payout-in-radio-interview-c-11768258

[REDACTED] — Adviser

Office of The Hon Dr Andrew Leigh MP  
Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury  
Assistant Minister for Employment

M [REDACTED]  
R2.108, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT 2600

*The Treasury acknowledges the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, water and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to elders both past and present.*

## OFFICIAL

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