

# Anti-Money Laundering Newsletter - November 2017

## Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Webinar Monday 20th November

Following the success of the AML seminars held in October, and as a result of member feedback, the Professional Standards Team are pleased to announce that the session will be presented again during a webinar at 10.00 am on Monday 20th November 2017.

The Money Laundering Regulations 2017 came into force on the 26th June 2017 and brought in a number of new requirements for supervised members. The CIOT and ATT webinar will provide an introduction to the changes.

To join the Webinar at 10.00 am on Monday 20th November please use the following link: <http://www.lexisauditorium.com/stage.aspx?c=8dd7c84e-56c4-4453-833f-99f90d1d7f7e>.

The webinar will also be available on the CIOT and ATT websites for 12 months.

## National Risk Assessment (NRA)

On 26 October, the government published the UK's second National Risk Assessment of money laundering and terrorist financing. This 2017 assessment, jointly published by the Treasury and the Home Office, shows how the UK's understanding of and response to money laundering and terrorist financing have developed since the first assessment in 2015.

The key findings of the 2017 assessment include:

- The criminal exploitation of banks, professional financial services and cash remain the greatest areas of money laundering risk to the UK. New typologies within these continue to emerge, including money laundering through capital markets and increased exploitation of technology.
- The distinctions between money laundering typologies are becoming increasingly blurred. Criminal funds are progressing from lower level

laundering and are being accumulated into larger sums to be sent overseas using more sophisticated methods.

- Professional services are a crucial gateway for criminals looking to disguise the origin of their funds.
- Cash, alongside cash intensive sectors, remains the favoured method for terrorists to move funds through and out of the UK.
- A wide-ranging set of reforms by government and law enforcement over recent years is still in its early days, but is starting to take effect.

The findings of the NRA cover the UK as a whole, and supervisors and firms will have to supplement these findings with their own detailed assessments of risks in their own areas. However, the NRA provides a shared starting point from which these assessments should be made.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-risk-assessment-of-money-laundering-and-terrorist-financing-2017>

## The Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) Annual Report 2017

The National Crime Agency (NCA) recently published their Suspicious Activity Reports (SARs) Annual Report 2017, spanning the 18 months between October 2015 and March 2017. The report indicates that over 634,000 SARs were received by the UK Financial Intelligence Unit (UKFIU) during this period with £56.5m in assets denied to criminals. The SARs Annual Report remains part of the NCA's ongoing commitment to communicate with reporters of SARs, end users and other stakeholders to keep them informed of the impact reporting SARS has on fighting crime and terrorism. The report also includes a number of case studies.

A copy of the annual report can be found here -

<http://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/publications/suspicious-activity-reports-sars/826-suspicious-activity-reports-annual-report-2017>