



AUSTRAC AML/CTF Reforms Update: Preparing for 1 July 2026

Following our April update, we are providing further guidance on the upcoming changes to Australia's Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing (AML/CTF) framework, which will take effect on 1 July 2026.

These reforms expand the scope of regulated entities to include certain "Tranche 2" businesses, particularly those offering services in:

- Real estate and conveyancing
- Legal and accounting services
- Trust and company service provision
- Dealers in high-value goods (e.g., jewellers)

AUSTRAC, Australia's AML/CTF regulator, has been at the forefront of using financial intelligence to combat serious crime for over 30 years. The extension of AML/CTF obligations to these sectors is intended to close regulatory gaps that have historically been exploited to facilitate money laundering, terrorism financing, and other serious offences such as drug trafficking and child exploitation.

From 1 July 2026, businesses providing Tranche 2 services will be required to implement and maintain an AML/CTF program. These programs are designed to identify, assess, and mitigate risks associated with illicit financial activities. In practical terms, this will necessitate more robust customer due diligence measures, including stricter identity verification processes.

As part of these regulatory developments, Count Gold Coast will be implementing updates to its internal practices, particularly in relation to enhanced client identification and verification procedures. Further details will be provided as the commencement date approaches.

How to Prepare

AUSTRAC encourages affected businesses to begin preparations early. Key steps include:

Step 1: Check whether your services will be regulated [here](#).

Step 2: Visit the Reforms Hub [here](#).

Step 3: Watch introductory webinars [here](#).

Step 4: Review the reforms guidance and learn how to use it effectively [here](#).

AML/CTF Program Starter Kits

To assist businesses, AUSTRAC has released AML/CTF program starter kits tailored for small Tranche 2 entities that are not currently reporting entities. These kits provide step-by-step guidance aimed at reducing the time, cost, and complexity of establishing a compliant AML/CTF program.

Notably, this marks the first time globally that a regulator has provided this level of practical support for these sectors.

Starter kits are available [here](#).

Key Dates and Reminders

- Begin assessing whether your business is regulated as soon as possible
- Start preparing your AML/CTF program well ahead of 1 July 2026
- New AML/CTF obligations formally commence on 1 July 2026

Stay Informed

To remain updated on regulatory developments, you may subscribe to AUSTRAC's InBrief quarterly newsletter [here](#).

Further resources and guidance are available [here](#).

For specific queries, AUSTRAC's contact centre can be accessed [here](#).

