The dark net issue is not a new phenomenon. We have been working for many years to target and build intelligence on illicit importations, including via the dark net, and we are seeing strong results.

Anything you purchase online has to come across the physical border where our highly-trained officers, detector dogs and cutting edge x-ray technology are deployed.

We are also aware of the websites selling these products, where they are coming from, where they are going and the methods often used to conceal them by those who seek to do the wrong thing.

While we cannot discuss our targeting and operational methods in detail, we use data analysis technology and intelligence sharing to detect prohibited items coming across the border, including those that may have been purchased over the darknet.

The methodology used to target prohibited items posted to Australia is based on a layered, broad-based risk approach specifically tailored for the mail environment.

This layered approach involves cutting edge detection technology, highly trained officers and detector dogs, and expert intelligence analysis before and after items reach the border.

People should be aware that just because the purchase is 'anonymous' it is not invisible to us and other law enforcement authorities.

The Department works closely with domestic and international law enforcement partners to deter, detect, and disrupt the movement of illicit goods across the border.