

# Key Figures: Corruption and Anti Money Laundering



EU COORDINATION DEPARTMENT  
MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AND EUROPEAN AFFAIRS  
Date: April 2021

## A. Financial and Human Resource Investment

### A.1 AML Regulatory, supervisory and investigative agencies

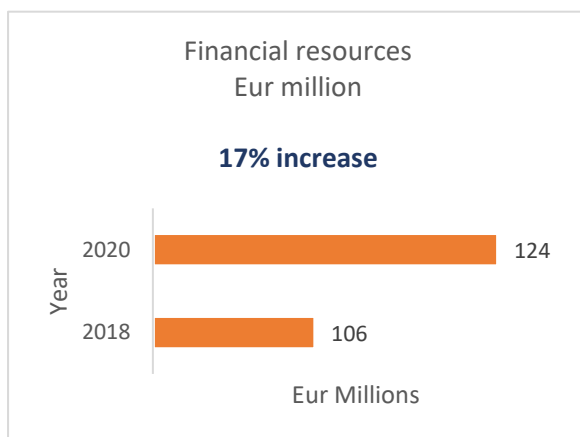


Figure 1

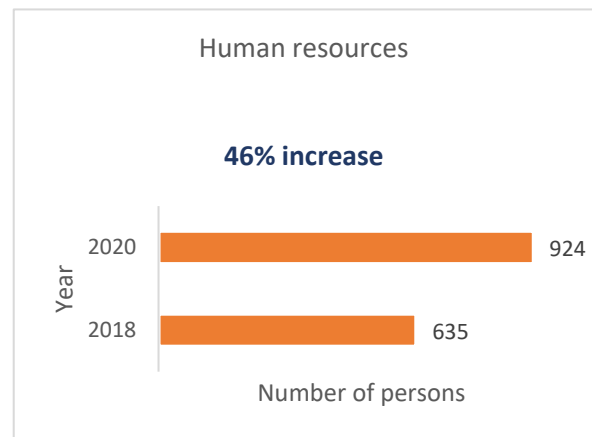


Figure 2

Between 2018 - 2020 there has been an increase in human resources of around:

- 128% in the Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit (FIAU)
- 90% in the Malta business Registry (MBR)
- 41% in the Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA)
- 79% in the Financial Crimes Investigations Department of the Malta Police Force (FCID)

## A.2 Malta Police Force

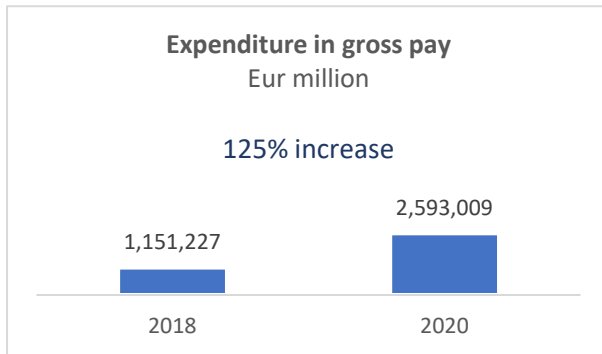


Figure 3

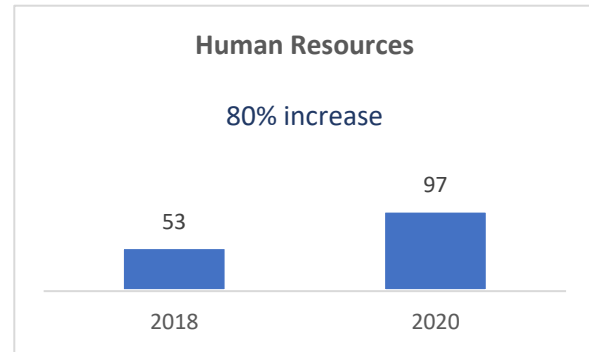


Figure 4

A new **Commissioner of Police** was appointed in 2020 in line with the new procedure at law.

As of September 2020, the Financial Crime Investigation Directorate (FCID) relocated to new premises, with an investment cost of €2 million and an annual recurring cost of **€500,000 per annum**. The new premises offer an adequate working environment for around **120 officers**, and also provide the Department with all the necessary facilities, including interrogation rooms, better training facilities and improved security.

The top priority of the FCID in 2020 was to **bolster its Anti-Money Laundering Unit**, which grew from 4 investigative teams to 12. A new team was established to **investigate tax crimes whilst 8 other teams operate within the FCID investigating crimes** such as fraud and corruption. This unit is now the **largest Investigative Unit** within the Malta Police Force.

**New policies and strategies are being implemented**, including: Transformation Strategy, a new code of ethics, and a police specific antifraud and corruption strategy. An integrity officer has also been appointed pursuant to these policies.

Since November 2020, around 100 officers attended **in-Service Training**. These sessions are normally held fortnightly but due to recent COVID-19 restrictions these have been suspended temporarily and are planned to recommence shortly. New policies such as the revised code of ethics are covered during the session on 'Internal Policies'.

Specialist **financial investigations training** is provided to financial investigators on an ongoing basis both locally and overseas. In the last one and a half years this training covered areas such as anti-corruption, blockchain analysis, money laundering and terrorism financing, asset recovery, dark web and cryptocurrency, match-fixing, cyber-enabled financial crime and the seizure of virtual assets, amongst others.

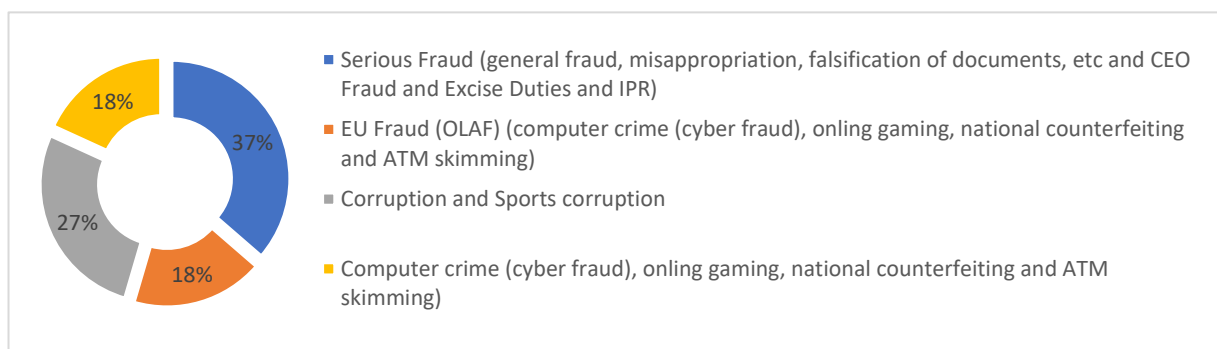


Figure 5 – Specialisation within the Economic Crimes Squad of the FCID

### A.3 MFSA's Supervisory and Enforcement Effectiveness Dashboard

The Supervisory and Enforcement dashboard published by the MFSA highlights the key performance indicators with respect to regulatory oversight and enforcement effectiveness, focusing on the MFSA's key supervisory priorities.

The following is the most recent data set on available on the website.

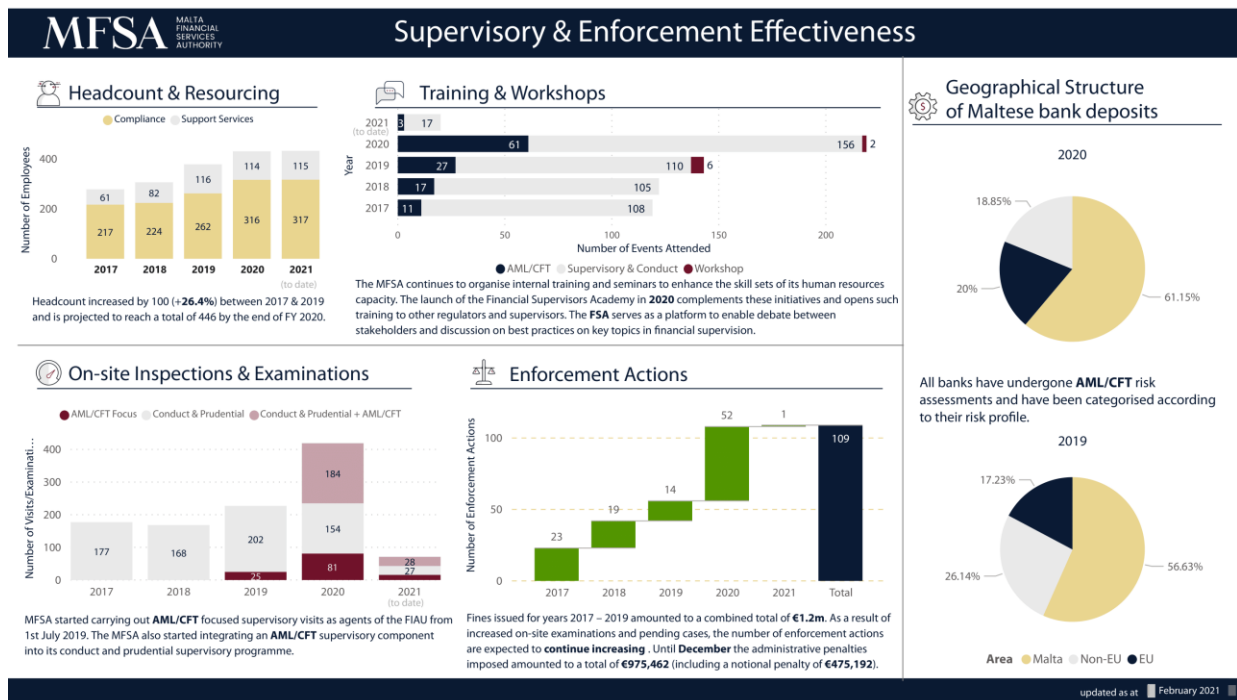


Figure 6

### A.4 Financial Intelligence Analysis Unit (FIAU)

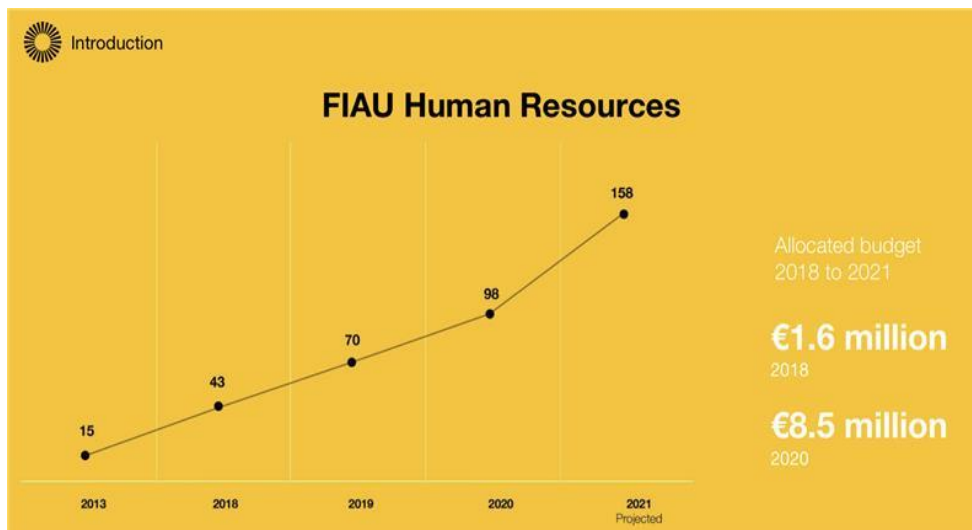


Figure 7

## A.5 Prosecution

- **Separate Prosecution Service:** After the establishment of the Office of the State Advocate, the **Office of the Attorney General became a specialised prosecution service and took over the prosecution** of identified major crimes, including **corruption and money laundering**, on 1 October 2020 (phase 1), following an **extensive recruitment process**.

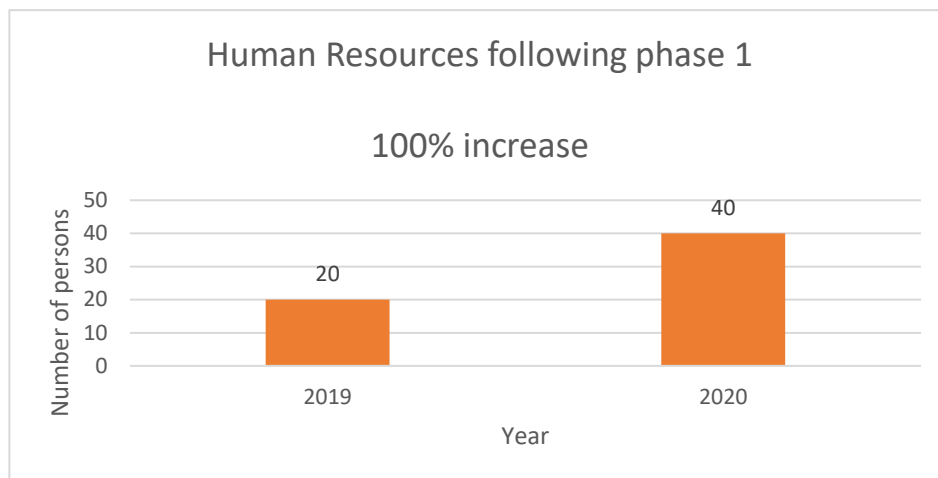


Figure 8

- A **new Attorney General** was appointed in terms of the revised appointment procedure which reinforced checks and balances.
- **New premises:** As of April 2020, the Office of the Attorney General started operating from new dedicated premises.
- **Re-organisation:** The Office of the Attorney General was re-organized into four units: (a) prosecution/litigation unit; (b) mutual cooperation and international unit; (c) EU Affairs unit; and (d) *in genere* unit. Prosecutors in the prosecution/litigation unit were divided into offences and in 2021 the Office has 14 prosecutors that are assigned to deal with economic crime including corruption, ML and TF offences.
- **Training:** Prosecutors attend regular in-house training sessions in relation to ML and TF offences. Moreover, apart from the continuous training which is being internally provided to lawyers on prosecutorial duties, the AGO has ensured that a number of lawyers within the same office get specific training with regards to ML investigations and prosecutions. To this end training sessions are regularly organized specifically for all lawyers within the AGO in collaboration with the NCC. Prosecutors participate on a regular basis in webinars organized by ERA and international institutions.
- Project entitled '**Business Reorganisation of the Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the State Advocate**' is funded by DG-Reform under the SRSP. The selected expert providers for this project will be the **World Bank**. Recommendations are expected to be addressed towards the overall improvement of the operational efficiency of this Office of the Attorney General and will look at the strengthening of internal structures, and enhancing administrative procedures. The project, that will last for 18 months, is envisaged to be launched in the 2nd quarter of 2021.

## A.6 Permanent Commission Against Corruption (PCAC)

- Following the statutory strengthening of the PCAC via Act XLVI of 2020, **1 report** has already been submitted to the Attorney General.
- Investments has been made to provide the PCAC with the necessary powers, funds and resources requested, including new premises. Its current complement is set to double, as requested by the PCAC itself.

## A.7 Judiciary

**€5 million** investment over the next 2 years in a project to renovate the building next to the law courts to house 4 new halls and 25 additional offices.

In 2020, judges were allocated a new common room.

**5%** increase in the remuneration package of the members of the judiciary between 2019 and 2021.

A **new Chief Justice** was appointed in 2020.

Following the Act No XLIII of 2020 - An Act to amend the Constitution of Malta relative to the appointment of judges and magistrates, the following is planned for 2021:

- Around **17%** increase in the members of the judiciary (4 additional judges were already appointed in April 2021 and 4 additional magistrates are planned)
- Around **14%** increase in additional registrars (17 additional personnel)
- Around **28%** increase in clerical staff (30 personnel)

**Development of a Digital Justice Strategy:** Malta intends to use the Resilience and Recovery Facility (RRF) in support of the Maltese justice system towards further smoothing of work flows and improving the timely administration of justice.

**Training for court staff** is provided regularly in line with recommendations from the Structural Reform Support Programme (SRSP) project carried out in 2019 and is handled by the Director (People Management) within the Court Serviced Agency.

Yearly **training for the judiciary** is organised by the Judicial Studies Committee. Currently, the Committee is given a €10,000 annual nominal budget for judicial training. This being said, it is the Court Services Agency's policy to assign any reasonable additional amount of funds to the JSC for judicial training as requested by the Judicial Studies Committee itself.

## A.8 Asset Recovery Bureau

A considerable investment is underway to compliment the Proceeds of Crime Act (Act No V of 2021):

- **275%** increase in human resources from 12 to 45 personnel
- **€2.4 million** for a warehouse which will cater for professional safe keeping of assets recovered.
- A Police Inspector and Officer from the Office of the Commissioner for Revenue have been seconded to the **Asset Recovery Bureau** so as to bolster its capacity.

## A.9 Legal aid agency

The new premises for the Agency were inaugurated on 1 December 2020 as part of an investment of over **€1,400.00**.

In December 2020, the Government announced the appointment of 21 Legal Aid lawyers for civil and criminal matters, as well as 6 legal procurators for the next 3 year period between 1 January 2021 till 31 December 2023. This ensures that the complement remains at the same or similar level as the previous period.

## A.10 Other

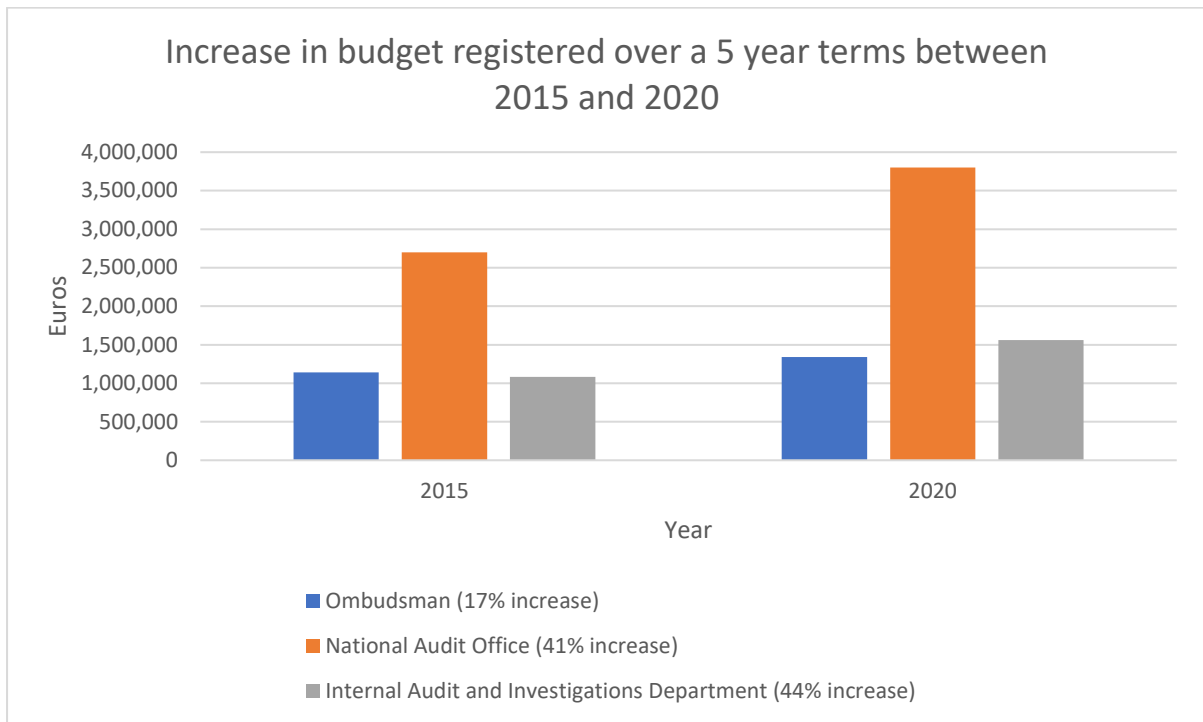


Figure 9

The following were carried out in 2020 in relation to anti-money laundering:

- Risk Assessments 11
- Legislation 50
- Memoranda of Understanding 47
- Guidance Notes 32
- New fully-fledged statistical system in place 1

In 2019, the National Statistics Office launched an annual data collection programme on the anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime. This first data collection covered data for reference periods 2018 and 2019 and included background information and information on investigations, prosecutions, convictions, provisional measures, confiscation, suspicious transaction reports, supervisory action, international cooperation, and training.

Regarding confiscation, a database for measuring effectiveness of freezing, seizure, confiscation, and realization of property has been established by all competent authorities and is managed by the National Statistics Office and is now in the pilot stage measuring the effectiveness of cases ending in 2019.

Salient indicators are expected in the second quarter of 2021, while the first news release is expected by the end of the third quarter.

## B. Indicators

### B.1 Miscellaneous

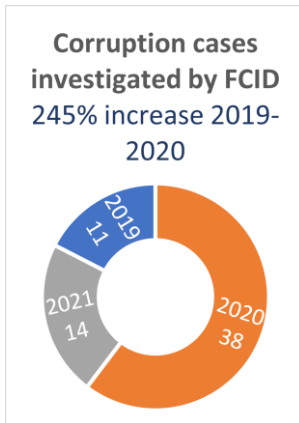


Figure 10 (Information for 2021 is till end of March 2021)

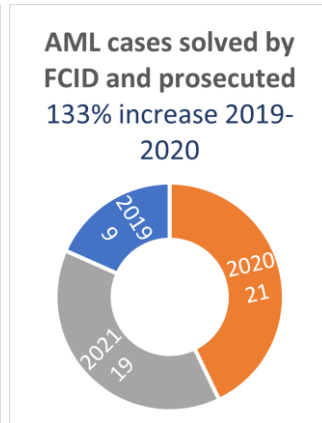


Figure 11 (Information for 2021 is till end of March 2021)

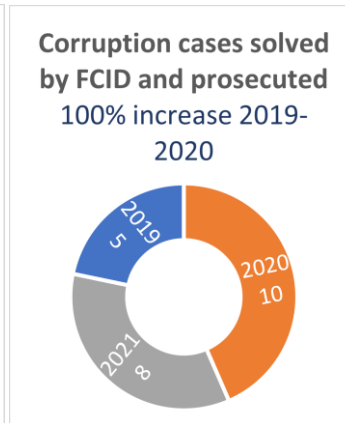


Figure 12 (Information for 2021 is till end of March 2021. Three other prosecutions relating to sports are also in the process (these cases started being investigated in 2020).)

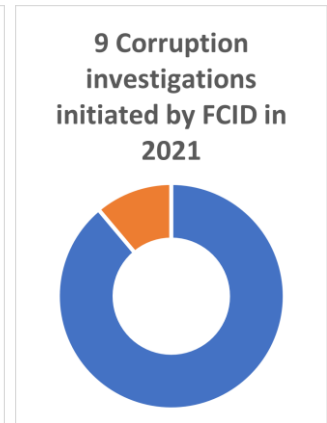


Figure 13 (8 open and 1 closed. Information is up to end of March 2021.)

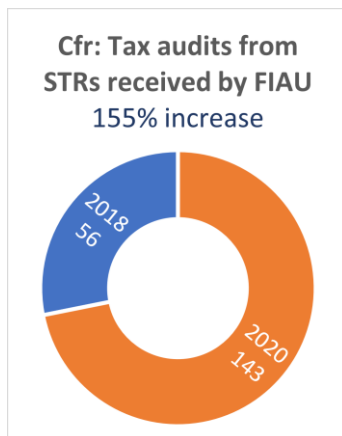


Figure 14

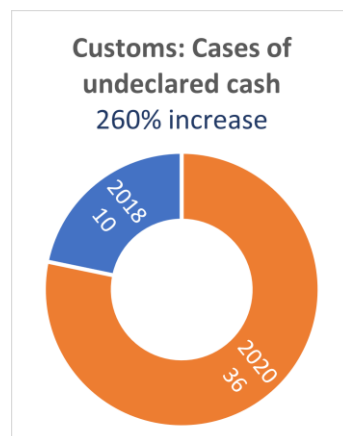


Figure 15

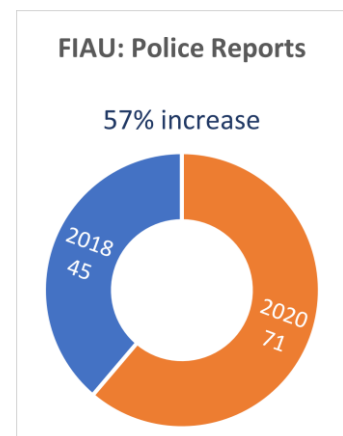


Figure 16

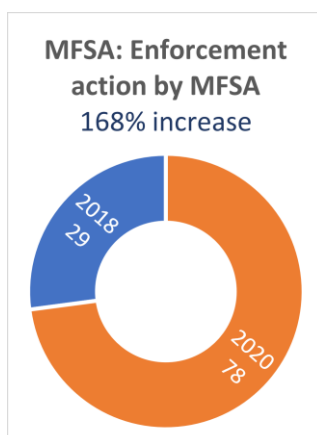


Figure 17

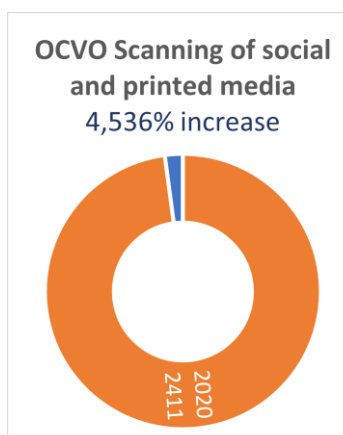


Figure 18

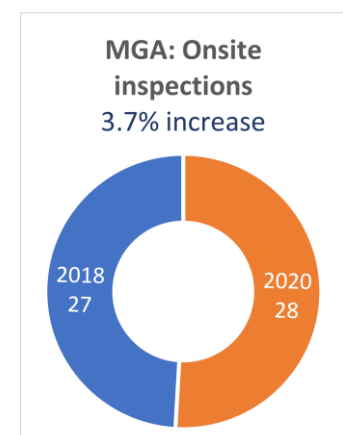


Figure 19



B.2 Key statistics in relation to prosecution by the Office of the Attorney General (1 October 2020 - 14 April 2021)

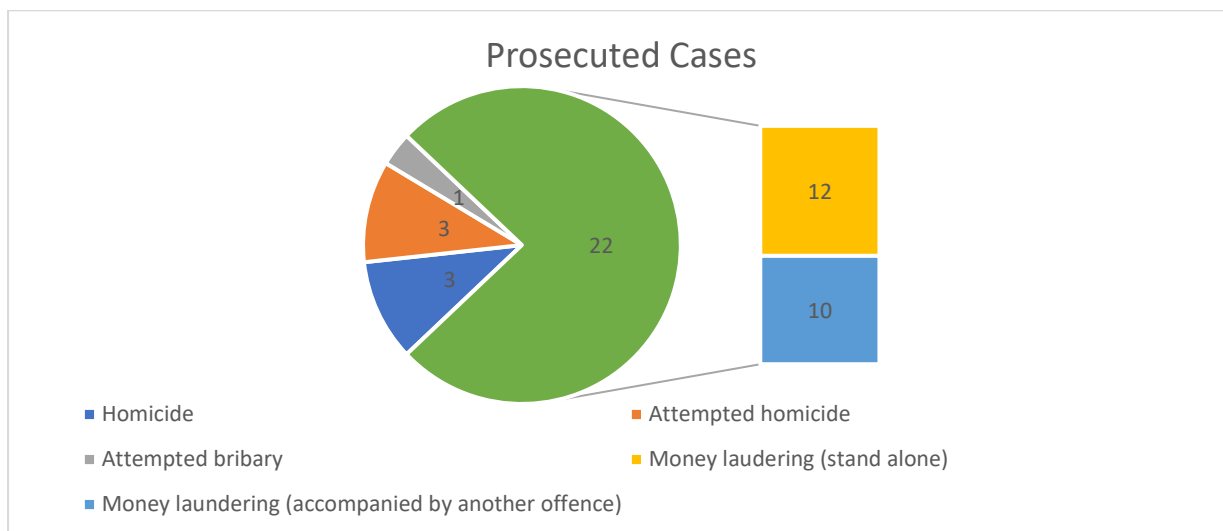


Figure 20

The accompanying offences are:

- 2 receiving stolen property
- 3 involve fraud and misappropriation
- 1 auditor offence
- 4 involve private corruption, fraud, false declarations, auditor offences and falsification of documents

These include high profile prosecutions in relation to fraud and money laundering in March 2021.

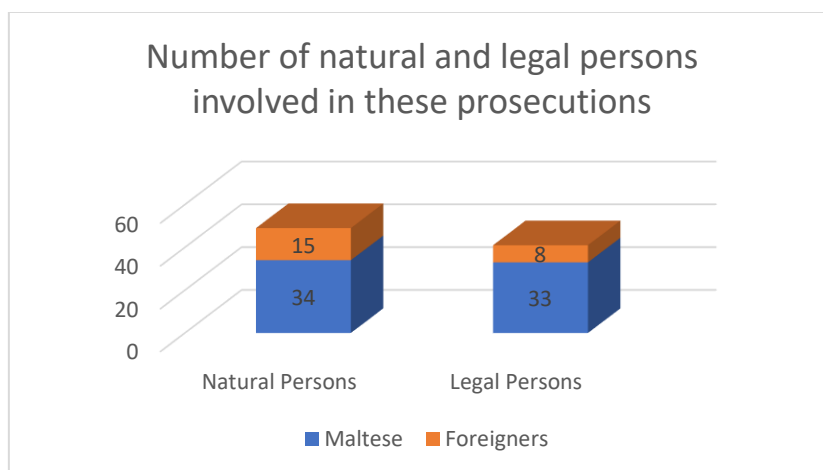


Figure 21

B.3 Courts

There are **8 on-going cases** that are scheduled to be **sentenced** in second quarter of 2021.