



A Police Ministers Council meeting (PMC) was held in Canberra on 2 October 2025. The meeting was chaired by the Hon Tony Burke, Minister for Home Affairs. All jurisdictions including New Zealand were represented by Ministers or Senior Officials.

## Threat Briefing

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the threat briefing provided by the Director-General of Security.

## National Firearms Register (NFR)

Participants:

- (a) **honoured** Detective Leading Senior Constable Neal Thompson and Senior Constable Vadim De Waart-Hottart of Victoria Police, who were tragically killed in Porepunkah, Victoria on 26 August 2025, and wished for the full recovery of the police officer who was injured.
- (b) **thanked** all police and emergency services who were at the scene and are involved in the resulting operation and investigation.
- (c) **honoured** Constable Keith Smith of Tasmania Police, who was tragically killed in the line of duty at North Motton, Tasmania in June 2025.
- (d) **reaffirmed** the Commonwealth and all state and territory governments' commitment to implement the NFR to improve police and community safety in response to the tragedy in Wieambilla, Queensland in December 2022.
- (e) **emphasised** that accelerated delivery of the NFR is critical as risks related to registered firearms information management and sharing remain until all jurisdictions and systems are upgraded and integrated with the NFR.
- (f) **noted** the Commonwealth's commitment to urgently prioritise the delivery of the NFR to enable jurisdictions to connect and share firearms information.
- (g) **committed** to prioritising resourcing, funding and technical upgrades to deliver the NFR as a priority.

## National Database of Hate Crimes and Incidents

Participants:

- (a) **agreed** to provide existing data based on statistical information in current systems to support the establishment of the first phase of the National Hate Crimes and Incidents Database by the end of 2025.



## Machete Ban

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the update on changes to knife and machete regulation across jurisdictions, including the recent machete bans in Victoria and South Australia.
- (b) **agreed** that reducing the supply and possession of knives and machetes is a national priority to maintain public safety and confidence.
- (c) **noted** jurisdictions are constantly evaluating their own settings and commit to sharing experiences as appropriate.

## Gender and Family Violence

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the update provided by the Commonwealth Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence Commissioner, and the critical need for continued collaboration across jurisdictions to respond to this complex community safety challenge.
- (b) **noted** the significant impact on law enforcement across Australia and New Zealand responding to gender and family violence.

## Challenges associated with Police Recruitment and Retention

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the work being progressed by the Australian New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency to better understand the challenges associated with police recruitment and retention across Australia and New Zealand.
- (b) **agreed** to further consider a national retention and recruitment framework, informed by insights from the Australian New Zealand Policing Advisory Agency, at the next Police Ministers Council Meeting.

## Illicit Tobacco

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the urgent need for a coordinated multi-agency national response to the widespread illicit tobacco and e-cigarette market to tackle the serious and growing threat to the Australian economy, public health, and community safety.
- (b) **noted** the significant effort in hand across multiple operational and policy levers to combat organised crime networks contributing to violence and intimidation in Australian communities.
- (c) **agreed** that combatting illicit tobacco and e-cigarettes is a systems issue needing collective effort and that the Illicit Tobacco and E-Cigarette Commissioner in harnessing



a range of levers to tackle the issue, will continue to engage with policing officials across jurisdictions.

## Non-Citizens including the NZYQ Cohort

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the active and collaborative involvement of police in managing non-citizens, where they interact with state and territory law enforcement, and acknowledged the continuing support provided by police on the frontline.
- (b) **agreed** to maintain ongoing dialogue through established mechanisms.

## Drones

Participants:

- (a) **agreed** to cooperate on developing fit-for-purpose national drones security legislation to ensure police and other relevant agencies have the authorities needed to counter drone risks to the community and to businesses.

## Aviation Security

Participants:

- (a) **agreed** to explore ways airports and law enforcement agencies work together to ensure that there is an effective law enforcement response to incidents at airports when appropriate.

## Other Business

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the upcoming release of the updated *Escape. Hide. Tell.* advice.
- (b) **noted** strategic priorities and discussed forward planning.

## Inter-governmental Committee on the Australian Crime Commission

Participants, in their capacity as members of the Inter-governmental Committee on the Australian Crime Commission (IGC-ACC):

- (a) **noted** the update on the implementation of the *Independent Review of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission and associated Commonwealth law enforcement arrangements*.
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