



The Police Ministers Council was held in person in Canberra on 3 May 2024. The meeting was chaired by the Hon Mark Dreyfus KC MP, Commonwealth Attorney-General. All jurisdictions, including New Zealand, were represented.

FAMILY, DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE MATTERS

Participants:

- (a) **noted** that on 1 May 2024, National Cabinet directed the Police Ministers Council to work alongside the Standing Council of Attorneys-General (SCAG) to develop options for improving police responses to high risk and serial perpetrators of gender-based violence, including considering use of focussed deterrence and fixated threat strategies.
- (b) **agreed** to task officials to consider expert stakeholder views, including those with lived experience of violence, in developing the joint program to progress this work.

NATIONAL FIREARMS REGISTER

Participants:

- (a) **welcomed** the historic National Cabinet agreement to implement the National Firearms Register.
- (b) **committed** to prioritise the implementation of this important police and community safety initiative.
- (c) **endorsed** governance arrangements to drive implementation of the National Firearms Register.

CLOSING THE GAP

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the findings of the Productivity Commission's Review of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap final report.
- (b) **noted** the status for Target 11 to reduce Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in detention is worsening since the previous year and has been updated to reflect that there has been no change from the baseline.
- (c) **noted** the verbal reports from Police Ministers on actions being undertaken in their jurisdiction to achieve Targets 10 and 11 to reduce the rates of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander adult and youth incarceration.
- (d) **discussed** the progress of these actions and whether they are sufficient to achieve the ambition of the National Agreement on Closing the Gap, including embedding the Priority Reforms and addressing worsening Target 10 and Target 11.
- (e) **noted** that the Australian Government is leading the National Review of First Nations Health Care in Prisons to support future direction and reforms on health care in custodial settings, with the Review to be provided to all Health Ministers by mid-2024.

- (f) **agreed** to engage with the Standing Council of Attorneys-General and the Justice Policy Partnership on potential opportunities to progress shared priorities through the Police Ministers Council.
- (g) **noted** the Australian Government's progress on the National Justice Reinvestment Program, National Strategic Framework and the National Justice Reinvestment Unit.
- (h) **noted** the public release of the Standing Council of Attorneys-General Age of Criminal Responsibility Working Group's report in December 2023 and jurisdictional progress to raise the minimum age of criminal responsibility.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE AUSTRALIAN CRIME COMMISSION: AUSTRALIAN COMMISSION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT INTEGRITY ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23

Participants, in their capacity as the Inter-Governmental Committee on the Australian Crime Commission (IGC-ACC), **noted** the 2022-23 Annual Report of the former Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity (ACLEI). ACLEI transitioned into the new National Anti-Corruption Commission when it commenced operations on 1 July 2023.

INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE ON THE AUSTRALIAN CRIME COMMISSION: INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE AUSTRALIAN CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE COMMISSION

Participants in their capacity as the IGC-ACC, **noted** the report on the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission.

IMPROVING POLICE RESPONSES TO PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY

Participants:

- (a) **noted** the Royal Commission into Violence, Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of People with Disability ('Disability Royal Commission') recommendation 8.20 to improve police responses to and interactions with people with a disability.
- (b) **noted** the Disability Reform Ministerial Council has considered an approach to timing and responses to the Disability Royal Commission.
- (c) **agreed** to consider supporting or supporting-in-principle recommendation 8.20, subject to any scoping required, and progressing to final agreement out of session, to accommodate timeframes for centralised coordination of responses to joint recommendations across jurisdictions and other Ministerial Councils.

TRANSNATIONAL, SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME NATIONAL THREAT ENVIRONMENT

Participants received a briefing from the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission and the Australian Federal Police on the transnational, serious and organised crime national threat environment and discussed strategies to address the highest threats.