

Terms of Reference to the Independent Review of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission and Commonwealth law enforcement arrangements

The review, to be led by an independent reviewer, will examine the operation and effectiveness of the Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission (ACIC) as Australia's national criminal intelligence agency within the context of Commonwealth law enforcement and criminal intelligence arrangements more broadly, and prepare findings and recommendations for any reforms.

The independent reviewer will prepare a report for the Government within six months of the review's commencement.

The review will consider the purpose, powers and functions of the ACIC as Australia's national criminal intelligence agency and its operation and effectiveness in the contemporary transnational, serious and organised crime threat environment including:

- the suitability of the legislative framework, internal governance and accountability of the ACIC's activities
- whether the role and responsibilities of the ACIC are appropriately defined and complementary to other Commonwealth law enforcement and intelligence agencies

Without limiting the matters that the review may have regard to, it will have regard to:

- the current transnational, serious and organised crime threat environment and any emerging threats or trends
- international law enforcement and criminal intelligence operational arrangements that may provide relevant models in the Australian context
- relevant policies and legislation including the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002*, *Australian Federal Police Act 1979*, *Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act 2006*, and the *Australian Border Force Act 2015*, *Crimes Act 1914*, *Telecommunications (Interception and Access) Act 1979* and *Surveillance Devices Act 2004*
- funding arrangements
- other relevant reviews relevant to the operations, governance, and legislative framework of the ACIC, including the Comprehensive Review of the Legal Framework of the National Intelligence Community and any available findings of the 2024 Independent Intelligence Review of the National Intelligence Community
- improvements that could be made to:
 - maximise the effective operation of, and cooperation between, Commonwealth law enforcement agencies and avoid any unnecessary duplication
 - enhance the ability of the ACIC and other Commonwealth law enforcement agencies to collaborate with each other and with state and territory and international law enforcement partners to combat transnational, serious and organised crime

- improve the way in which Commonwealth law enforcement and criminal intelligence strategic priorities are determined and implemented,
- the provision of policing information through the delivery of national policing information systems, and
- ensure appropriate governance, accountability, and oversight of the ACIC (including the role and operation of the ACIC Board) and Commonwealth law enforcement activities targeting transnational, serious and organised crime more broadly.