Mick Gentleman MLA

Minister for Police and Emergency Services
Ministerial Direction

This Direction is issued under section 7 of the Policing Arrangement between the Commonwealth and Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Governments and outlines the Government’s priorities and expectations for the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and more specifically the Chief Police Officer for the ACT (CPO). This Direction is to be read in conjunction with the 2017-2021 Purchase Agreement between the ACT Minister for Police and Emergency Services, the AFP Commissioner and the CPO. It supersedes and revokes the Direction issued on 29 June 2016.

The ACT Government is committed to effective delivery of its policies. ACT Policing will play a key role in implementing the Government’s policies to tackle crime, both through its operations and its ongoing collaboration with the Justice and Community Safety Directorate and the broader ACT Government, non-government organisations and other stakeholders, including Commonwealth and other State and Territory jurisdictions, in realising the vision and objectives of ACT Government strategies.

I note that the responsibilities and expectations of ACT Policing by government and the community are evolving. I expect that, in addition to the below special areas of focus, ACT Policing will continue to prepare and respond appropriately to changes in the national security and threat environment and, through an enhanced focus on technology and innovation, will develop agile policing capabilities that are able to respond to increasingly complex and emerging crime, including serious and organised crime.

**Special Areas of Focus**

The Government expects ACT Policing will focus its activities on the following key strategic priorities:

- Strengthening ACT’s response to domestic and family violence in appropriate and culturally sensitive ways; and supporting the efforts of the Coordinator-General for Family Safety.

- Working proactively and innovatively with Government to reduce and prevent alcohol-fuelled violence including enforcing liquor laws, maintaining a presence in night entertainment precincts and responding to alcohol related violent incidents.

- Continuing the commitment to early intervention and diversion strategies including restorative justice with a focus on vulnerable groups, in particular young people and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

- Improving road safety through particular emphasis on vulnerable road users and combating anti-social and dangerous behaviours including speeding, driving while impaired or distracted

- Continue to focus on preventing, disrupting and responding to the evolving threat of violent extremism and terrorism with a particular focus on crowded places.

In support of these, I expect ACT Policing will continue to demonstrate accountability and responsiveness. I encourage ACT Policing to continue to build a diverse and inclusive workforce that is committed to the wellbeing and health of its people.

ACT Policing delivers a professional, innovative and effective policing service in a dynamic environment for all the people of the ACT. I will continue to work with ACT Policing in ensuring it can provide the systems, technology and capabilities that can drive continuous improvement and allow for new and innovative policing approaches.

Mick Gentleman, MLA
Minister for Police and Emergency Services

July 2017