

2015

**THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO THE
STANDING COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY
REPORT NO 3**

ANNUAL AND FINANCIAL REPORTS 2013-2014

**Presented by
Mr Andrew Barr MLA
Chief Minister**

Government Response

Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety Report No 3 – Annual and Financial Reports 2013-2014

Introduction

The Annual Reports of All ACT Government agencies are referred to the Standing Committees of the ACT Legislative Assembly for examination and report.

The Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety reviewed annual reports for:

- ACT Electoral Commission;
- ACT Human Rights Commission;
- ACT Long Service Leave Authority;
- ACT Policing;
- Chief Minister and Treasury Directorate
- Director of Public Prosecutions;
- Justice and Community Safety Directorate;
- Legal Aid Commission (ACT);
- Public Advocate of the ACT;
- Public Trustee for the ACT; and
- Victims of Crime Support Program.

The Committee made 5 recommendations.

Response to Committee Recommendations

Recommendation 1

2.36 The Committee recommends that the ACT Government publish all submissions to its inquiry into law reform on double jeopardy.

Government Response - Agreed

Submissions were published on the Justice and Community Safety Directorate website on 1 March 2013.

Recommendation 2

4.37 The Committee recommends that the Emergency Services Agency (ESA) take disciplinary action in relation to incidents where reviews show that inappropriate behaviour has taken place in the workplace.

Government Response - Noted

Disciplinary action may not be appropriate in all situations. The management of workplace behaviours is undertaken in accordance with the ACTPS performance management framework and the relevant enterprise agreement provisions.

Recommendation 3

4.44 The Committee recommends that in relation to any proposed legislation specifically providing for responses to outlaw motorcycle gangs the ACT Government move a motion in the Legislative Assembly that would, if passed, refer such legislation to the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety for review and report to the Legislative Assembly.

Government Response - Noted

The ACT Government will consider this recommendation as proposals are developed

Recommendation 4

6.100 The Committee recommends that the ACT Government develop a new funding model for statutory agencies which more accurately reflects real costs and demand, and fund statutory agencies accordingly.

Government Response - Noted

The Government currently has a discussion paper out for consultation that proposes a new model for rights protection agencies which, if implemented, is expected to increase the capacity of the agencies.

Recommendation 5

6.101 The Committee recommends that the ACT Government introduce in the Legislative Assembly legislative amendments which would, if passed, create an avenue for human rights complaints to the ACT Human Rights Commissioner.

Government Response - Not agreed

The Government considered this issue in 2012 as part of its response to the five year review of the *Human Rights Act 2004* and decided not to include a complaint handling function for the Commissioner. The inclusion of a complaint handling function will not be reconsidered at this time.