



Police Federation  
of Australia

The National Voice of Policing

**ADELAIDE  
TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER, 2015  
NOTES FOR MEDIA**

- There have been a number of terror related incidents in Australia and internationally in recent times.
- As a result the state, territory and the federal governments are currently involved in discussing a range of responses.
- Last week a number of announcements about further legislation, community engagement and counter-extremism programs were made. While the PFA supports those initiatives, legislation and counter-extremism efforts alone will not prevent acts of terrorism from occurring in this country.
- It was also agreed last week that implementing the legislation, including control orders, is very resource intensive, as the former National Security Legislation Monitor Brett Walker SC made clear. AFP Commissioner Andrew Colvin said, "We can't keep our eyes on everyone all the time" and the same point was emphasised by Justice Minister Michael Keenan. We agree.

**WHAT ELSE SHOULD BE DONE?**

- The PFA suggests that there are three initiatives that have had wide support for many years yet are still on the drawing board. The PFA supports smarter policing and intelligence gathering and sharing through a number of technological initiatives –
  - **A National Case Management System;**
  - **Upgrading of the 30 year-old Australian Criminal Intelligence Database (ACID) and the Australian Law Enforcement Intelligence Network (ALEIN) via a new National Criminal Intelligence System (NCIS); and**
  - **A dedicated public safety mobile broadband capability through the allocation of 20MHz of spectrum to public safety agencies for 21<sup>st</sup> century communications**
- In the lead up to the 2007 Federal election the PFA sought commitments from both sides of politics for a single National Case Management System together with a range of other initiatives including appropriate access nationally to the

national DNA database, the national fingerprint database, the national child sex offender register as well as a number of other databases to enhance the nation's national security capability.

- In 2007 the Parliamentary Joint Committee on the Australian Crime Commission's report into the future impact of serious and organized crime on Australian society highlighted the inadequacy of the then intelligence databases and case management systems in each jurisdiction and made recommendations to address the identified inadequacies.
- In 2008 the Clarke Inquiry into the infamous case of Dr Mohamed Haneef recommended that a national case management system for major police investigations be developed and adopted as a matter of urgency.
- In 2009 the Allen Consulting Group produced a report for the then Federal Government, "*New Realities: National Policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century – Federal Audit of Police Capabilities*" (The Beale Report). One of the key recommendations of that report was for an interoperable national case management system to be in place by 2015.
- In 2009 the inquiry into the adequacy of aviation and maritime security measures to combat serious and organized crime recommended "...a review of technical and administrative requirements to facilitate the effective sharing of information between airlines and air cargo agents and law enforcement agencies."
- In the lead up to the 2010 Federal election the PFA again raised a range of issues to enhance police capabilities nationally, through the greater use of technology and the sharing of information and intelligence.
- In 2010 CrimTrac undertook a feasibility study into the development of a National Case Management System. We are advised that the proposal was endorsed by the then National Counter Terrorism Committee.
- In 2010 the PFA made a submission to the submission to the ACMA's Discussion Paper – "Spectrum reallocation in the 700 MHz digital dividend band" and wrote to the then Prime Minister seeking her support for spectrum for public safety.
- In 2011 the PFA made a submission to the Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Inquiry into the Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Dividend and Other Measures) Bill 2011.
- In November 2011 the Senate Committee inquiry into emergency communications unanimously recommended that the 'Commonwealth Government allocate sufficient spectrum for dedicated broadband public protection and disaster relief (PPDR) radio-communications in Australia'.

- In 2012 the PFA made a submission to the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement's *Inquiry into the Gathering and Use of Criminal Intelligence* (May 2013 report) where we again called for the development of the technical capacity to facilitate the free flow of criminal intelligence between law enforcement and relevant agencies and for legislative obligations for agencies to share their criminal intelligence. The Committee recommended "...the establishment of a national repository for criminal intelligence..."
- In June 2013 the PFA made a submission to the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Law Enforcement's *Inquiry into Spectrum for Public Safety Mobile Broadband*.
- In July 2013 the Joint Parliamentary Committee recommended that "...an appropriate portion of the proceeds derived from the auction of spectrum to fund the allocation of 20MHz of spectrum in the 700MHz band for the purposes of a national public safety mobile broadband network".
- In the lead up to the 2013 Federal election the Coalition committed to conducting "a rigorous cost-benefit analysis into the question of emergency services wireless communications and consider the most cost effective means of upgrading Australia's law enforcement and emergency services mobile broadband network".
- Information is scattered across various police and other agencies within Australia and around the world.
- Police need to collect, analyse and share intelligence and the various pieces of data relating to criminal cases.
- This requires national collaboration and interoperability.
- Every Australian police force holds a significant amount of data about various incidents and events that occur in that jurisdiction. However, the systems operate in isolation from each other, limiting the opportunity to take a national view of incidents or events, even when it comes to cross-border investigations.

As can be seen from the above chronology, these issues have been being debated and discussed since at least 2007 and likely well before that time. There have been numerous inquiries and reports which have all made similar recommendations. And while all the other strategies being developed in cooperation across agencies and governments are helpful, the development of a national case management system, a new contemporary intelligence system and a public safety mobile broadband capability are fundamental to taking a national approach to growing issues of terrorism and serious and organized crime in Australia.

## **THE PFA IS PROPOSING A THREE POINT PLAN**

**Intelligence, surveillance, good communications and collaboration, and effective management of criminal investigations and prosecutions are essential in dealing with terrorism offences and all other serious and organized crime.**

To achieve those essentials, the PFA is calling upon all governments, state, territory and federal to fund, develop and implement the following three point plan.

### **1. A National Case Management System**

This is a means of managing a criminal investigation from its commencement, through all stages, to the point of prosecution (see diagram attached).

A national system means all eight police forces, with eighteen current systems, can collaborate effectively in dealing with crimes rather than behaving as “silos” each with its own isolated picture of incidents and events.

A national picture, and links between criminals, and across borders, will greatly improve Australia’s crime and terrorism fighting capacity. The feasibility study has been completed and the time for action on this initiative is well overdue.

### **2. A new National Criminal Intelligence System (NCIS)**

This would replace the two existing 30-year old systems with one proactive and real-time national alerting system providing monitoring, indicators and warnings, trend analysis, and metrics giving a national intelligence picture for the Australian Crime Commission and all of Australia’s police forces (see diagram attached).

It will enable better strategic, operational and tactical decisions by police forces. It will facilitate real-time collaboration and intelligence sharing, improve technical capabilities, free-up time of intelligence officers to concentrate on the higher-level tasks and analysis, and improve operational effectiveness.

The ACC could develop the system and all law enforcement agencies would use it. The board of the ACC, which includes all Police Commissioners, could oversee its development.

### **3. A dedicated interoperable public safety mobile broadband capability through the allocation of 20MHz of spectrum to public safety agencies for 21<sup>st</sup> century communications**

This would mean our police forces (and fire, ambulance and SES) would

move from their 20<sup>th</sup> century radio-only communications to 21<sup>st</sup> century mobile broadband communications across a secure national network.

They would be able to communicate across State borders and share video, data, finger prints, firearms records, geographic information, weather forecasts and all manner of information necessary in dealing with mission-critical incidents like the Martin Place siege, the Black Saturday bushfires in Victoria, the Queensland floods and in-building emergencies like multi-story fires.

The Commonwealth owns the spectrum.

### **WHAT OTHER GOVERNMENT INITIATIVES WILL BE ASSISTED BY IMPLEMENTING THESE THREE INITIATIVES?**

- Implementing the ICE Taskforce recommendations,
- Tracking illegal firearms,
- Providing a national data collection point for Domestic Violence Incidents and Orders,
- Tackling serious and organized crime.

### **OTHER ISSUES THAT NEED TO BE CONSIDERED ON A NATIONAL BASIS BUT IMPLEMENTED STATE BY STATE:**

- Police Station design including Digital CCTV in and around police and other justice facilities
  - Developing appropriate policies for the security of police and police staff as they enter and leave police facilities and in travel to and from work.
- Body armour for police officers.
- Active armed offender training for police.

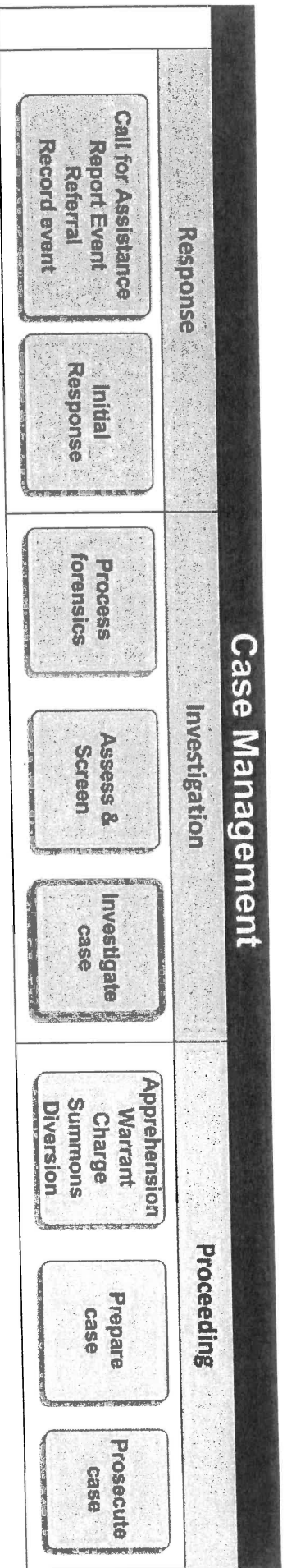
### **HOW SHOULD THESE INITIATIVES BE FUNDED?**

- By the immediate adoption of a national “unexplained wealth” regime. (Let the criminals who profit from society’s miseries pay for state-of-the-art police technologies.)
- Attorney Generals and Police Ministers will be meeting as part of the Law Crime and Community Safety Council on 5 November where unexplained wealth is again on their agenda.

**For further information and comment – Mark Burgess, PFA CEO: 0438 179 151**

# What is case management?

- The end to end process of managing a case from its receipt to its prosecution.
- Broken down into eight activities:





# NATIONAL CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE SYSTEM

