



Protecting Australians from Criminal Attack

The Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) strives to enhance the operational capability of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) through representing its people, the law enforcement professionals themselves. We have an obligation to ensure that the AFP operates to the best of its capabilities and can effectively protect Australia from criminal attack whilst providing the safest possible operating environment. This is an obligation not just to our members, but to the Australian people.

Our members play a critical role in federal law enforcement and national security including:-

- countering the threat of terrorism to the safety and security of Australians and Australian interests, inside and outside Australia;
- preventing, deterring, disrupting and investigating serious and organised criminal activities impacting on the interests of the Australian community;
- safeguarding the economic interests of the nation from criminal activities such as serious fraud, money laundering, corruption, intellectual property crime and technology enabled crime;
- ensuring that specific individuals, establishments and events, identified by the Australian Government as being at risk, are protected;
- contributing effectively to the Government's international law enforcement interests including matters involving cooperation to combat transnational organised crime, responses to emergencies, law and order capacity building missions, and participation in United Nations, or other internationally mandated operations;
- achieving and maintaining a technological edge over criminals, including sharing knowledge and capabilities with strategic partners;
- identifying emerging criminal threats to the national interest and advising on appropriate policy approaches, strategies, and treatments, to counter such threats; and
- community policing of Australian Capital Territory and external territories.

The AFPA is committed to ensuring the AFP is adequately positioned and appropriately resourced to deal with a complex and shifting law enforcement environment and that our members have the appropriate capabilities, safeguards and support when performing this critical law enforcement and national security role.

In the lead up to the next Federal Election the AFPA asks that each political party advise the AFPA of their commitments to our initiatives to protect Australians from criminal attack and improve the safety of our members in performing this important role. We intend to distribute the responses to our members, their families and the broader Australian community.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jon Hunt-Sharman'.

Jon Hunt-Sharman

National President



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Jim Torr'.

Jim Torr

Chief Executive Officer



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Resourcing of the AFP Sworn Police Officers for AFPs Core Investigative Capacity

On 13 May 2008 the then Minister for Home Affairs, The Hon Bob Debus announced that the AFP ranks would be boosted by 500 sworn Police Officers over 5 years. The \$191.9million was for additional Police Officers to help build the AFPs core investigative capacity to tackle domestic and transnational crime and combat the activities of organised criminal syndicates. In the May 2010 budget, the funds were increased by \$23.5m to address a funding miscalculation identified by the Beale Review.

The funding and recruitment of the vast majority of the 500 Police Officers is to occur in the 2011 and 2012 financial years with funding allocated for an additional 200 Police Officers in 2011 and 200 Police Officers in 2012.

The AFPA seeks a commitment that the funding allocation for additional sworn AFP Police Officers being \$67,243m in 2011/12; \$103,394m in 2012/13; and \$5,661m in 2013/14; in accordance with the current budget papers, be honoured by the incoming Government.

***Estimated Costing:
No further funding is required beyond the current budget commitments for 2011/12; 2012/13 and 2013/14 financial years as per current budget papers.***



Resourcing of the AFP Removal of the Efficiency Dividend

During the 2007/8 and 2008/9 financial years the AFPA estimates that there was approximately 200 voluntary redundancies in order for the AFP to attempt to meet a balanced budget as a result of an additional 2% one-off efficiency dividend above the ongoing 1.25% efficiency dividend. Those voluntary redundancies largely consisted of experienced Police Officers and experienced Protective Service Officers.

The imposition of the so-called efficiency dividend (which applies to AFP operations as opposed to only being calculated on AFP administrative expenses) can only be met by curtailing operations and reducing operational staff. In an organisation in which three quarters of the costs are salary related, the efficiency dividend is now clearly counter-productive to efficiency.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to the removal of the Efficiency Dividend from the AFP for the term of the next Government

***Estimated Costing:
There would be no direct cost associated with removing the Efficiency Dividend.***



Resourcing of the AFP AFP Federal Police Recruitment and Retention Program

In the 2008/9 Federal Budget the Federal Government announced a \$20 million dollar package over four years for AFP recruitment and retention strategies. This funding will expire in the 2011/12 financial year. The AFPA seeks its continuation for the term of the next Government. To ensure a collaborative approach we also seek that the AFP and the AFPA jointly develop future attraction and retention strategies.

The AFP/AFPA working group would be informed by an external independent review of the AFP remuneration structure with a view to supplementing the current promotional structure with additional remuneration capacity that recognises appropriate training, development, qualification and experience of employees. It would also look at the substantive salaries and terms of conditions offered by the AFP to ensure that these remain leading edge in an increasingly competitive job market.

The current AFP promotional system is based on a one dimensional salary spine. That is, increased remuneration is tied to promotion to higher levels in the AFP. This is predominantly based on managerial/leadership capability.

The current promotional system causes many highly qualified people to feel undervalued by the organisation because there are only limited managerial positions available. Other organisations such as the Australian Defence Force (ADF) have moved towards financial recognition of certain training, development and qualifications as an attraction and retention strategy. The ADF has introduced additional remuneration bands (there are 10) within each rank to allow additional remuneration recognition for formal qualifications, language training, operational skills etc.

In the AFP there are limited incentives to complete additional professional tertiary courses as there is no financial benefit other than possible promotion. On the other hand there is a significant commitment in

both time and money to enhance qualifications. For example, there are more than 20 tertiary qualifications ranging from Diplomas to Doctorates covering areas such as policing, justice, criminal intelligence and police leadership that currently receive no additional remuneration recognition by the AFP. There is a potential retention problem in relation to highly educated and qualified AFP employees being attracted to private sector and other public sector organisations if their professional achievements are not recognised.

The current Police recruitment process is also not attractive to highly trained and experienced private sector professionals considering a career change. There are many X and Y generation professionals, such as accountants, lawyers, financial planners, and ITC experts who would seriously consider becoming a Police Officer for a variety of reasons. However, their formal qualifications and experience are not recognised with their starting salary being at base recruit level, which is \$49,387 (as of 1 July 2010). The drop in take home salary is a serious disincentive and leads to the AFP missing opportunities to attract highly skilled employees as Police recruits.

Similar disincentives exist in relation Police recruitment of highly skilled Commonwealth employees who have investigative experience and knowledge within areas of fraud investigations, people smuggling, customs and border control, corporation crime and environmental crime. The AFP should have the capacity to recognise these skills and experience and remunerate above the base Police salary.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to the funding of the AFP Federal Police Retention and Recruitment program for the term of the next Government, including the establishment of a joint AFP/AFPA working group. The funding would encompass an external independent review of the AFP remuneration structure with a view to supplementing the current promotional structure with additional remuneration capacity that recognises appropriate training, development, qualifications and experience of employees.

***Estimated Costing:
\$5 million per annum for the term of the next government.***

Resourcing of the AFP Sufficient Funding for International Deployment Group (IDG)

In 2009, the *Federal Audit of Policing Capabilities* conducted by Mr Roger Beale AO found that the existing International Deployment Group (IDG) Future Strategies funding within the AFP budget was significantly short of estimated funding requirements to maintain 1,200 staff. The shortfall was estimated by the Auditor to be in the order of \$48.5m for 2009/10 financial year and \$57.2m for 2010/11 financial year.

Mr Beale found that at current resourcing levels it is not possible to maintain the Whole of Government approved IDG Future Strategy to the degree of capability envisaged. He states that at current resourcing levels the AFP could not simultaneously provide for the deployments envisaged in the Future Strategy as a basis for planning in a scenario requiring:

- two large and one medium significant long term capacity building missions, with durations of three to five years, each in the order of 100-250 staff and providing the ability to sustain 80-200 personnel in mission for 365 days a year;
- a further 140 personnel to field seven smaller missions of 20 personnel each to support UN commitments and shorter-term bilateral assistance projects; and
- an enhanced Australian-based support structure able to raise, train and sustain continuous operations including enhanced training, logistic and equipment capacities.

Beale also found that at current resourcing levels it is similarly not possible for the Operational Response Group simultaneously to provide sustained support for a major domestic emergency and concurrently either lead a major Police intervention in the region, while retaining the flexibility to deliver smaller stand-alone deployments, or deploy as part of a joint military/police intervention.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to ensure appropriate funding for sufficient IDG personnel to respond to the scenarios identified in the IDG Future Strategies scenario and to sustain the current 1200 IDG personnel.

Estimated Costing:

\$57.2 million per annum, indexed, for the term of the next government.



National Security Commonwealth Responsibility for Designated Maritime Ports

Former Prime Minister Rudd's first National Security Statement identified organised crime and transnational crime as national security threats. On that basis, the incoming Federal Government urgently needs to address the national security vulnerabilities identified at key maritime (general cargo) ports.

The AFPA's ongoing concerns in relation to the adequacy of maritime security measures to combat serious and organised crime and the threat of terrorism have been validated by a recent intelligence assessment by the Australian Crime Commission (ACC). ACC intelligence identified persons linked to nationally significant serious and organised crime groups within the maritime environment. This includes members, associates or affiliates of ethnically based organised crime groups, significant regional crime syndicates and Outlaw Motor Cycle Gangs. It also found that sea cargo only accounts for around 1% of illicit drug detections/seizures at the Australian borders, yet counts for over 80% of cocaine, over 70% of ATS and around 80% of MDMA in total quantity/weight seized by the AFP.

Having particular regard to the former Prime Minister's first National Security Statement, the Commonwealth's international obligations, its broader responsibilities concerning the regulation of international trade, and the public expectation of a nationally consistent approach to maritime port security across the nation, the AFPA believes that the Commonwealth should accept the responsibility of funding and staffing nationally coordinated security and policing services at designated maritime ports.

The AFPA believes that the Commonwealth should establish an **AFP Joint Maritime Crime Task Force** consisting of operational personnel similar to the very successful Joint Airport Investigation Teams (JAITs) and Joint Airport Intelligence Groups (JAIGs) currently operating at the 11 Counter Terrorism First Response (CTFR) designated Airports. JAITs and JAIGs consist of AFP Federal Agents and other highly skilled AFP employees, local State Police Officers,

Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (AC&BPS) staff and employees from other agencies as required.

The AFPA also believes that designated maritime (general cargo) ports should be declared critical infrastructure by the Commonwealth with the AFP Protection portfolio providing Uniformed Protection, similar to the policing protection it provides to other Commonwealth assets, critical infrastructure, diplomatic missions and high office holders.

The Australian Strategic Policy Institute 2005 report *'The Terrorist Threat to Australian Maritime Security'* found that:

"A terrorist attack on Australia's maritime interests remains a credible scenario. Past experience alone tells us we can't afford to rely on a terrorist group's past actions as a guide to its future attacks".

Land side maritime port security is mainly undertaken by private security firms combined with physical measures such as boundary fences, controlled gates, cameras, alarm systems, guard dogs and so on. Training requirements for private security guards are set out in regulations, but the guards lack access to police resources and services, including key intelligence and law enforcement databases. They're transient workers, guarding a shopping mall one week and a port terminal the next. Maritime port security is now too important to be dictated more by commercial considerations than by actual need. It's time to police the waterfront more thoroughly. For major ports, this requires specialised port policing, as exist at many US and European ports, with intimate knowledge of their maritime beat.

It is important to note that there is a key opportunity for a future Federal Government to minimize planned redundancies of a significant number of highly trained AFP CTFR Protective Service Officers (PSOs) who are currently located at the 11 CTFR designated airports and do not wish to, or are not able to, successfully complete the Diploma in Policing studies to enable them to transition to sworn AFP Police Officer status. These potentially excess AFP PSOs could be reassigned to protect designated maritime (general cargo) ports and provide a security and policing uniform presence that is currently lacking.

The permanent presence of AFP PSOs, supported by an **AFP Joint Maritime Crime Task Force** should have a threefold effect of protecting critical infrastructure; deterring and detecting organised and serious crime and providing criminal intelligence.

AFP PSOs have a high level of expertise for handling emergencies and already undertake patrols, investigate national security crime and advise Federal and State authorities on security and hazardous situations. They'd be able to provide operational support to other agencies such as DIMIA, DOTARS and AC&BPS, and could be trained to undertake ship security boardings required by the MTSA.

For '24/7' staffing, AFP PSOs of around thirty would be required at each major (designated) port with annual personnel costs of about \$3.6 million. Capital costs for a control room, enquiry counter, radios, vehicles and so on would be about \$1.5 million.



The AFPA seeks a commitment that the AFP will be given responsibility for Commonwealth designated maritime (general cargo) ports on national security grounds with the AFP providing Uniform Protection to that critical infrastructure and providing an **AFP Joint Maritime Crime Task Force** (consisting of AFP, local State Police, Australian Customs & Border Protection Service, Australian Crime Commission and other agencies as required).

Estimated Costing:

AFP Uniform Protection based on 30 AFP Protective Service Officers, funded by the Commonwealth for one designated maritime (general cargo) port is estimated to be \$3.6m + supply costs of \$1.5m – Total costs \$5.1m per annum.

Estimated Costing:

AFP Joint Maritime Crime Task Force based on 30 AFP investigators, 2 State Police, 2 AC&BPS, 2 ACC personnel funded by the Commonwealth for one designated maritime (general cargo) port is estimated to be \$4.3m + supply costs of \$1.8m – Total costs \$6.1m per annum



National Security Air & Maritime Ports Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

The Wheeler Review stated: *CCTV is a vital tool in protecting Australia's airports from terrorist and criminal behaviour and this importance is unlikely to diminish moving forward.* The AFPA is concerned that the deficiencies in CCTV identified in the Wheeler Review and later demonstrated by the murder of an Outlaw Motor Cycle Gang (OMCG) associate in the public area of the domestic terminal at Sydney Airport, is placing at risk both the public and AFP personnel.

The AFP, being responsible for providing national security law enforcement on behalf of the Commonwealth and performing the policing and Counter Terrorism First Response (CTFR) functions at the 11 designated CTFR airports, should have real time access to high quality CCTV capability at key areas within the 11 designated CTFR airports including public areas and domestic terminals. The AFP must be equipped with adequate technology in order to respond to the broad range of threats that arise within aviation security and policing.

The AFPA believes that there should also be a full upgrade of CCTV at designated maritime (general cargo) ports for prevention, detection and investigation of potential terrorist and criminal behaviour.



The AFPA seeks a commitment to improve efficiency and effectiveness of port security and policing with:-

- The incoming Government funding a full upgrade of CCTV to provide imaging of evidentiary quality at the 11 designated airports as a matter of urgency; and
- The Office of Transport Security be responsible for the operation & monitoring of the CCTV for those designated airports; and
- The AFP, (being responsible for providing national security law enforcement on behalf of the Commonwealth and performing the Policing and CTFR function at the 11 designated airports), be provided with real time access to all CCTV feeds within the designated airports; and
- The AFP, (being responsible for providing national security law enforcement on behalf of the Commonwealth and performing the Policing and CTFR function at the 11 designated airports), to have graduated control of the CCTV commensurate with any increase in threat level; and
- The Government considering an upgrade of CCTV for designated maritime (general cargo) ports similar to the above arrangements as an integral part of Australia's national security framework.

*Estimated Costing:
\$20m to upgrade airport CCTV systems across the 11 designated airports*

*Estimated Costing:
\$4m to upgrade CCTV systems at two designated maritime (general cargo) port*

National Security Air & Maritime Ports Automated Number Plate Recognition

The AFPA believes that there is a strong argument for an Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) capability at the 11 designated airports and designated maritime (general cargo) ports on national security grounds.

ANPR technology uses digital cameras and optical character recognition software to recognise and capture vehicle number plates. The technology is already being used in most State and Territories by Australian Police jurisdictions, road transport and regulatory authorities. For airport and maritime security and policing, this relatively low cost option would assist the AFP and ACC, by providing instantaneous notification of vehicles of interest, persons of interest and identification of stolen and unregistered vehicles that are often used for criminal activity. ANPR would assist the AFP and ACC in the prevention, detection of offences, as well as post incident analysis.

It is also logical that the use ANPR would significantly improve maritime security and policing at designated maritime (general cargo) ports.



The AFPA seeks a commitment to improve efficiency and effectiveness of Airport & Maritime security and policing with:

- The incoming Government funding implementation of Automated Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) at the 11 designated airports as a matter of urgency; and
- Crimtrac being the hub responsible for the operation & monitoring of the ANPR for those designated airports; and
- The AFP, (being responsible for providing national security law enforcement on behalf of the Commonwealth and performing the Policing and CTRF function at the 11 designated airports), be provided with real time access to all ANPR within the designated airports; and
- The Government consider ANPR for designated maritime (general cargo) ports similar to the above arrangements as an integral part of Australia's national security framework

*Estimated Costing:
Establishment cost of \$20m + \$3m per annum
operating and maintenance for the 11 designated
airports plus two maritime (general cargo) ports.*



National Security AFP Targeting of High Threat Organised Crime Groups

Former Prime Minister, Mr Rudd, in his first National Security Statement identified organised crime and transnational crime as national security threats. On that basis, the incoming Federal Government urgently needs to address the national security vulnerabilities identified in relation to high threat organised crime groups by appropriately resourcing the newly formed **AFP Serious and Organised Crime portfolio**.

The AFPA's ongoing concern in relation to nationally significant serious and organised crime groups has been validated by a recent report on Organised Crime released by the Australian Crime Commission (ACC). The ACC found that whilst organised crime groups within Australia are diverse and flexible, high-threat organised crime groups have some consistent characteristics and strategies contributing to their capability and success.

Generally high-threat organised crime groups:

- have transnational connections
- have proven capabilities and involvement in serious crime of high harm levels including illicit drugs, large scale money laundering and financial crimes
- have a broader geographical presence and will generally operate in two or more jurisdictions
- operate in multiple crime markets
- are engaged in financial crimes such as fraud and money laundering
- intermingle legitimate and criminal enterprises
- are fluid and adaptable, and able to adjust activities to new opportunities or respond to pressures from law enforcement or competitors

- are able to withstand law enforcement interventions and rebuild quickly following disruption
- are increasingly using new technologies
- use specialist advice and professional facilitators.

It is imperative that this ACC intelligence is enacted upon by the newly formed **AFP Serious and Organised Crime portfolio**. To date there has been no additional funding for this new AFP portfolio. It needs to be appropriately resourced to investigate high-threat organised crime groups identified by the ACC. Having particular regard to the current National Security Statement, the Commonwealth's international treaty obligations, the AFPA believes that the Commonwealth should provide additional funding to the AFP to investigate high threat organised crime groups identified by the ACC.

The AFPA seeks a commitment that the AFP receives additional funding to investigate high-threat organised crime groups identified by the ACC.

Estimated Costing:

AFP High-Threat Organised Crime Group Investigation Teams based on 90 core AFP investigators, 10 ACC personnel and 8 AC&BPS officers funded by the Commonwealth is estimated to be \$12.9m + supply costs of \$5.4m – Total costs \$18.3m per annum.



Anti corruption Strategy False Claims Bill (Cth) to combat contractual fraud

In light of the recent abuse of the economic stimulus package by private corporations and individuals, the AFPA proposes that the Federal Government consider introducing a *False Claims Bill (Cth)* [Bill] replicating the United States False Claims Act.

The *Bill* would establish civil liability when a defendant (usually a corporation but on occasion an individual) overcharges the Federal Government for goods or services. Other typical cases would entail failure to test a product as required by the rigorous Government specifications, for example, where a pharmaceutical company provides false data to the Government on a pharmaceutical product which is then subsidised by the Commonwealth.

The *Bill* would include a detailed process for making a civil claim. Mere complaints to a Government agency would be insufficient to bring claims under the *Bill*. A complaint (lawsuit) would need to be filed in the Federal Court. The Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) would then decide whether it will pursue the case on behalf of the Commonwealth. If the AGS decides not to pursue the case the original plaintiff can continue the lawsuit him or herself under the *Qui tam* provision. This whistleblower provision is a unique mechanism that allows citizens with evidence of fraud against Government contracts and programs to sue, on behalf of the Government, in order to recover the stolen funds for the Commonwealth. In compensation for the risk and effort of filing a *qui tam* case, the citizen whistleblower or "relator" may be awarded a portion of the funds recovered.

The *Bill* would enable an incoming Government to be publicly seen as seeking out and prosecuting fraudsters who have abused the important stimulus package introduced by the Federal Government, particularly in the areas of the \$14 billion dollar school stimulus building program and the environment 'green' program initiatives such as \$2.45 billion roof insulation rebate scheme which has been linked to the deaths of four installers, over 174 house fires to date, and safety and quality problems potentially affecting hundreds of thousands of homes.

Although the *Bill* would be a powerful tool to combat contractual fraud on the Commonwealth, it is a tool that would have appropriate limits by both the law and economics of litigation:-

- Tax issues would not be covered by a False Claims Bill (Cth);
- For a civil case to be filed, the fraud has to reach a certain size, otherwise it is generally not worth it for the relator to risk his or her career to file suit, nor is it worth it for a law firm to take on the case and risk the loss of the enormous time and expense that a False Claims action represents; and
- A law firm that takes on a False Claims action must believe it has a very strong case in order to proceed. Not only can a firm be out time and money, but if the Government does not take the case and the whistleblower proceeds, he or she can be forced to pay the defendant's legal fees if the court finds that the claim was frivolous or brought primarily for purposes of harassment.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to introduce a False Claims Bill (Cth) to combat contractual fraud against the Commonwealth.

Estimated Costing:

The scheme will require a small amount of funding in the initial stages although this will quickly be offset by recoveries made under the provisions.



Anti corruption Strategy Illicit Enrichment Offence for Public Officials

The AFPA is cognisant that the Commonwealth Parliament does not have plenary power and must enact laws with respect to, or incidental to, the heads of power provided in s51 of the Australian Constitution.

Utilising the external affairs power (s51 (xxix)) the Commonwealth can enact legislation supporting international treaties on organised crime and corruption to which Australia is a signatory.

Article 20 of the *United Nations Convention Against Corruption* encourages participating parties to the Convention to consider creating an 'illicit enrichment' offence for public officials. This would enable an 'unexplained wealth' charge to be laid against suspected corrupt public officials who have unexplained wealth under their effective control.

The AFPA believes that as a minimum, public officials within high corruption risk Commonwealth agencies such as Australian Customs & Border Protection Service (AC&BPS), Department of Immigration And Citizenship (DIAC); Australian Crimes Commission (ACC) and the Australian Federal Police (AFP) etc, should be subject to an Illicit Enrichment Offence, although ideally the AFPA would prefer that this provision covers all Commonwealth employees.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to introduce an illicit enrichment offence for public officials as recommended in Article 20 of United Nations Convention Against Corruption

Estimated Costing:

The scheme will require a small amount of funding in the initial stages although this will be offset by recoveries made under the Proceeds of Crimes Act provisions.

AFP Employment General Issue of Electronic Incapacitating Devices on Occupational Health & Safety Grounds

The AFPA is seeking funding for the general issue of Electronic Incapacitating Devices (EIDs), such as Tasers, for all operational AFP Officers so they have access to another non-lethal option to their firearm.

The Western Australian Police have had Tasers for front-line Officers since 2006. The Queensland Government announced in July 2008 that it would roll out 3000 Tasers state-wide over twelve months. The New South Wales Government announced in June 2009 that it would provide 1,962 Tasers to be rolled out to front-line Police over eighteen months, together with eight hours of initial training, a written test and annual recertification of Officers. Strict accountability is ensured through recording of audio and visual data for each Taser use.

Currently, Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and the ACT restrict the use of EIDs to their specialist tactical response squads. However, we have seen situations in NSW, Victoria and even in the ACT, where general duties Police have had to use lethal weapons due to imminent threat to life and safety.

The following points outline the benefits of EIDs:-

- Use of the EIDs by front-line Police saves lives. Reinforcing the importance of getting EIDs out to frontline Police, the Queensland Coroner, Michael Barnes, in March 2008 found that the deaths of four mentally ill men, shot by Police in separate violent standoffs, all could have been prevented had EIDs been available.
- The EIDs frequently contributes to a quick, effective and safe resolution of incidents. The mere sight of the EID is often enough to resolve a conflict when it is taken from its holster.
- EIDs can dramatically decrease the number of assaults on Police Officers – WA Police saw a decline

of 40% in such assaults and NSW aims to halve the 3000 assaults per annum on Police Officers.

- EIDs reduce Police injuries, workers' compensation claims and lost days on duty. The Police Association of NSW estimates direct savings of more than \$32 million dollars per annum in NSW alone from the general use of Tasers and NSW Police Deputy Commissioner Dave Owens advises that there is a 24% drop in the number of police assaulted in the past year; that is 181 fewer police assaults since the introduction of general issue Tasers.

- EIDs give Officers a wider range of options in conflict management scenarios, including those most associated with self-defence and restraint.

- It can minimise the need for Officers to use other, more lethal techniques on suspects and offenders.

The AFPA seeks a commitment for funding of Electronic Incapacitating Devices with audio & video camera for AFP operational employees and funding for appropriate training on Occupational and Health and Safety grounds.

Estimated Costing:

It is anticipated that funding of 2,000 Electronic Incapacitating Devices for AFP operational employees at \$2,000 per unit would cost \$4m plus \$1m support costs for an initial roll out. Total cost \$5m.



Profession

AFPA Communication with Government

The AFPA seeks a commitment to formal quarterly meetings with the relevant Minister for Home Affairs as a process of ongoing consultation and discussion on relevant issues, with additional adhoc meetings as required.

The AFPA also seeks a commitment to a structured formal meeting process on a biannual basis between the AFPA and the Attorney General to discuss matters of mutual interest with the meeting being organised through the Minister for Home Affairs.

The AFPA seeks a commitment to the continuation of the current communication arrangements with an incoming Government.

Estimated Costing:

There is nil cost associated with this proposal.

