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Australian Federal Police Association

MEDIA STATEMENT

ACT Integrity Commission a step too far

The Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) said the ACT Government’s proposal to create the ACT Integrity Commission is extraordinary overkill and will see ACT police the most scrutinised police force in the country.

The ACT Government’s proposed version of ICAC will be set up to investigate corruption within the ACT Legislative Assembly, ACT government employees and the ranks of ACT Policing.

AFPA President Angela Smith, said “ACT Policing and the broader AFP already come under three levels of oversight, and this local ICAC will place ACT police under a senseless fourth regime of oversight.

“Surely sense must prevail here given the functions proposed by this new ACT Integrity Commission already exist within the remit of AFP Professional Standards, Australian Commission for Law Enforcement Integrity and the Commonwealth Ombudsman.

“I don’t condone corruption and I never will, however, where is the evidence that these duplicated investigate powers are warranted.

“We know the ACT community has positive perceptions and high-levels of satisfaction with ACT Policing. This is illustrated in the 2017 National Survey of Community Satisfaction with Policing, where confidence in ACT police recorded the highest result nationally.

“The Association will continue to block any change to self-government legislation to prevent ACT police from this excessive regime.”

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