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MEDIA RELEASE

ACT Policing Traffic Operations Centre served with Improvement Notice by Comcare

The Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) welcomes Comcare issuing an Improvement Notice on ACT Policing's Traffic Operations Centre (TOC) in Belconnen.

The AFPA has been discussing the condition of the TOC with ACT Policing and the ACT Government for over 12 months now; until now, the Association's questions and concerns have not been adequately addressed.

AFPA President Alex Caruana welcomes Comcare's move; with ACT Policing and the ACT Government now officially on-notice, he said that he expects the issue to be swiftly resolved.

"Through all our discussions with ACT Policing and the ACT Government, all I have heard about is the Police Services Model (PSM) and Master Accommodation Plan (MAP). This excuse is getting tiresome; considering former Chief Police Officer Justine Saunders initiated these models in 2017 and we've seen very little delivered.

"Why does it take three years to deliver a PSM and MAP, especially when ACT Policing has already been provided funding? In fairness to the ACT Government, they've guaranteed a budget for ACT Policing to work with - so where is that body of work and what is being delivered? This essentially is a member welfare issue combined with an accommodation issue - and neither are going away anytime soon," Mr Caruana said.

Accommodation across ACT Policing is a core focus for the AFPA, with a number of facilities having exceeded, or being at their end-life of functionality as operational police facilities.

Mr Caruana said that ACT Policing's accommodation is in a dire situation and has been poorly managed on all levels.

"City Police Station is falling down and leaks when it rains. The Winchester Police Centre is in a similar state, and everyone knows about the lack of a fit-for-purpose police station in Gungahlin.



“In our submission to the ACT Legislative Assembly and the Standing Committee on Justice and Community Safety’s *Inquiry into ACT Policing*, we have provided several accommodation recommendations, as well as shown examples of the poor quality of ACT Policing facilities.

“I commend the Chair of the Inquiry, Mrs Giulia Jones MLA and the Committee on their recommended action plan to address the state of ACT Policing buildings. I would strongly encourage the ACT Government and ACT Policing to accept this recommendation, and get it done before the signing of the next Policing Arrangement,” Mr Caruana said.

END STATEMENT

For comments:

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