

11 February 2021



Australian Federal Police Association

AFPA welcomes ACT Budget announcement for feasibility studies

The Australian Federal Police Association (AFPA) welcomes the ACT Government's 2021 Budget announcement regarding feasibility studies for a new Gungahlin Police Station and Winchester Police Centre and assistance in relocating the Traffic Operations Centre.

AFPA President Alex Caruana said that this is an encouraging first step in seeing a 'brick and mortar' outcome.

"We have been campaigning for a new Gungahlin Police Station for a long time, and this will be the first real step towards achieving that outcome. We are very open towards either a new station or a significant redevelopment of the current Gungahlin Joint Emergency Services Centre.

"The Winchester Police Centre is aging rapidly and has its issues, so this will be an excellent opportunity to scope what a new ACT Policing headquarters could look like.

"I want to thank the Minister for Police and Emergency Services Mick Gentleman and the ACT Government for these commitments," AFPA President Alex Caruana said.

The AFPA believes that this funding, along with the \$33.9 million provided in the 2019 ACT Budget, will be beneficial for the sustainability and future of ACT Policing.

AFPA President Alex Caruana said the ACT community is rapidly growing, and it's essential that ACT Policing has fit-for-purpose and future-proof police facilities.

"Both these feasibility studies will provide the chance to make sure that a future Gungahlin Police Station and ACT Policing headquarters is in the right location and house the right amenities to service the members of ACT Policing and the ACT community," Mr Caruana said.

The AFPA also welcomes the announcement of funding towards the relocation of the Traffic Operations Centre.

AFPA President Alex Caruana said with the new Traffic Operations Centre facility being fit-for-purpose, and just as importantly, a safe facility for our members is a great outcome.

"The old Traffic Operations Centre has been an issue for several years, and it's fantastic that a new facility will soon be available. I look forward to future announcements regarding the new facility.

"The AFPA would welcome any opportunity to work with the ACT Government and ACT Policing on these projects, and we are looking forward to the development and progression of the feasibility studies," AFPA President Alex Caruana said.

END STATEMENT

For comments:

AFPA Media and Government Relations Manager - Troy Roberts – (02) 6285 1677 – troy.roberts@afpa.org.au