

2 June 2022



AFPA WELCOMES AFP RETURNING TO ATTORNEY-GENERAL PORTFOLIO

The AFPA welcomes yesterday's announcement from Prime Minister Anthony Albanese advising that the Australian Federal Police (AFP) will move from Home Affairs back to the Attorney-General's portfolio.

AFPA President Alex Caruana said that the AFP returning to its original portfolio was an excellent outcome.

"The AFPA has been calling on this move since 2019 as we believe that the Commonwealth's law enforcement agency should be closely aligned with the portfolio that makes the laws in Australia.

"This will also provide independence for the AFP. The AFP was buried within the Home Affairs portfolio. The Attorney-General sits a little to the side of government, and we welcome such an environment for the AFP," Mr Caruana said.

The AFPA also welcomes Minister Clare O'Neil to the Home Affairs portfolio.

"While Minister O'Neil won't be responsible for the AFP, there will still be overlapping responsibilities such as national security and cybercrime.

"We welcome Minister O'Neil to the national security community, and we look forward to collaborating with her in this space.

"We are also looking forward to working with the Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus QC on several proposals that we've already begun discussing with him.

"The Government has made a good start by reducing the efficiency dividend to 1 per cent and promising to look at the Public Sector Workplace Relations policy.

"We are confident that we can work together with the Government to improve the AFP and its workplace conditions," Mr Caruana said.

END STATEMENT

For comments:

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