



Australian Government

Australian Government response to the
Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement report:

*Examination of the Annual Report of the Australian Crime
Commission 2011-2012*

March 2014

Government Response to the

Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement report:

Examination of the Annual Report of the Australian Crime Commission 2011-12

The Government welcomes the Committee's report. The Committee makes two recommendations about Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) used to assess the Australian Crime Commission's (ACC) performance against the targets set out in its annual Portfolio Budget Statements. The Government is pleased to accept both recommendations.

Recommendation 1

3.18: The Committee recommends that the Australian Crime Commission review and re-examine its KPI concerning the Australian Criminal Intelligence Database [ACID] and the Australian Law Enforcement Intelligence Network [ALEIN].

The Government **accepts** the Committee's recommendation.

The relevant KPI assessed the performance of ACID and ALEIN on the basis of their availability to users, with a target availability rate of 98 per cent. While the availability rate for 2011-12 exceeded this target, the overall number of searches made using ACID dropped significantly over the same period. This continued a three-year trend of decreasing use of the system.

The Government recognises the Committee's concern that the KPI may no longer provide an accurate measure of the value of ACID and ALEIN.

The ACC is currently undertaking a scoping study to determine business requirements for an information technology system to replace ACID and improve ALEIN. The ACID/ALEIN scoping study will assess opportunities to harness technological advances to support the ACC's management of its criminal intelligence holdings.

The ACC has amended its KPI for ACID and ALEIN for the 2013-14 Portfolio Budget Statement. The performance of ACID and ALEIN will now be measured against the following:

provision of a national criminal intelligence database and analytical tools, which facilitate the sharing and analysis of criminal intelligence across jurisdictions.

This new KPI more accurately reflects the ACC's role in maintaining a national database of criminal intelligence, and its efforts to investigate options to further enhance the ACC's criminal intelligence holdings and systems.

Recommendation 2:

3.37 The committee recommends that the Australian Crime Commission work towards establishing a balance of qualitative and quantitative Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which can be measured over time.

3.38 The committee recommends that the 2012–13 Annual Report of the Australian Crime Commission provide information on progress made towards establishing a balance of qualitative and quantitative KPIs.

The Government **accepts** the Committee's recommendations.

The ACC has recently developed a revised performance management framework to support the ACC's new *Strategic Plan 2013-18*. The revised framework informed the development of the ACC's Portfolio Budget Statement for 2013-14 and corresponding KPIs.

The new KPIs aim to convey the full scope of the ACC's role in combating serious and organised crime in Australia by including both quantitative and qualitative performance measures.

The new performance management framework is designed to show traditional law enforcement outcomes through measures such as arrests, charges and seizures of illicit commodities. However, it will also provide a basis for qualitative assessment of the value of the ACC's contribution to broader law enforcement outcomes through activities such as those aimed at developing criminal intelligence holdings, informing policy and legislative approaches to key serious and organised crime issues and enhancing partnerships with a range of law enforcement, government and industry partners.

The revised performance management framework will require the ACC to develop new systems for collecting performance data, which will be implemented over the five year operation of the Strategic Plan. The ACC reported on its progress in establishing the new KPIs in the *Annual Report of the Australian Crime Commission 2012-13*.