

FACT SHEET

Australian Crime Commission Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2017

The Government has introduced legislation into Parliament to manage the consequences of the merger between the Australian Crime Commission and the CrimTrac organisation.

To counter serious and organised crime in Australia, the Australian Crime Commission (ACC) was established under the *Australian Crime Commission Act 2002* (Cth). The functions of the ACC include: collecting and analysing criminal intelligence; setting national criminal intelligence priorities; providing and maintaining criminal intelligence systems; and investigating federally relevant criminal activity and undertaking taskforces in conjunction with state and territory police.

CrimTrac was the national information-sharing service for Australia's police, law enforcement and national security agencies. The agency was established in 2000 under an Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA), as a Commonwealth Executive Agency and collaborative partnership between the Commonwealth, states and territories.

On 1 July 2016, Commonwealth legislation took effect merging CrimTrac into the ACC. The ACC now performs the previous functions of CrimTrac including providing national police information systems and services to police and other eligible bodies and nationally coordinated criminal history checks to accredited agencies. The merged organisation is still identified as Australian Crime Commission in the Commonwealth ACC Act.

As a result of the merger, a number of consequential amendments are required to Tasmanian Acts that authorise, or facilitate, the release of information to CrimTrac, allowing those bodies to instead send that information to the ACC. The following Acts currently authorise the release of information, in certain circumstances, to CrimTrac.

- the *Annulled Convictions Act 2003*;
- the *Firearms Act 1996*;
- the *Forensic Procedures Act 2000*; and
- the *Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Tasmania) Act 2010*.

This Bill amends the above Acts removing references to CrimTrac, and where required, replacing them with references to the Australian Crime Commission. The Bill also includes transitional arrangements to ensure that any agreements made between Tasmanian government agencies and CrimTrac are also deemed to be equivalent agreements with the Australian Crime Commission.