

PFA Policies with Party Responses

2013 Federal Election

PFA POLICY PRIORITIES	COALITION RESPONSE	LABOR RESPONSE	THE GREENS RESPONSE
<p><i>Source: National Leadership for a Safer Australia 2013-2016, PFA June 2013</i></p>	<p><i>Source: Coalition response, 6 September 2013</i></p>	<p><i>Source: Australia Labor response to the PFA, National Campaign Headquarters, 3 September 2013</i></p>	<p><i>Source: The Greens response to the PFA 2013 Federal Election Survey, 19 July 2013</i></p>
<p>1. IMPROVING SUPERANNUATION</p> <p>(a) We seek a commitment to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -revising upwards to \$50,000 pa the amount people can contribute to super under concessional tax arrangements and to permanently indexing that new cap; and -progressively increasing the compulsory employer superannuation guarantee from 12 to 15%. <p>(b) We seek a commitment to allow police access to their superannuation at age 55 or to examine a 20 year police officer disengagement scheme.</p>	<p>The Coalition believes there is merit in allowing a lower age for police to access superannuation benefits. However, Australians are now living longer and healthier lives. Any decision would have to give due consideration to the adequacy of superannuation benefits at 55 and to any age discrimination issues. The Coalition is willing to directly discuss these issues with the Police Federation of Australia as a matter of priority, given that preservation ages are due to be lifted in 2015.</p> <p>The Coalition did not support Labor's changes to concessional caps when first announced as they were likely to have unintended consequences.</p> <p>If elected, the Coalition will swiftly seek</p>	<p>Labor is the party of superannuation and has a record of achievement far superior to that of the Coalition. The superannuation accounts of police officers right around Australia will be better off under Labor than under the Coalition. Labor's commitment is already being implemented. It is a commitment to progressively increase the compulsory superannuation contributions of employers.</p> <p>We established compulsory superannuation and we are increasing it to 12 per cent.</p> <p>And before we can take superannuation to 15 per cent, we need to get it to 12 per cent. However, that is under threat because of Tony Abbott and the Coalition.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens do not support increasing the concessional contributions cap to \$50,000 as low and middle income earners such as police officers are very unlikely to be able to contribute this much to their superannuation. An increase in the cap to this high would mainly benefit wealthy people trying to rearrange their finances to reduce tax at the expense of ordinary working people.</p> <p>The Greens are on the record supporting the increase in employer superannuation contributions to 12 % and we would like to see it rise to 15% in the future. We also support employees negotiating with their employers for increased superannuation.</p> <p>Allowing access to superannuation from age 55 is problematic given current and</p>



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	<p>relevant departmental advice about the issue in NSW regarding the concessional contributions cap affect on police and any proposed solution.</p>	<p>Tony Abbott has announced he will freeze the increase in superannuation at 9.25 per cent for two years. This will result in 8.4 million Australians retiring with less super.</p> <p>Federal Labor also understands the desire of many Australians for certainty in the operation of the superannuation system, and removing it from the annual Budget cycle.</p> <p>That's why, in July this year, the Rudd Labor Government announced that it will legislate a five year moratorium on changes to superannuation tax policy.</p> <p>Federal Labor will also bring forward legislation to establish a Council of Superannuation Custodians to ensure any future changes to superannuation are consistent with an agreed Charter of Superannuation Adequacy and Sustainability.</p> <p>The establishment of an independent Council will further enhance and protect Australia's superannuation system.</p> <p>Any changes to the access arrangements for superannuation could be considered by the independent Superannuation</p>	<p>prospective life expectancies mean that superannuation balances would often be insufficient to provide for a decent income over the retirement period. But we would support police officers being offered less physically demanding positions after age 55.</p>
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		<p>Council that will be established by a Rudd Labor Government. We commit to allowing police to argue their case before the Independent Council.</p> <p>In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• From 1 July 2012, around 3.6 million low income and part time working Australians earning \$37,000 or less, including 2.1 million women, received a tax cut on their superannuation contribution of up to \$500 a year.• Federal Labor has abolished the superannuation guarantee age limit that has prevented Australians aged 70 and over from receiving the superannuation guarantee. This means that from 1 July 2013, Australians aged 70 and over will be entitled to 9.25 per cent universal superannuation, eventually rising to 12 per cent by 1 July 2019.• Australians reaching retirement (over 60) can now contribute up to \$10,000 more to their super at the concessional tax rate.• From 1 July 2013, the first MySuper	
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		<p>products became available to provide simple, cost effective default superannuation products, which will deliver a significant improvement in the retirement outcomes of ordinary working Australians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The trans-Tasman retirement savings portability scheme commenced on 1 July 2013, helping thousands of Australians and New Zealanders who move across the Tasman Sea each year consolidate their retirement savings. <p>Federal Labor's superannuation reforms will also boost our national pool of superannuation savings by more than \$500 billion by 2037.</p>	
<p>2 THE POLICE PROFESSION</p> <p>(a) We seek a commitment to support and provide seed funding for the establishment of a National Police Registration Scheme as a collaborative effort between the Australian Government, the PFA and state and territory jurisdictions.</p>	<p>The Coalition welcomes recent State initiatives for police registration and understands the benefits that would accrue from a national registration scheme, particularly as regards inter-jurisdictional mobility. The Coalition intends to establish a new Standing Council on Law, Crime and Community Safety to bring together lawmakers and law enforcers and at which State and Territory police commissioners would</p>	<p>Labor believes there is real merit in investigating in detail a national registration scheme with a view to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitating mobility across jurisdictions; Protecting the police professional domain; and Establishing consistent and proper 	<p>The Australian Greens believe the best and brightest in Australia's multiple police forces should be able to easily move to where they will be of the most benefit to our society. When that means changing jurisdictions, ideally there should be no barriers to make that shift. We support establishing a harmonised system of standards, qualifications and training to assist the seamless mobility of police officers throughout the country.</p>



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<p>(b) We seek a commitment to ensure that police powers are not extended to non-sworn personnel and are reserved for sworn police officers who are subject to appropriate oversight and controls. Any proposal to civilianise or outsource a position currently occupied by a police officer, should not be done without appropriate consultation and evaluation and in line with the underpinning ethos of the recommendations of the Senate Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee’s Inquiry into Regulatory Powers (Standard Provisions) Bill 2012.</p>	<p>attend. Through that forum, a Coalition Government would take a close interest in the continued development of a National Police Registration scheme.</p> <p>The Coalition recognises the special nature of the powers and duties entrusted to police officers. A Coalition Government would consult closely with the Police Federation of Australia and other stakeholders if any proposals arose to civilianise any functions currently being performed by sworn police officers.</p>	<p>standards of policing practice and ethics; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the status of the police profession. <p>To this end a reelected Labor Government would commit funding to a Standing Council on Police and Emergency Management (SCPEM) Working Group with PFA membership, to develop a model for such a Registration scheme. The working group would commence immediately following the first SCPEM meeting after the election and report back at the subsequent meeting. If agreement on a scheme can be reached across all jurisdictions, a reelected Labor Government would consider a submission for seed funding of the proposed Registration scheme.</p> <p>Federal Labor also again stresses that policing powers, uniforms and vehicles should be reserved for sworn officers. The nature of police work is unique and carries unique responsibilities. It is not appropriate to confer police powers on non-sworn personnel that do not have the same level of responsibility or training.</p>	
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<p>3 INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS ISSUES</p> <p>We seek a commitment to dialogue in relation to:</p> <p>(a) Police in the Federal IR system so that the Commonwealth meets its international obligations including to ILO conventions;</p> <p>(b) Amending S 176(1)(c) of the Fair Work Act to ensure that the Registered Organisation is the sole Bargaining Agent where more than 2/3 of the workforce are members of one registered organisation; and</p> <p>(c) Funding of a tripartite study into wage fixation principles and agreement making for Australia's police.</p>	<p>A Coalition Government would be prepared to discuss these issues with the Police Federation of Australia and other affected stakeholders to consider any proposed legislation.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government looks forward to engaging in dialogue with the PFA regarding all industrial relations matters. In particular we accept the PFA's invitation to commence more detailed dialogue on the matters of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Commonwealth meeting its international obligations, including adherence to ILO conventions to which it is a signatory; • The most appropriate form of representation for police officers which acknowledges and supports the history of achievement and effectiveness of the Police Federation and its coverage of the police profession right across Australia; and • The need to study wage fixations principles and agreement. <p>Labor believes in a strong and fair safety net of terms and conditions that reflect Australia's obligations in the ILO Conventions we have ratified.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens support the right to organise, collective bargaining and freedom of association as outlined in Australia's International Labour Organisation obligations. We support measures to protect these rights for police officers, and would support an amendment to the Fair Work Act to allow external affairs powers to bring State obligations in alignment with ILO specifications.</p> <p>The Green's policy is that individual workplace arrangements should not override collective agreements. We would support an amendment to the Fair Work Act 2009 to ensure the Registered organisation is the sole bargaining agent and other bargaining representatives are not able to be appointed where more than two-thirds of the work force are members of one registered organisation.</p> <p>We would support a tripartite study with an outcome to improve police industrial relations law practices.</p>
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		<p>Labor believes that workers are entitled to be represented at work, including in bargaining for terms and conditions to be included in an enterprise agreement. The Fair Work Act provides that each employee is entitled to choose who represents them in bargaining.</p> <p>Labor is committed to workers' compensation scheme arrangements that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieve a fair balance for injured workers and make sure injured workers are given every opportunity to return to health, independence and work as quickly as possible.• Do not create needless disability and that provide fair compensation for work related injuries, illnesses and fatalities.• Reduce the overall social and economic costs to the community of work related injuries, illnesses and fatalities.	
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<p>4 WORKERS' COMPENSATION IMPROVEMENTS</p> <p>We seek your commitment to stand-alone legislative Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation coverage for police officers deployed overseas, with the cover providing comparable benefits to that provided for ADF personnel facing comparable risks.</p>	<p>A Coalition Government would be prepared to discuss these issues with the Police Federation of Australia and other affected stakeholders to consider any proposed legislation.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to Workers' Compensation and Rehabilitation coverage for police officers deployed overseas, with the cover providing comparable benefits to that provided for ADF personnel facing comparable risks. Whether this is done by way of stand-alone legislation or through other mechanisms is open to dialogue between the PFA and a re-elected Government.</p> <p>We look forward to continuing this dialogue and commit to resolving this question by the end of the first year of a re-elected Rudd Government.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens would support stand-alone legislative workers compensation for AFP deployed overseas with comparable cover to that of ADF facing similar risks.</p>
<p>5 INTERNATIONAL DEPLOYMENT GROUP FUNDING</p> <p>We seek a commitment to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure appropriate funding for sufficient IDG personnel to respond to the scenarios identified in the IDG Future Strategies scenario; - Not reduce pay, terms and conditions and entitlements for 	<p>The Coalition understands the special nature and demands of the international deployment of police officers and would ensure such deployments are properly resourced and that officers receive the appropriate support across the range of issues that arise.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to providing appropriate funding to support operations requiring IDG involvement.</p> <p>We are investing heavily in the AFP's ability to build the capacity of law enforcement agencies in the region. We are, for example, investing \$315 million over four years to promote effective governance in the Solomon Islands through support for the development of</p>	<p>The Australian Greens would support the AFP in seeking appropriate funding from the government for the international deployment group operations which include UN commitments and bi-lateral assistance projects, as well as training, logistics and equipment capacities.</p> <p>We would support government funding the AFP and its Operational Response Group to have sufficient capacity to respond to domestic emergency and to</p>

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<p>AFP employees deployed overseas from those being received in the 2012/13 FY;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensuring that the terms and conditions of a Commissioner's Determination for overseas deployments must be supplementary to, and not a reduction of, the overall terms and conditions which AFP employees receive domestically under their AFP Industrial Agreement registered with the Fair Work Commission. 		<p>local policing capability.</p> <p>It is also important to understand that the reduction in the AFP's International Deployment budget is primarily related to the planned drawdowns in Afghanistan and the Solomon Islands.</p> <p>Labor recognises that the terms and conditions of a Commissioners Determination for overseas deployments must be supplementary to and not be a reduction of, the overall terms and conditions which AFP employees receive domestically under their AFP Industrial Agreement registered with the Fair Work Commission.</p>	<p>retain flexibility to deliver Police intervention and joint military/ police intervention in the region.</p> <p>We would support the AFP seeking a commitment not to reduce funding for the AFP International Network from that allocated in the 2012 /2013 financial year.</p> <p>The Greens agree that the AFP's industrial agreement with the Fair Work Commission should treat overseas deployment of AFP to be supplementary to and not a reduction of overall terms and conditions.</p>
<p>6 A WORLD CLASS POLICING CODE OF PRACTICE</p> <p>We seek a commitment to introduce a practical world-class Code of Practice for Managing Risks in Policing providing practical guidance to all levels in policing to make policing a healthier and safer profession for officers.</p>	<p>The special risks to which police officers are exposed in the course of their duties are well recognised by the Coalition. A Coalition Government will support the development of a Code of Practice to manage these risks and to ensure that Australian officers are as well-equipped as any police force in the world.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government supports an effective Code of Practice on Managing Risks in Policing which provides practical guidance in making policing a healthier and safer profession.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens are concerned at the rise in police officer's perceptions of risks to health and safety on the job. We have a strong and outspoken record on fighting for the strongest workplace health and safety laws. Police officers face higher health and safety risks than most other professions so a practical, world class Code of Practice must be developed to reflect this.</p>

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<p>7 POLICE HEALTH AND SAFETY INCIDENT REPORTING</p> <p>We seek your commitment to taking the lead, at the Ministerial Council on Policing, in developing national annual reporting on serious work health and safety hazards, risks and actual serious incidents and non-compliance experienced by the nation's police departments.</p>	<p>Through the Ministerial Council on Policing, a Coalition Government would take the lead in developing national reporting guidelines so that the hazards and incidents that arise in the course of police service can be properly understood and addressed.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to taking the lead at the SCPEM Ministerial Council on Policing to support this request from the PFA. We commit to drafting guidelines for the consideration of the SCPEM.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens would support, in the Ministerial Council, the development of national annual reporting guidelines on serious work health safety hazards, risks and non-compliance to bring down the rate of serious incidents.</p>
<p>8 AFFORDABLE AND FLEXIBLE CHILD CARE</p> <p>We seek your commitment to the development of and support for an affordable model of flexible childcare for policing families that meet the needs of 24/7 shift workers.</p>	<p>The Coalition will have a Productivity Commission inquiry into childcare. This inquiry will recommend ways to ensure it is flexible and affordable.</p>	<p>The Rudd Labor Government has detailed, costed, ambitious plans for the future of the early childhood education which will give our country the best possible future.</p> <p>The Federal Labor Government has been working closely with the Police Federation of Australia and its branches to improve access to affordable child care for its members.</p> <p>As the result of The Federal Labor Government's meetings with the Police Federation's Women's Advisory Committee last year, including members of the AFP, we are now funding a series of Child Care Flexibility trials to improve</p>	<p>The Australian Greens believe all children should have universal access to quality care from birth onwards, and that parents need to be able to find flexible and affordable care no matter where they live. Right now Australian parents are struggling to find and afford quality early education and care that caters for the diverse needs and hectic schedules of their families.</p> <p>Parents around the country are facing long waiting lists and long day care centre closures while fees are rising. The lack of places means some parents aren't able to work at all, let alone take up work during non-standard hours as some professions</p>



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		<p>the flexibility of child care for police families.</p> <p>The trial, which started in July, matches police with teams of family day carers who are responsible for working with police families to meet their child care needs around their changing rosters.</p> <p>The trial involves the use of non-standard care, including overnight and weekend care and provides greater flexibility to cater for last minute shift changes.</p> <p>The trials will be independently evaluated to see if they are sustainable for a wider roll out to all police officers.</p> <p>Federal Labor will invest over \$25 billion to improve access to affordable, quality early childhood education and child care over the next four years, more than triple the budget of the former Coalition Government.</p> <p>Federal Labor understands the financial pressures facing families and we will continue to provide assistance for families that need it most through support to make child care more affordable.</p>	<p>require.</p> <p>The Greens' scheme for a Capital Grants Fund of \$200 million over four years will mean that community and not-for-profit providers can access the financial capital they need to build new centres or expand existing ones to make more places, to reduce waiting lists and open up more flexible operating hours. We are also advocating for better use of quality assured in-home care scheme so that children of parents who work out of business hours can get flexible care that allows them to sleep in their own beds at night.</p> <p>Ensuring affordability for parents is another key Greens priority because we want families to be able to afford the kind of quality child care that works for them. The Greens want to see greater investment in early childhood education so that flexible hours and high-quality care is available across the country without parents having to foot the bill. The Greens' direct payments scheme means all child care benefits are paid directly to centres, so that parents only pay the fee gap instead of having to chase up reimbursement and being out of pocket</p>
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		<p>Federal Labor increased the Child Care Rebate from 30 to 50 per cent of out of pocket costs up to \$7,500 per child per year which continues to bring down costs for families.</p> <p>Under the former Coalition Government, the Child Care Tax Rebate only covered 30 per cent of out of pocket costs up to \$4,354 per child per year and the Rebate was only paid annually.</p> <p>Federal Labor has also given families the option of claiming their Child Care Rebate payment fortnightly, halving upfront childcare costs at the time they are billed.</p> <p>As a result, out of pocket costs for a family earning \$75,000 a year have reduced from 13 per cent of their disposable income in 2004 to 8.4 per cent under the Federal Labor Government in 2012.</p> <p>Federal Labor is also making the availability of child care a priority. We've also announced new grants to help local governments deliver more child care places for communities with the longest waiting lists.</p> <p>We're providing funding to expand</p>	<p>for weeks or months.</p>
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		<p>centres, cut planning and development red tape, free up vacant land for child care centres, or incorporate child care into schools and TAFEs.</p> <p>The Rudd Labor Government has also announced the Better Schools: Before and After Plan to improve Outside School Hours Care. The \$450 million of funding will benefit up to 500 schools over the next four years by offering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More flexible opening hours – before and after school and during school holidays. • More places – in areas where parents need access to out of school hours care. • New, high quality activities and programs for children such as sporting activities, music lessons and homework clubs. 	
<p>9 NPSM ROLLOUT</p> <p>We seek a commitment to expedite the rollout of the National Police Service Medal so that all officers eligible for the</p>	<p>A Coalition Government would ensure that the very slow rollout of the National Police Service Medal is improved and that those eligible for the medal receive it within nine months of eligibility. It would also give</p>	<p>Labor is doing all it can to expedite the rollout of this medal including allocating the necessary funding to complete the rollout. We commit to continuing this effort. For the information of all police</p>	<p>The Australian Greens want to see a timely recognition of serving members of Australia’s police forces through the <i>National Police Service Medal</i>. The constraints that are holding up processing</p>

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<p>medal at 14 September 2013 receive the medal by June 2014.</p>	<p>consideration to extending eligibility to those whose service ended before the formal announcement of the award.</p>	<p>officers, the National Police Service Medal (NPSM) was added to the Australian honor's system in 2010 to honour the men and women of the federal, state and territory police services for a minimum of 15 years ethical and diligent service to their communities.</p> <p>The Office of the Official Secretary to the Governor-General administers the NPSM.</p> <p>The NPSM sends a strong message of support to the 57,000 sworn police officers around the nation, of whom it is estimated approximately 26,500 are potentially eligible for the award. On Police Commissioners' recommendations, the Governor-General has approved approximately 5,000 recipients of the award throughout Australia. However, a backlog of more than 20,000 eligible recipients of the NPSM remains.</p> <p>In June the Labor Government wrote to all Premiers and to the NT Chief Minister, expressing the hope that all would share a desire to see eligible police officers in their jurisdictions receive their medals as soon as possible, and noting that Government House is willing to assist police services in all jurisdictions to accelerate processing of</p>	<p>and awarding of the medals should be investigated and resolved so that the backlog can be overcome by June next year.</p>
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		<p>the awards.</p> <p>We await responses from the States and Territories so that all eligible officers can receive this well - deserved recognition.</p> <p>In addition Labor supports this award being backdated to 15 April 1975 when the former Imperial Award of the Police Long Service and Good Conduct Medal were discontinued. We will establish a working group with the PFA to develop the appropriate time frame and criteria.</p>	
<p>10 ONGOING DIALOGUE</p> <p>We seek a commitment to formal meetings on a regular basis with the Minister with portfolio responsibility for Police, and with other Ministers on a needs basis, on matters of mutual interest.</p>	<p>The Coalition enjoys an open and productive relationship with the Police Federation of Australia and considers it a key stakeholder in policing and related matters. A Coalition Government will seek to maintain and strengthen this relationship and to consult closely on all issues of relevance to the Police Federation of Australia's members.</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor government warmly gives this commitment to the PFA.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens would welcome continuing our relationship with the PFA and support the continuation of regular meetings between the Minister with portfolio responsibility for the Police and other Ministers, for mutual benefit.</p>
<p>11 SERIOUS AND ORGANISED CRIME</p> <p>We seek a commitment to a national approach to tackle unexplained wealth and criminal organisations including the</p>	<p>The Coalition's policy to tackle crime sets out an ambitious and well-resourced plan to deal with organised crime, including the use of automatic numberplate recognition systems at ports and airports, anti-gang</p>	<p>A re-elected Labor Government is committed to the development of a national approach. To that end we would continue to push State and Territory Governments for standard national</p>	<p>The Australian Greens recognise that organised crime operates across all jurisdictions' borders, and requires a coordinated response between the Commonwealth, states and territories. We</p>

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<p>appointment of an eminent persons' panel and a working group of state, territory and federal representatives, reporting directly to COAG. One key outcome should be complimentary legislation across all jurisdictions.</p>	<p>squads and tougher unexplained wealth legislation as well as an uncompromising approach to illegal firearms.</p>	<p>unexplained wealth laws to help seize more cash and assets from criminals.</p> <p>The reason national unexplained wealth laws are so important is because unexplained wealth laws reverse the onus of proof so criminals have to prove their wealth was obtained legally. It makes it easier to confiscate their assets and is one of the most effective ways to bring down organised criminals.</p> <p>In 2011 the Federal Parliament passed unexplained wealth laws which force criminals to prove that they obtained their cash and assets through legitimate means.</p> <p>Some states and territories also have unexplained wealth laws. However, there are significant differences and limitations in the way they operate.</p> <p>There are also significant constitutional limitations in the reach of our Commonwealth unexplained wealth laws. For example, while the Commonwealth can explore unexplained wealth in relation to people smuggling or drug importation, it is much more difficult for the Commonwealth to link these investigations to state-based offences like</p>	<p>have supported the government's leadership on this issue in the 43rd Federal Parliament and in the Council of Australian Governments.</p> <p>The Greens require that such legislation, including laws relating to people's rights of association, must preserve fundamental civil liberties, as well as the ability to access adequate legal representation in any associated legal proceedings.</p>
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		<p>murder or theft.</p> <p>The Joint Parliamentary Committee on Law Enforcement made recommendations about how these laws could be reformed and expanded. It recommended that the Commonwealth seek a referral of powers from the States and Territories to establish a national unexplained wealth scheme.</p> <p>The States and Territories did not agree to this.</p> <p>In June 2013 the Police Federation of Australia recommended the appointment of an eminent person's panel to assist in reaching an agreement on unexplained wealth.</p> <p>The Government has already, in response to the submission from the PFA, appointed former Australian Federal Police Commissioner Mick Palmer AO APM and former New South Wales Police Commissioner Ken Moroney AO APM to work with the Federal, state and territory governments to break the deadlock on national unexplained wealth laws.</p> <p>In short we are determined to achieve a national approach.</p>	
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		(For a list of 11 ALP initiatives in this area, see the full text of the ALP's response.)	
<p>12 AN AUSTRALIAN CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAM</p> <p>(a) We seek a commitment to a \$60 million per annum Australian Crime Prevention Program operating nation-wide and funded from confiscated proceeds of crime and unexplained wealth, including a crime prevention stream devoted to indigenous communities.</p> <p>(b) We seek a commitment to amending the POCA Confiscated Assets Trust Fund to cover charities providing welfare support to victims of crime and police welfare.</p>	<p>The Labor Government diverted the Confiscated Assets Account (CAA) into Consolidated Revenue in a misguided attempt to prop up its Budget. The Coalition's policy commits the use of the CAA to crime prevention measures, combined with strengthened legislation to deprive criminal syndicates of their assets.</p>	<p>Labor has made unprecedented Commonwealth Government investments and commitments in local crime prevention. Earlier this year Labor committed to a fully funded \$40 million dollar National Crime Prevention Fund. And as suggested by the PFA the grants are being funded by assets seized from criminals under the Proceeds of Crime Fund. The fund will target crime hotspots and fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grants to local councils for security infrastructure like closed-circuit television (CCTV) systems and lighting; and • Youth mentoring and outreach programs run by not-for-profit community organisations. <p>In addition, not-for-profit groups are being funded for programs that target young people at risk of falling off the tracks and getting involved in crime.</p> <p>For all of Labor's National Crime</p>	<p>The Australian Greens strongly welcome crime reduction initiatives. While the Government announced its \$40 million fund in April 2013, the Greens went one step further and launched a Senate inquiry into Justice Reinvestment, to create safer communities and reduce the prevalence of crime in those communities which give rise to the greatest number of people who are imprisoned. This new approach to crime, highly successful in the United States, aims to reduce criminal offending. The need is particularly acute in Indigenous communities, where imprisonment rates are disproportionate to those in non-Indigenous communities.</p> <p>Likewise, the Greens would support moves to expand access to the POCA Confiscated Assets Trust Fund, to charitable organisations which do work in keeping with the Fund's objectives. These would include advocates and support for victims of crime.</p>

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		Prevention Announcements please go to: http://www.alp.org.au/	
<p>13 A MOBILE BROADBAND NETWORK FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCIES</p> <p>We seek your commitment to provide a minimum of 20 MHz of the 700 or 800 MHz band spectrum for a dedicated mobile broadband network for Australia's public safety agencies so that inter-operable communications become a reality across the nation.</p>	<p>The Coalition recognises the importance of having a robust and effective mobile broadband network for Australia's law enforcement and emergency services.</p> <p>The Coalition also understands the disappointment of the public safety agencies (PSAs) in response to the Labor Government's decision to allocate 10MHz of mission capable spectrum in the 800MHz. In addition, we acknowledge the Police Federation of Australia's welcoming of the recent findings of the Parliamentary Joint Committee on Law Enforcement.</p> <p>There are many competing demands for the use of spectrum. Spectrum is one of the most valuable assets held by Government on behalf of taxpayers. Governments have the job of balancing the need to maximise the financial returns to taxpayers and other public benefits derived from the use of that spectrum, such as the adequate provision of communications systems for emergency services.</p>	<p>The Rudd Labor Government supports the states and territories need for a nationally interoperable public safety mobile broadband capability. That's why the Government has offered them extremely valuable radiofrequency spectrum, and will work closely with them to support their development and implementation of the capability.</p> <p>On 29 October 2012 the Commonwealth Government also announced 10 MHz of spectrum in the 800 MHz band and 50 MHz from the 4.9 GHz band would be provided to the states to support their development of such a capability.</p> <p>10 MHz of spectrum in the 800 MHz band has an estimated commercial value of \$226 million and the Commonwealth has offered it to states at a Public Interest Price set at 50 per cent of its value. The 50 MHz from the 4.9 GHz band will be provided free of license fees. This represents a significant commitment by the Commonwealth to the development of</p>	<p>The Australian Greens believe in the importance of factoring in spectrum allocations for public transport operators (particularly the rail industry), community broadcasters and emergency service agencies.</p> <p>The Greens understand that spectrum in the 700 or 800 MHz band is ideal for the kind of equipment operated by public safety agencies because it can penetrate buildings and is not subject to rain and other weather conditions and sought a government commitment in 2011 that this issue would be resolved prior to auctioning of the spectrum.</p>

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	<p>The current allocation of 10MHz in the 800MHz band to PSAs is part of a total package of 85MHz available comprising 50MHz in the 4.9GHz band and up to 25MHz available from the 400MHz band for radio operations. A Coalition Government will take this current allocation into account when considering the most effective approach to allocating this scarce public asset.</p> <p>If elected, a Coalition Government will conduct a rigorous cost-benefit analysis into the question of emergency services wireless communications and consider the most cost effective means of upgrading Australia's law enforcement and emergency services mobile broadband network.</p> <p>The Coalition will continue to carefully investigate this issue and seek to weigh the various competing public interests in consultation with stakeholders and State and Territory Governments.</p>	<p>the capability.</p> <p>The Rudd Labor Government considers the potential allocation of spectrum from the 800 Megahertz (MHz) band to be a highly effective and efficient option to meet the communication needs of our public safety agencies.</p> <p>In light of submissions from the PFA a re-elected Rudd Government will also examine the recommendations of the Parliamentary Committee on Law Enforcement.</p>	
<p>14 ALCOHOL-RELATED VIOLENCE AND CRIME</p>	<p>The Coalition will reverse the Labor Government's quarantine of the Confiscated Assets Fund and redirect the</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to continue working with all jurisdictions to break the cycle of alcohol</p>	<p><i>'Newcastle Model'</i> The Australian Greens recognise the social and health related harms created by</p>

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<p>(a) We seek a commitment to encourage the States and Territories, including with crime prevention funding incentives, to implement the “Newcastle Model” of liquor licensing conditions, hours of sales and Plans of Management to dramatically reduce the incidence of alcohol-fuelled violence around night-time entertainment venues.</p> <p>(b) We seek a commitment to support initiatives that reduce the supply/consumption of alcohol in indigenous communities, in particular community based initiatives such as alcohol management plans.</p>	<p>money towards community crime prevention measures, such as CCTV, to help reduce the incidence of alcohol related violence.</p>	<p>related crime.</p> <p>Federal Labor is continuing funding for 60 remote area police officers as well as funding to build an additional four remote area police stations and for the following specialist unit support:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Northern Territory Child Abuse Task Force. • The National Indigenous Violence and Child Abuse Intelligence Task Force. • The Substance Abuse Intelligence Desks/Dog Operation Units. <p>In addition, funding is continuing for community night patrols in 80 communities across the Northern Territory for 10 years.</p> <p>Legal support services will ensure increased provision of legal advice, duty lawyers, casework and outreach sessions predominantly in criminal and family/child protection matters for Indigenous people living in remote areas of the Northern Territory for 10 years.</p> <p>Federal Labor has also allocated \$23.6</p>	<p>alcohol and are committed to comprehensively tackling those issues at every level of government. At a federal level the Greens are looking to reduce the harms of alcohol through a combination of reforms including pricing, warning labels and restrictions on advertising during kids’ television viewing times. However we recognise that access and availability are also areas of reform that could have enormous benefits. The Australian Greens have been looking closely at the ‘Newcastle Model’ and are actively engaging with our colleagues at state and local government level about the model.</p> <p><i>Indigenous Communities</i></p> <p>The Australian Greens are strongly committed to supporting initiatives that reduce supply and consumption of alcohol in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, particularly community based initiatives including alcohol management plans, provided the initiatives are evidence based, and well resourced. The need for effective alcohol management has been repeatedly highlighted - by the communities themselves, by the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, by the Little Children Are Sacred report, by Closing the</p>
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		<p>million over eight years in the Alcohol Management Plan Community Fund for community based projects to support harm reduction and supply and demand strategies as part of an alcohol management plan, and for governance and leadership support for people involved in alcohol management planning. In the Northern Territory, we have also introduced stringent minimum standards for alcohol management plans, to ensure communities are supported to reduce alcohol-related harm and keep women, children and families safe.</p> <p>Federal Labor will also provide an additional \$15 million over four years to support other interested communities across Australia to develop alcohol management plans and community driven solutions to alcohol abuse that put the protection of women and children and harm minimisation first.</p>	<p>Gap, and others.</p> <p>We believe that there needs to be policies in place to limit the supply of alcohol to communities and our stance on this issue has included policies such as reducing the number of liquor licences, introducing take away free days and a minimum price on alcohol. We believe that there should be a focus on supporting communities to develop alcohol management plans (AMPs), provided those AMPs are not overly bureaucratic and the local community has some ownership over their design and implementation. We do not support measures that are punitive or impinge on basic human rights, such as the mandatory detox proposed by the NT Government.</p>
<p>15 COLLABORATIVE PURCHASING</p> <p>We seek a commitment to the introduction of a collaborative purchasing framework for the purchase of police uniforms and equipment nationally.</p>	<p>The Coalition intends to establish a new Standing Council on Law, Crime and Community Safety to bring together lawmakers and law enforcers and at which State and Territory police commissioners would attend. Through that forum, a Coalition Government can consider ideas</p>	<p>A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to the PFA to place on the SCPEM agenda the need to develop a model for a collaborative purchasing agreement for consideration by all jurisdictions.</p> <p>That is, rather than simply ruling out such</p>	<p>The Australian Greens continue to support a comprehensive approach to achieve efficiency measures through group purchasing right across police forces. However this would likely be better achieved as an initiative driven by the procurement divisions of police forces</p>

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	<p>from police including collaborative purchasing.</p>	<p>a model without considering its benefit that SCPEM develop a model and then discuss how such a model would work, its benefits and costs and how it may be implemented.</p> <p>Federal Labor supports such an approach conceptually and will recommend a model that captures its benefits, as expressed by the PFA, be developed for consideration.</p>	<p>themselves rather than through the external influence of Ministers or Parliamentarians.</p>
<p>16 IMMIGRATION ISSUES</p> <p>We seek a commitment to develop a process for advising relevant parties when an AAT application is lodged for a review of a decision under section 501 of the Migration Act 1958 where the Minister has made a decision to cancel a visa on the grounds that the person did not pass the character test.</p>	<p>The Coalition will move to protect our streets and communities from foreign criminals and non-citizens who break the law. If elected, a Coalition government will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement tough rules that automatically cancel the visa held by non-citizen when they commit crimes of a certain type which are punishable by more than one year in jail. Cancellation appeal rights will no longer be available, except in special circumstances. • Swiftly remove or deport non-citizens who have committed a criminal offence punishable by more than one year in jail, and double the period for which they are banned from re-entry. 	<p>Labor commits to dialogue with the PFA regarding processes to ensure that all relevant parties who may be able to contribute to the AAT's effective decision making be afforded the opportunity to do so.</p>	<p>The Australian Greens are committed to fair and transparent processes under the <i>Migration Act 1958</i> for the determination of visa applications and associated cancellations including on character grounds. We support clear regulatory processes and administrative review proceedings that ensure that the complete circumstances and all relevant information surrounding visa cancellations is taken into account.</p>

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17 OTHER NATIONAL ISSUES OF CONCERN

We seek a commitment to ongoing dialogue on the following issues:

- Capped fringe benefits tax exemption like nurses and ambulance officers;
- Restoring the private health insurance rebate or easing the means test for families;
- Recognition of Australia's police through awards and other means.

A re-elected Rudd Labor Government commits to ongoing dialogue with the PFA on all of these matters.

Further Federal Labor established the Not-for-profit Tax Concession Working Group to examine the current range of tax concessions and whether there are fairer, simpler and more effective ways of delivering the current envelope of support.

Any expansion of the scope of current fringe benefits tax exemptions could be considered as part of the Rudd Labor Government's response to the Working Group's report.

The Private Health Insurance Rebate is currently one of the fastest growing elements of the Federal Government's health budget, costing approximately \$5 billion each year. This is approximately equivalent to what is spent each year on Medicare rebates for visits to the GP. Unchanged, the rebate would cost the Government around \$8 billion in 2022. The Coalition supported the legislation that will change the indexation of the rebate.

Fringe Benefits

Fringe benefit tax concessions already cost the budget \$5 billion a year which must be made up by other taxes so the Greens do not support extending the range of fringe benefit tax concessions. Increasing use of fringe benefits in pay packages tends to favour some employees over others depending on their personal circumstances so a better way of rewarding police officers would be an increase in rates of pay.

Restoring PHI rebate or easing means test for families

The Australian Greens believe that a person's health shouldn't be determined by their bank balance and that everyone has the right to high-quality healthcare, but funding private health insurance rebates is a very inefficient and wasteful way to spend the health dollar. Every dollar invested in Medicare and the public health system delivers a better return for the health of the community and that must be our first priority. That's why the Greens voted in favour of a means test for the Private Health Insurance rebate and would not support reversing that reform.

However, the Greens are committed to



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			<p>making healthcare more accessible and affordable for Australian families. We made dental health a priority in this term of parliament and secured an investment of almost \$5 billion in funding. The public dental system has already received a boost in funding and from the first of January 3.4 million kids will be eligible to go to the dentist through Medicare just like visiting a GP. The Greens want to expand on this foundation and move towards a universal dental health scheme. The Greens believe that this sort of investment is a far most equitable and efficient way to spend the healthcare dollar.</p> <p><i>Policing Awards</i> The Greens are committed to ongoing dialogue on the recognition of Australia's police through awards and other means of honouring high quality service.</p>
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