



Ian Leavers, President
Scott Weber, Chief Executive Office
Police Federation of Australia
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18 May 2022

Dear Mr Leavers and Mr Weber,

Thank you for writing to the Australian Labor Party about the Police Federation of Australia's 2022 election priorities.

Labor knows that for every headline, there are hours of quiet, patient and ongoing work that sit behind the safety Australians experience every day. Australian police officers perform their mission of protecting Australians and Australia's interests in an ever-changing operational environment.

We appreciate the important work police forces do right around the country. As you note, police forces are predominantly the responsibility of the state and territory governments. There are however areas where federal government policy impacts our police forces.

It is important that the police forces have competitive industrial conditions not only to attract the right talent, but also to retain hard-working and qualified staff. If elected, an Albanese Labor Government is committed to being a model employer in all respects, including through bargaining with the public sector workforce. Under the Morrison Government, a number of systemic issues have been allowed to take root and, in many ways, the police forces have been expected to do more with less.

An Albanese Labor Government would ensure that a representative of the Police Federation of Australia is part of the Attorney General Department's First Responder Mental Health Working Group. Further, an Albanese Labor Government will take a consultative and inclusive approach and we would welcome the opportunity to have an ongoing discussion with the Police Federation of Australia on relevant policy issues.

Many of the issues you raise are addressed in Labor's announced policies. Your members will no doubt be interested to read more about the Australian Labor Party's policy framework, in particular our Women's Safety Policy [here](#). You can also read more about our housing and safer housing policy [here](#), and [here](#). An Albanese Labor Government would consider any additional funding request on its merit in the context of available programs.

If elected, Labor Ministers would welcome the opportunity to further discuss these important matters with you.

Thank you again for all the work that you and your members do.

Yours sincerely

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