

## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **NATIONAL ICE TASKFORCE**

The ice epidemic in Australia cannot be ignored. The Australian Crime Commission reports that, despite increased investment in border protection, the past 5 years has seen significant growth in the detected importation, manufacture and supply of crystal methylamphetamine (ice). On the ground, reported use of ice by methylamphetamine users has more than doubled, increasing from 22% in 2010 to 50% in 2013 and those who do use, do so more frequently. The purity of ice has also increased making it even more dangerous.

Combatting ice is a priority for the Australian Government and all states and territories. Building on work being done in all jurisdictions, the Australian Government has established a National Ice Taskforce that will drive the development and implementation of the National Ice Action Strategy.

#### **Role of the Taskforce**

The Taskforce, working with the states and territories, will:

- Take a comprehensive stock-take of existing efforts to address ice at all levels of government;
- Receive submissions from community consultations and expert groups to ensure all Australians affected by ice have the opportunity to be heard;
- Identify potential gaps in knowledge specifically around treatment models, associated criminal activity and the impact of ice on vulnerable groups, including people living in regional Australia and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders;
- Identify specific initiatives that are currently providing good outcomes for the community;
- Examine ways to ensure existing efforts to tackle ice are appropriately targeted, effective and efficient.
- Provide advice on appropriate primary prevention activities, informed by evidence and best practice;
- Consider options to improve levels of coordination and collaboration of existing efforts at the local, regional and state and territory level;
- Develop a package of recommendations to be actioned as part of developing a broader National Strategy for Action on Ice.

The Taskforce will present an interim report to the Prime Minister for consideration by the Council of Australian Governments. Following consideration by COAG, the Taskforce will then:

- Consolidate the Commonwealth's leadership role in national prevention efforts;
- Work collaboratively with states and territories to draft a strategy which outlines priority actions and jurisdictional roles to ensure a collaborative approach to tackling 'ice' by all governments;

- Provide a final report outlining options for a National Action Strategy on Ice to COAG for consideration and action.

### **Membership**

Members of the Taskforce will be appointed by the Prime Minister. The Chair of the Taskforce is Mr Ken Lay APM.

### **Secretariat**

A Secretariat for the Taskforce will be established and supported by the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and will comprise representatives from relevant Departments.

### **Reporting**

The Taskforce will report to the Prime Minister.

### **Timeframes**

The interim report will be provided to the Prime Minister in June 2015 for subsequent consideration by COAG.

A final report will be provided to the Prime Minister with a final strategy to be considered by COAG before the end of 2015.