

ANZPAA CROSS JURISDICTIONAL POLICE RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The ANZPAA Cross-jurisdictional Research Priorities are aimed to provide a foundation from which research efforts can be enhanced and provide the best value to police, researchers and the community. For ease of reference, this document is separated into the following sections:

- ▶ **Enhancing Research Capability:** This section identifies priority areas to enhance police research activities.
- ▶ **Research Domains:** This section identifies research subject areas important to build an evidence base.

ENHANCING RESEARCH CAPABILITY

These three areas identify ways in which police research can enhance its value for policing. All three areas aim to reduce duplication of effort within police research and ensure police and their partners are aware of the research efforts being conducted for policing.

COORDINATION

Coordination aims to support a targeted investment of research resources. Key aspects of Coordination include:

- ▶ Ensuring that existing knowledge is made accessible to all involved in policing research.
- ▶ Leveraging from previous research to support continuous improvement.
- ▶ Targeting areas for future research.

COLLABORATION

Collaboration aims to support police and their partners to leverage from each other's strengths. Key aspects of Collaboration include:

- ▶ Developing partnerships to increase the available pool of skills and resources.
- ▶ Leveraging from research strengths of policing and academic partners to develop robust, high value research.

KNOWLEDGE SHARING

Knowledge sharing aims to ensure police research is available to those who need it while also reducing duplication of effort in undertaking police research. Key aspects of Knowledge Sharing include:

- ▶ Developing a feedback loops between researchers and operational police.
- ▶ Determining the applicability and usefulness of research.
- ▶ Communicating research results in a way that demonstrates value to police operations.

RESEARCH DOMAINS

RESEARCH DOMAIN 1: STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT - ADJUSTING TO DEMAND DRIVERS AND INCREASING COMPLEXITY

Changing demands and complexity

Social, government and policing environments are changing and increasing in complexity. The future is uncertain and unpredictable. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ how increasing complexity drives resource demands in policing
- ▶ the impact of social, environmental and technological drivers on decision making in policing.

Resourcing and investment

Policing is facing both opportunities and limitations in accessing and using resources. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ factors impacting resource allocation to policing
- ▶ effective distribution funding models within policing.

Applying emerging methodologies and practice

Informed decision making requires justifiable science and evidence. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ how behavioural insights can inform policing
- ▶ social network analysis and how some networks can be disrupted
- ▶ deployment models such as hot-spot policing.

Predictive policing

Data is changing the way police deploy resources to undertake crime prevention. Focus points in this subject area include application of predictive policing methodology within:

- ▶ family violence
- ▶ youth justice
- ▶ road safety.

RESEARCH DOMAIN 2: OPERATIONAL ENGAGEMENT - PREVENTING AND DISRUPTING CRIME

Complex volume crime

Traditional volume crime is transitioning to complex crimes committed in large volumes, absorbing police resources. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ family violence (including elder abuse)
- ▶ sexual assaults, especially historical cases
- ▶ child exploitation and protection
- ▶ cybercrime, particularly victim focused investigations
- ▶ at-risk groups (e.g. those with mental health issues, homeless)
- ▶ transnational serious and organised crime.

Modernising and streamlining systems

Policing technology, systems and processes are required to be agile and responsive to complex and rapidly changing environments. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ new technology that may support policing
- ▶ the automation of manual systems
- ▶ innovative IT solutions
- ▶ responsive procurement of technology.

Workforce capability and capacity

The attitudes and abilities, roles and responsibilities as well as expectations of policing workforces are changing. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ recruitment and retention structures
- ▶ skills and capabilities
- ▶ diversity and inclusion.

RESEARCH DOMAIN 3: COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - INFLUENCING AND INVESTING IN POLICING'S SOCIAL LICENSE WITH COMMUNITIES

Perceptions of Crime

Community perceptions of crime and communities' emotional responses to crime drive the manner in which policing is viewed. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ the use of design thinking and co-production (community-police partnerships)
- ▶ impacts of community perceptions on social cohesion.

Community engagement and communication

Engaging with the community in day-to-day policing provides opportunities to influence perceptions. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ communication during emergencies and incidents
- ▶ engagement with at-risk communities
- ▶ working with victims.

Trust and confidence

Trust and confidence requires long-term investment. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ where investments are best placed
- ▶ evaluating and monitoring investment tools.

Ethics and legitimacy

Police ethics guides the behaviour and attitudes of policing. Focus points in this subject area include:

- ▶ the impact of leadership on workforce behaviour and attitudes
- ▶ collective organisational culture and behaviour
- ▶ unconscious bias
- ▶ ethical fading (losing sight of ethics in decision making)
- ▶ procedural justice.