



Meeting Communique 10-11 September 2025

The Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ANACAD) is pleased to publish this communique following the most recent ANACAD meeting, held on Ngunnawal country in Canberra on 10-11 September 2025.

The focus of this meeting was for ANACAD to continue to develop its 2025-27 Work Plan, informed by current primary care and workforce reform activities underway.

ANACAD agreed to centre its activity around:

- Alcohol and other drugs (AOD) reforms, specifically the National Drug Strategy, recently re-referred inquiry into the health impacts of AOD in Australia, and future administration of the Commonwealth's Drug and Alcohol Program
- Providing advice to Government concerning models of care
- Progressing key AOD workforce issues
- Informing primary care reforms.

All Work Plan items will be considered with a view to reducing stigma, discrimination and racism. A watching brief will be maintained on issues pertaining to family, domestic and sexual violence; suicide and suicidality; ageing; and early warning systems and forensic toxicology. ANACAD will also remain available to provide advice to Government on ad hoc issues as topical.

Notable attendees at this meeting were:

- The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aging, and Minister for Disability and the National Disability Insurance Scheme
- The Hon Rebecca White MP, Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Assistant Minister for Women, and Assistant Minister for Indigenous Health
- Professor Michael Kidd, Chief Medical Officer
- Representatives from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Primary Care and Health Workforce Divisions.

The ANACAD Chair will provide confidential advice on the issues discussed to the Hon Mark Butler MP and seek endorsement of the 2025-27 ANACAD Work Plan.

The next meeting of ANACAD is scheduled for November 2025.

ANACAD Secretariat

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