



Meeting Communiqué
19-20 February 2026

The Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs (ANACAD) is pleased to publish this communiqué following the most recent ANACAD meeting, held on Ngunnawal country in Canberra on 19-20 February 2026.

The focus of this meeting was for ANACAD to finalise its advice on alcohol and other drugs (AOD) models of care (MoC).

ANACAD's discussions covered a range of matters, including:

- AOD MoC and opportunities to strengthen digitally enabled support and treatment options
- the role and responsibilities of the peer workforce
- the criticality of the National Drug Strategy
- Drug and Alcohol Program redesign (following the public release of consultation material, noting this discussion ensured protection of probity requirements)
- intersections of AOD and primary care reforms
- AOD workforce modelling
- emerging issues with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) management and stimulant use.

All Work Plan items continue to be considered with a view to reducing stigma, discrimination and racism.

Notable attendees at this meeting were:

- Chris Gough, Executive Director, Canberra Alliance for Harm Minimisation and Advocacy
- Dr Michael Coory, Medical Adviser to the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Population Health Division
- representatives from Ember Advisors
- representatives from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Health Workforce Division and Primary Care Division.

The ANACAD Chair will provide confidential advice on the issues discussed to the Hon Mark Butler MP. The next meeting of ANACAD is scheduled for May 2026.

ANACAD Secretariat

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