



Meeting Communique

19-20 May 2026

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 19-20 May 2026.

The focus of this meeting was for ANACAD to commence its alcohol and other drugs (AOD) workforce modelling project, with support from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Health Workforce Division.

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

- the Drug and Alcohol Program redesign, as appropriate and within probity requirements
- updates on the *National framework* for action to prevent alcohol-related family violence
- early warning systems
- emerging issues regarding illicit alcohol and data triangulation.

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

Notable attendees at this meeting were:

- Dr Louise Tierney, Head, Tobacco, Alcohol and Other Drugs Unit, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW)
- Ms Anne-Marie Rushby, Group Head, Housing and Specialised Services Group, AIHW
- Ms Ayla Chorley, Dr Katherine Berney and Ms Sophie Morey, Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education
- representatives from the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing's Health Workforce 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 August 2026.

ANACAD Secretariat

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