

ANACAD Summary of Activities 2017-18

ANACAD Background

The Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drugs (ANACAD) was established in December 2014 as the principal expert advisory body to the Australian Government on issues relating to alcohol and other drugs (AOD). In January 2018 the ANACAD entered its second three year term under the new name of the Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs, the acronym did not change. ANACAD is a confidential expert advisory Council.

The ANACAD membership is made up of individual experts with a range of expertise and backgrounds. The full membership list and Terms of Reference is available on the departmental website on the [Australian National Advisory Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs \(ANACAD\)](#) web page

This summary provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the ANACAD over the period of 01 July 2017 to 30 June 2018.

The role of ANACAD

The ANACAD supports the Australian Government by providing confidential, strategic, evidence-based advice on:

- AOD trends;
- Identified priorities of national importance;
- Key international issues relevant to the priorities;
- AOD issues among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations;
- The National Drug Strategy and accompanying national frameworks; and
- AOD prevention and education activity including activities through the National Drugs Campaign.

ANACAD reports to the Government through the portfolio Minister with policy responsibility for AOD issues.

Key activities to date

The ANACAD has been active and engaged with the Minister and Australian Government during 2017-18, providing expert advice on the AOD priorities identified by the Minister.

Throughout 2017-18 ANACAD continued to monitoring the implementation of the measures announced by the government in response to the final report of the National Ice Taskforce in order to provide independent advice to the Minister.

ANACAD maintained their commitment to monitoring the implementation of the National AOD Hotline, and also maintained their commitment to monitoring the implementation of commissioning of AOD treatment services by PHNs.

In 2017/18 a number of projects and reports commissioned by ANACAD were completed. Advice was provided to the Minister on the following:

- The Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) and the Criminal Justice System project was a research project commissioned by ANACAD in 2017/18 and undertaken by the University of Western Australia.
- The Providing Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Services through Comprehensive Primary Health Care (PHC) in an Aboriginal Health Service: a model in Central Australia was a research project commissioned by ANACAD in 2017/18. The report was prepared by Edward Tilton Consulting.
- The Older Australians: Trends and impacts of alcohol and other drug (AOD) use was a research project commissioned by ANACAD in 2017/18. The report was prepared by Celia Wilkinson (PhD) Consultant and Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, National Drug Research Institute, Curtin University.
- The extent, nature, and consequences of children and young people's exposure to alcohol advertising and sponsorship project was a research project commissioned by ANACAD in 2017/18. The report was prepared by Monash University.
- The Viability of an Early Warning System (ViEWS) Study for Illicit Drug Use and Harms project was commissioned by ANACAD in 2016/17. The project was undertaken by the National Drug and Alcohol Research Centre (NDARC) and completed in 2017/18.
- The Young Australians Alcohol Reporting System (YAARS) project was commissioned by ANACAD in 2015/16. The project was undertaken by the National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) at Curtin University and completed in 2017/18.
- Liquor licensing and prevention literature reviews.

Meetings and engagements

The ANACAD met face-to-face on four occasions through 2017-18:

- 15-16 August 2017 – Cairns, QLD
- 28-29 November 2017 – Canberra, ACT
- 28 February – 1 March 2018 - Brisbane, QLD
- 27-28 June 2018 – Canberra, ACT

Engagement with community and sector

The ANACAD has attended meetings, forums and engaged with the community and other stakeholders with AOD linkages throughout 2017-18. Community consultations were held in Cairns, Cook Town, Canberra and Brisbane with representatives from many sectors of the community including the school community, not for profit organisations, security providers, local police and other state funded community organisations.

In March 2018, the Chair attended the sixty first session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) in Vienna as part of the Australian delegation.

ANACAD has also hosted guests at meetings throughout the period including Department of Social Services; Office of Drug Control; Therapeutic Goods Administration; Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission; Queensland Aboriginal and Islander Health Council; Queensland Network of Alcohol and Drug Agencies; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; Everymind; Blue Care Indigenous Services and Department of Health officials.

ANACAD has also met with a number of Government Ministers from a range of portfolios with AOD linkages including Health and Indigenous Affairs.