



The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation

Overview

The Australian Centre to Counter Child Exploitation (ACCCE) was announced by the Australian Government in March 2018 in response to the increasing number and severity of reports of child exploitation received by Australian law enforcement. A total of \$68.6 million was provided to the Australian Federal Police (AFP) to establish the ACCCE. The AFP-led ACCCE brings together capabilities from across the public and private sectors, as well as civil society, to drive a collaborative national response to counter the exploitation of children in Australia. The AFP, as Australia's national law enforcement agency, and a conduit to foreign law enforcement agencies, plays a leading role in the success of the ACCCE.

In driving a national response, the ACCCE focuses on countering online child sexual exploitation, including organised child exploitation networks operating in the online environment. Recognising the global and borderless nature of online child exploitation, the ACCCE is founded on a principle of partnership. In partnership, the ACCCE works to free children from exploitation through its five pillars: Prepare, Prevent, Protect, Pursue and Promote:

- **prepare** future capabilities and technologies to counter child exploitation
- **prevent** the exploitation of children, and intervene earlier in the abuse of victims
- **protect** victims from further victimisation, and protect the wellbeing of members
- support authorities to **pursue**, disrupt and prosecute child sex offenders, and remove victims from harm.
- **promote** the ACCCE, its successes and the work of its partners in achieving collective objectives.

The ACCCE provides a national capability not held by any single federal or state agency in Australia. While largely based in Brisbane, Queensland, the ACCCE is supported by the AFP and the Department of Home Affairs in Canberra, and works closely with partners within the public and private sectors, and civil society.

The ACCCE was launched at an interim location at Brisbane Airport on 3 September 2018, while a permanent purpose built facility was designed and developed in Fortitude Valley, Brisbane. The new two-storey, sole tenancy building was opened by the Minister for Home Affairs Peter Dutton on 23 October 2020 and provides a focal point for collaboration and innovation.

The purpose built facility has been designed with member wellbeing as a priority. It features a variety of informal and formal workspaces, breakout areas as well as areas designed to encourage staff interactions and gathering.

The ACCCE has within its structure a range of capabilities required to deliver on its mission, including the triage of reports of child exploitation, intelligence inputs, specialist capabilities, and prevention and online safety.

The ACCCE is also working towards progressing a national technology solution, fostering increased collaboration and coordination across the various state, territory and federal law enforcement agencies.

The new ACCCE Strategic Plan 2022-26 was launched in September 2022. It was developed through a series of stakeholder workshops and broad consultation with key stakeholders including non-government organisations, Australian government agencies and state and territory law enforcement.