



Mark Speakman
Attorney General

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NATIONAL SUPERVISION FOR HIGH RISK OFFENDERS

The NSW and South Australian Governments will lead a national effort to design a scheme to ensure the nation's most dangerous sex, violence and terrorism offenders remain subject to High Risk Offender orders imposed on them no matter where they are in Australia, NSW Attorney General Mark Speakman announced today.

The Council of Attorneys General meeting in Sydney today agreed extended supervision orders (ESOs) should be capable of being recognised across the nation to increase safety for victims and the community.

“Mutual recognition of ESOs between States and Territories is necessary because offenders don't suddenly become less dangerous when they cross a border. Anyone placed on an ESO should face the same tough restrictions and scrutiny if they travel interstate,” Mr Speakman said.

The NSW Government recently introduced laws to keep criminals locked up or under supervision if the Supreme Court finds they pose an unacceptable risk of terrorism after serving their sentence. These reforms will also enable offenders on Commonwealth High Risk Terrorism Orders (HRTO) to be managed in NSW prisons.

“NSW is doing its bit to support the Commonwealth HRTO scheme and I have no doubt the Commonwealth will do the same for NSW. Keeping the community safe is the highest priority of Government,” Mr Speakman said.

Other issues on the CAG agenda included examining Royal Commission recommendations on facilitating greater admissibility of tendency and coincidence evidence in criminal proceedings for child sexual abuse.

The CAG meeting also discussed elder abuse and the Commonwealth's plan for a national knowledge hub to raise awareness about the issue and train frontline workers and professionals.

NSW supports a national approach to protecting older Australians and will also consider recommendations of the NSW Law Reform Commission's review of guardianship laws, due to be released in 2018, when developing proposals for reform in NSW.

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