



Australian National Preventive Mechanism Communiqué no. 2 – 2025

Meeting 11 – 23 June 2025

On 23 June 2025, members of the Australian National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) met for their second meeting of 2025.

The Australian NPM is the collection of bodies and people currently nominated or appointed as NPMs by Australian jurisdictions, to give effect to Australia's obligations under the [Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment](#) (OPCAT). A list of Australian NPM members is [here](#).

At the meeting, Australian NPM members discussed matters which included:

- progress on the 2025 Australian NPM forward plan
- thematic issues of particular concern, particularly:
- the use of watchhouses as places of detention
- the impact on detention of changes to bail laws
- deaths in custody in Australia
- updates from members on their current oversight activity
- initial planning for the next Australian NPM annual report.

Meeting discussions highlighted continued concerns with the treatment of vulnerable people in various places of deprivation of liberty across Australia. Significant shortcomings in how people deprived of their liberty are treated once again show the critical importance of the robust, independent oversight offered by NPMs when all Australian governments commit to comprehensive implementation of OPCAT.

Australian NPM members will meet again in late 2025.

As NPM Coordinator, the Commonwealth Ombudsman chairs Australian NPM meetings.

The Australian NPM's terms of reference can be found [here](#), while more information on OPCAT developments in Australia can be found [here](#).

Contact the NPM Coordinator:

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