

Media release — 3 July 2025

Improvement required to enhance safety, compliance and welfare in ADF places of detention

The Commonwealth National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) made 3 recommendations, 7 suggestions and 2 comments for improvement following visits to 2 Australian Defence Force (ADF) places of detention at Gallipoli Barracks, Enoggera and Lavarack Barracks, Townsville.

The reports found the facilities were in generally good condition and function effectively however, expressed concerns about the routine use of strip searches and inadequate toileting privacy at the facilities.

Acting Head of the Commonwealth NPM, Ms Joanne Mulder, said:

'The facilities are in good, serviceable condition and adequately support their primary function. However, a number of areas require improvement to enhance safety, compliance and welfare.'

This was the first visit to Gallipoli Barracks and the second visit to Lavarack Barracks as part of the Commonwealth NPM's role monitoring ADF places of detention under the *Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment* (OPCAT).

The full Post Visit Summaries for [Gallipoli Barracks](#) and [Lavarack Barracks](#) are available on our website.

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