**AUSTRALASIAN JUVENILE JUSTICE ADMINISTRATORS (AJJA)**

**STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

**Terms of Reference**

**Purpose:** AJJA works collaboratively to lead and influence the development of youth justice systems to provide for better outcomes for young people and the community.

This will be achieved by:

* promoting the national principles and standards of youth justice;
* providing youth justice data and information to relevant committees;
* promoting and maintaining relevant benchmarks for youth justice administration through national principles, standards and guidelines for states and territories to model;
* sharing relevant information among youth justice jurisdictions; and
* being recognised as a peak body on youth justice matters.

In order to meet its objectives AJJA undertakes to:

* make use of data and research available to progress jurisdictional agendas on youth justice issues;
* identify and advise on efficiencies and effectiveness in practice;
* support and contribute to building the evidence base for effective youth justice interventions;
* maintain and enhance information and research partnerships and reporting authorities;
* maintain a focus on issues of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island young people, other cultural groups and vulnerable groups throughout the work AJJA pursues;
* establish links with relevant forums and key partners to ensure consideration of youth justice issues;
* provide oversight and strategic direction to the Juvenile Justice Research and Information Group (JJ RIG); and
* continue the development of the Juvenile Justice National Minimum Data Set (JJ NMDS).

AJJA Membership:

* Each jurisdiction agrees to participate in AJJA and provide at least one senior executive responsible for the delivery of youth justice services (endorsed by AJJA).
* Two face-to-face meetings will be held each year with each participating jurisdiction committed to hosting a meeting on a rotational basis.
* AJJA will nominate a Chair for a two year period on a rotational basis.
* After completing a two year period as AJJA Chair the AJJA Chair will default as Deputy Chair.