

# Australian Crime Prevention Council Constitution

## (As at 1.12.1978)

### ARTICLE 1.

#### NAME:

The name of the Council shall be THE AUSTRALIAN CRIME PREVENTION COUNCIL.

### ARTICLE 2.

#### OBJECTS AND FUNCTIONS:

The objects of the Council shall be:

- a. To assist and promote the work of crime prevention, correction and the after-care of offenders.
- b. To co-ordinate the activities of all persons and bodies interested in such work.
- c. To provide a forum for the free discussion of all matters of interest amongst those concerned with crime prevention, correction and after-care.

The functions of the Council shall be:—

- a. To offer to all those concerned with crime prevention, correction and after-care an opportunity:
  - To improve standards of performance and increase the effectiveness of crime prevention, correctional and after-care systems and techniques.
  - To exchange ideas and techniques — among lay people and professional workers, people of different discipline orientations, and personnel from the various levels of the criminal justice system.
  - To develop a better understanding of crime prevention, correctional and after-care problems, needs, programmes and methods.
  - To develop citizens' support for, understanding of, and participation in crime prevention, correctional and after-care activities.
  - To make recommendations as to desirable research projects to any National, Commonwealth and State Institutions (including Universities) which are engaged in or are likely to be engaged in correctional research.
  - To improve the laws in relation to public offences and offenders and the procedures by which these laws are enforced.
- b. To maintain liaison between all persons and bodies with related objects and functions.
- c. To arrange and conduct National Conferences, State and Territorial Conferences, Sectional Meetings (to examine issues, problems and trends related to areas of interest to special groups) and Workshops or Seminars (to examine and, through free discussion, to work towards the solution of specific problems of concern).
- d. Any other functions conducive to the objects above.

### ARTICLE 3.

#### MEMBERS:

- a. The membership of the Council shall consist of persons or agencies or departments or bodies corporate or associations or professional organisations, who apply for membership and are accepted by the National Executive and who pay fees annually — save in the case of Life Members.

The Management Committee may make all interim decisions necessary to manage the affairs of the Council, but shall not depart from nor vary any policy decisions made by the Council or the National Executive nor disburse the funds of the Council unless authorised by the National Executive, and all acts done by the Management Committee in managing the affairs of the Council shall be ratified by the National Executive.

The Management Committee will keep minutes of its proceedings and circulate them to members of the National Executive for ratification at the first meeting of the National Executive next ensuing.

- b. The predecessor of the Council was the Australian Prison After-Care Council which was formed on the nineteenth day of May, 1960 of which the foundation members were:—

- (1) The Prisoners' Aid Association of New South Wales.

- (2) The Prisoners' Aid Society of Victoria.
- (3) The Prisoners' Aid Association of South Australia (Inc).
- (4) The Prisoners' Aid Association of Western Australia.
- (5) The Prisoners' Aid Society of Tasmania.
- (6) The Civil Rehabilitation Committee (N.S.W.).
- (7)-(12) Each existing group of Government-sponsored Parole Officers in each State.
- (13) Eastern Territory of the Salvation Army.
- (14) Southern Territory of the Salvation Army.
- (15) Department of Evangelism and Social Services (Methodist) Queensland.
- (16)-(21) Each denomination organised on a Federal basis.
- (22) Fairlea Women's Prison Council.
- (23)-(25) Howard Prison Reform Leagues in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia.

### ARTICLE 4A.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE:

- a. The Officers of the Council shall be a president, two vice-presidents, a secretary, a treasurer and nine executive members (one of whom shall be from each State of the Commonwealth, the Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and Papua-New Guinea).
- b. All officers shall be elected by a postal ballot save for the nine executive members referred to in paragraph (a) hereof who shall be elected by the appropriate Branch at a general meeting preceding the biennial conference of the Council. The result of such election to be advised to the Secretary of the Council. In the event of a Branch not electing a representative as described above, the election will be conducted at the biennial meeting by secret ballot and all members attending the biennial meeting shall have the right to vote.
- c. Nominations for all other Officers of the Council shall be called for by the Secretary of the Council three calendar months prior to the date of the commencement of the biennial conference.
- d. Nominations shall carry the signature of the nominee, the nominator and the seconder, and shall be received by the Secretary six weeks prior to the commencement of the biennial conference.
- e. The Secretary within 21 days of the close of the nominations shall forward to all members of the Council, advice of each person nominating, together with the appropriate form or forms to enable any member to lodge a vote or votes by postal ballot, for all or any of those executive positions contested.
- f. All postal votes shall be lodged with the Secretary of the Council by 5 pm of the day preceding the last day of each biennial conference.
- g. Postal votes shall be held by the Secretary until the closing time referred to in paragraph (f) hereof, after which such votes shall be opened and counted by a returning officer in the presence of two scrutineers none of whom shall be standing for election.
- h. If, for any valid reason (excluding administrative failure alone), it is not possible to conduct the prescribed postal ballot for the five executive positions, elections for those officers shall be conducted at the biennial conference.

### ARTICLE 4B.

There shall be a National Executive which shall be composed of:—

- a. The Officers of the Council.
- b. Such additional members (but not exceeding 12) whom the officers shall co-opt at their own discretion onto the National Executive as soon as practicable after their election but where possible so as to ensure not only that each State and Territory is adequately represented on the National Executive but also that each of the major interests, disciplines or fields covered by the objects of the Council is represented on the National Executive.

The major interests, disciplines or fields covered by the objects of the Council include:—

- a. Administration of Justice and Criminal Law.
- b. Police.
- c. Prisons.
- d. Probation and Parole.

- e. Prisoners' Aid Associations, Civil Rehabilitation Committees and all similar voluntary agencies.
- f. Child Welfare.
- g. The Defence Force.
- h. Religious denominations.
- i. Criminology.
- j. The treatment and care of female offenders.
- k. The Commonwealth Government.
- l. Education.
- m. Forensic psychiatry and mental health authorities.

#### ARTICLE 5.

##### PATRONS:

The Council may elect up to two patrons each of whom shall hold office until their successor is elected.

#### ARTICLE 6.

##### SUBSCRIPTIONS:

There shall be such annual membership subscriptions as are fixed from time to time and as are set out in the By-Laws.

#### ARTICLE 7.

##### MEETINGS:

- a. The Council shall meet biennially and at such other times as the National Executive shall determine.
- b. The National Executive shall call an extraordinary general meeting of the Council if requested to do so in writing by nine members of the Council and such request shall set out the purpose for which the extraordinary general meeting is called.
- c. The National Executive shall meet at least annually.
- d. The Council and the National Executive may arrange to hold such conferences, meetings, seminars or workshops, as may be necessary or desirable having regard to the objects and functions of the Council.
- e. At least 28 days' notice shall be given to members of the Biennial Meeting of the Council.
- f. The Biennial Meeting of the Council shall:
  - (i) Receive from the National Executive a report and a statement of accounts duly audited for the preceding two financial years.
  - (ii) Elect officers and an auditor.
  - (iii) Conduct such other business as is deemed necessary.

#### ARTICLE 8.

##### BY-LAWS:

The National Executive may make such Bye Laws as from time to time appear necessary.

#### ARTICLE 9.

##### BRANCHES:

- a. The Council shall not only further its objects on a national basis but also shall further its objects regionally through Branches.
- b. There shall be Branches in every State of the Commonwealth of Australia and in Australian Capital Territory, the Northern Territory and Papua and New Guinea each of which shall be known respectively as "The (name of State or Territory) Branch of the Australian Crime Prevention Council".
- c. The Branches when formed shall not engage in nor carry out any activity or function of any kind which is incompatible with the objects and functions of the Council and the National Executive may forbid a Branch embarking upon or continuing with any activity which it considers on its absolute discretion to be incompatible with the objects and functions of the Council.
- d. The proposed Constitutions of the Branches shall be approved by the National Executive before being adopted as the Constitutions of such Branches.
- e. The representatives of the various States and Territories on the national Executive shall be responsible for forming and liaising with their respective Branches and reporting back to the National Executive as required.

#### ARTICLE 10.

##### ACCOUNTS AND AUDIT:

- a. A financial statement and balance sheet shall be prepared and audited every financial year (from 1st July to 30th June) and at every Biennial Council Meeting the financial statements and balance sheets for the two preceding financial years shall be presented.

- b. The accounts of the Council shall be subject to the audit of a licenced auditor to be appointed at the Biennial Meeting of the Council.
- c. The funds of the Council shall be banked in the name of "The Australian Crime Prevention Council" and any two of the following persons authorised to operate thereon — the President, the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary, the Treasurer.

#### ARTICLE 11.

##### ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION:

This Constitution may be added to, repealed or amended by resolution at any General or Biennial Meeting of the Council at which at least 28 days' notice in writing shall have been given to the National Executive of intention to propose such resolution provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a simple majority of the votes cast.

#### ARTICLE 12.

##### DISSOLUTION:

- a. The Council may be dissolved or wound up by a resolution at any General or Biennial Meeting of the Council at which at least 28 days' notice in writing shall have been given to all financial members of the intention to propose such resolution provided that no such resolution shall be deemed to have been passed unless it is carried by a majority of at least two-thirds of the members present and voting thereon.
- b. Upon dissolution or winding up the assets and funds of the Council, after payment of all debts, expenses and liabilities, shall be handed over to such institutions, organisations or funds as may meet the requirements of Section 78 (1) (a) of the Income Tax and Social Services Contribution Assessment Act 1936-1960 as amended as a majority of members may decide.



## ECHUCA SECURITY SERVICES

**FOR SECURITY IN BUSINESS  
AND PRIVATE HOMES**

### Contact

**NOEL DUDLEY  
P.O. BOX 425  
ECHUCA • VIC • 3625**

**Telephone  
(054) 82 1790**