

Joint statement on the adoption of the new European Consensus on Development

On 23 June 2016 citizens of the United Kingdom (UK) voted to leave the European Union (EU). On 29 March 2017 the UK formally notified the European Council of its intention to leave the EU by...

Over the past 20 years, the European Union has put in place some of the highest common asylum standards in the world. And in the past two years, European migration policy has advanced in leaps and...

'Europe will not be made all at once, or according to a single plan. It will be built through concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity.' Robert Schuman 9 May 1950
On 25 March 2017,...

In response to the illegal annexation of Crimea and deliberate destabilisation of a neighbouring sovereign country, the EU has imposed restrictive measures against the Russian Federation. Overview...

European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker delivered his annual State of the Union speech at the European Parliament on 14 September 2016, just two days ahead of the informal meeting of 27...

Enlargement is the process whereby countries join the EU. Since it was founded in 1957, the EU has grown from 6 member countries to 28. Any European country that respects the principles of liberty,...

West End Community Council next Tuesday – agenda #dundeewestend



WEST END COMMUNITY COUNCIL

WEST END COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 13TH JUNE 2017 AT 7.00PM

LOGIE AND ST JOHN'S (CROSS) PARISH CHURCH HALL

(ENTER FROM SHAFTESBURY TERRACE – OFF BLACKNESS AVENUE)

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND APOLOGIES

2. SPEAKER FROM XPLORE DUNDEE (TO BE CONFIRMED)
 3. POLICE SCOTLAND UPDATE
 4. MINUTE OF MEETING 9TH MAY AND MATTERS ARISING
 5. WECC HIT LIST
 6. PLANNING UPDATE
 7. CORRESPONDENCE
 8. OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF WECC
 9. AOCB – MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC INPUT
 10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday 12th September 2017
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Press Conference Opening Remarks – COAG Leaders' Meeting

Today at COAG first ministers have discussed issues of the most vital importance to all Australians.

Above all keeping Australians safe, our most important duty. Ensuring that security of the Australian families in the face of a rising threat of Islamist terrorism.

We have also discussed and received a very important report on energy security, so, that we can achieve a national energy plan that delivers affordable, reliable energy and meets our emissions targets.

We have also discussed vital issues, social and economic issues that will enable all Australians to have the opportunity to do their best and realise their dreams.

Now we've seen in recent days a tragic loss of Australian lives to terrorism, in Brighton, in Melbourne, in London, and in Baghdad. Around the world, the

threat of Islamist terrorism rises.

We are utterly united, Australian governments, and Australians, to find the terrorists and doing all we can to ensure that their plans are disrupted, uncovered and that they are put behind bars and stay there.

Now, to overcome this threat, governments cannot simply set and forget. We have to be as agile, as those who seek to do us harm. We have to be smarter, more prepared, we have to use technology in the most advanced forms to keep Australians safe.

Now, at my first COAG as Prime Minister, we agreed to develop post-sentence detention laws, to keep terrorists in jail after their sentences are finished, where they have not rehabilitated and where they are found to remain a threat to the community.

These laws were implemented last December, along with the most significant national security reforms in a generation, and I want to thank all the other jurisdictions for their support here.

Now today I can report that we have made further progress. We have agreed that states and territories will strengthen their laws to ensure that there will be a presumption that neither bail nor parole will be granted to those who have demonstrated support for or have links to terrorist activity.

This presumption is a vital element in keeping these people who are a threat to our safety, and our safety of our families, off the streets. Violent criminals with terrorist links should not be walking the streets. They belong in jail and this is a very important change and an indication of the resolution of leaders of our governments, of Australia's governments to defy and defeat the terrorists.

Now we have very tight engagement, cooperation, between state and federal agencies. Between the Australian Federal Police, ASIO, other federal agencies, including Border Force, and the relevant state and territory police forces. And this is coordinated through joint counter-terrorism teams in each state and each jurisdiction.

Now, we've agreed to even further strengthen the joint counter-terrorism teams, that there will be cleared, a suitably security cleared corrections service officers will be part of the joint counter-terrorism team. And so this will enable more information to be shared, more collaboration, it's very close, it's very intense, as it is, we're going to make it stronger.

We have also agreed that we will hold a special COAG on security, very shortly. As soon as practicable. It is going to comprehensively review our nation's laws and practices which are directed at protecting Australians from violent extremism. Again, this is not an area of policy where you can 'set and forget'. We're going to be very proactive, constantly upgrading our defences. We had reports today from the Director-General of ASIO, from the Acting Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police, from my cyber-security advisor Alastair MacGibbon and also from Tony Sheehan, the counter-terrorism

coordinator.

We discussed a wide range of issues relating to national security, but in particular for protecting Australians from terrorism and in particular, the work that's been done to protect crowded places or places of mass gathering.

Let me turn now to the briefing from the Chief Scientist, Dr Alan Finkel. The objective as I said at the outset, is to achieve three things; affordable energy, reliable and secure energy and ensure that we meet our emissions reductions targets. We know there has been, in the politics of energy over many years now, there's been too much politics, too much ideology. My commitment is that my Government is focusing in terms of energy policy, on economics and engineering. That is what we need to do and we have now those independent recommendations in detail and with our energy ministers, they'll be reporting back in August as to how those findings can be implemented. It's a very good piece of work by Dr Finkel and we thank him for it.

I also outlined the Commonwealth's commitment to nationally consistent, needs-based funding for schools. We must end the school funding wars and move on to what parents know really matters; getting better outcomes for our children and grandchildren.

Our \$18.6 billion additional investment over the decade means by 2027, a school in Hobart with the same characteristics as a school in Cairns, will receive the same amount of federal funding. That commitment will finally deliver on David Gonski's vision of consistent, transparent, national needs-based funding. This stands in marked contrast to the 27 deals, separate deals, that were done by the former Labor government and of course, which produced – as ministers, chief ministers and Premiers here know – very different outcomes across the nation.

We have reaffirmed as leaders, our shared commitment to the National Disability Insurance Scheme, which is a mighty, nation-building, economic and social reform that my Government has now fully funded with the commitment to raise the Medicare levy by 50 basis points. We focused on the NDIS quality and safeguards commission, which provides protections for people in the scheme. More than 60,000 jobs will be created by the NDIS and we are committed to ensuring that workforce is in place to support the growth of the full scheme.

We have agreed to keep Australian children safe from preventable diseases by lifting our immunisation rates as close to 100 per cent as possible. The only excuse for not vaccinating your child, must be a medical excuse. We are working towards a national approach to childhood vaccination, including importantly, making vaccination rates at child care centres available to parents.

We've also discussed the need to restore confidence in the GST sharing arrangements in Western Australia and across the federation. That is why we've commissioned a Productivity Commission review into the impact of the arrangements on productivity, efficiency and economic growth. That is our commitment to ensure that there's public confidence in the system. As I've

said previously, once the system has rebalanced, we should consider a percentage floor below which no states or territories share of GST receipts can fall.

It's been a very productive meeting. I want to thank first ministers for their collaboration, for the commitment, above all, to ensuring that we keep Australians safe. We keep Australians safe from terror, we will never change our way of life under the threat of terrorism, or those who seek to take our sovereignty away from us.

Australians are proud of their freedoms. We fought for them, generation after generation, and we stand for them today, resolute, unbowed, committed to defying the terrorists, seeing them off, defeating them in the field, and at home disrupting them, catching them, and keep putting them behind bars, and keeping them there.

State Council reshuffles officials

The State Council announced the appointment and removal of several senior officials Friday.

Zheng Fuzhi and Liu Dawei were named Assistant Ministers of Education.

Tang Dengjie was appointed vice minister of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, director of the China National Space Administration, chairman of the China Atomic Energy Authority, and the director of State Administration of Science, Technology and Industry for National Defense.

Shi Jun was named vice minister of the Ministry of Public Security, with Chen Zhimin removed from the post.

Cai Qi was appointed president of the Organizing Committee for the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, with Guo Jinlong removed from the post.

Chen Jining was appointed as the executive president of the committee.

Bao Xinhe will become president of the University of Science and Technology of China, replacing Wan Lijun.

Tian Hongqi is no longer vice president of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and was appointed president of Central South University, replacing Zhang Yaoxue.

Guo Wenqi was removed as deputy head of the China Food and Drug Administration.

Time to govern

The Conservatives as the largest party will have enough seats to govern. After two major constitutional referendums and two General elections in recent years it is time for Parliament and government to make decisions and to see through the decisions UK voters have made.

As expected here, Scottish voters signalled their impatience with the idea of re running the referendum on independence. UK voters rejected the Lib Dem idea of a second Brexit referendum, voting by a huge margin for Con/Lab who both argued to accept Brexit and to leave the single market.

Given the election of 7 Sinn Fein MPs and the Speaker and Deputy Speakers, you only need 320 MPs to form the government as a single party and govern. The DUP is likely to support much of the time anyway.