



# NSW COUNTER TERRORISM STRATEGY

December 2018



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## A MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER AND THE MINISTER FOR COUNTER TERRORISM

NSW is a strong and connected society.

The vast majority of our citizens want and enjoy our peaceful and harmonious way of life. And yet, there is a small number of individuals who want to divide us, incite fear and threaten our safety.

The Commonwealth Government has maintained the national terrorism threat level at 'Probable' since September 2014. Credible intelligence, assessed by security agencies, indicates that there are people who have the intent and capability to conduct a terrorist attack in Australia. This threat is likely to persist for many years to come.

This is a challenge that can have an impact on the way we live.

The NSW Government is investing heavily in measures to protect people living in and visiting NSW, and to maintain our peaceful democracy.

Terrorism is a crime, dealt with by the criminal justice system. NSW has the toughest laws and most robust arrangements in the country to counter terrorism.

Due to the work of law enforcement and intelligence agencies, numerous terrorist plots have been prevented. This demonstrates how important it is to remain vigilant and adaptive, and ensure the authorities have effective powers and legal frameworks to combat terrorism and protect the public.

There is no one path to violent extremism. There are complex motivations for someone with extreme views to become violent. Our approach must address violent extremism in all its forms – whether it stems from ISIL or Al-Qaeda-inspired extremism, the increasing prevalence and popularity of far-right extremist groups, or the return of individuals from foreign conflict zones.

Terrorism and violent extremism have implications across all levels of government, and almost all NSW agencies. That is why, in January 2017, the Premier announced the appointment of the state's first dedicated Minister for Counter Terrorism. The Minister is responsible for coordinating the NSW Government's strategic policy agenda on counter terrorism and countering violent extremism, complementing the responsibilities of the Premier, Attorney General and Minister for Police.

To effectively counter terrorism and violent extremism, we need a range of social policies and programs, criminal justice and intelligence measures, and legislative mechanisms. This strategy outlines our approach to coordinating this work across government and addressing the evolving terrorism threat.

It also recognises the need for shared responsibility. Countering terrorism and violent extremism is not a goal that can be achieved by government alone; it requires the cooperation of businesses, non-government organisations and the community.



*Gladys Berejiklian*

**The Hon. Gladys Berejiklian MP**  
NSW Premier



*David Elliott*

**The Hon. David Elliott MP**  
Minister for Counter Terrorism



# 1. PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES

## Principles

In NSW, our counter terrorism and countering violent extremism (CVE) efforts are distinct but complementary. Our counter terrorism activities, led by law enforcement and security agencies, seek to investigate, disrupt and respond to credible threats. We have significantly increased capability across these agencies.

Programs to counter violent extremism seek to build resilience and cohesion in our communities and to protect, divert and disengage individuals from violent extremism. Activities are primarily led by social policy agencies and supported by communities, non-government organisations and the private sector.

When combined, these strategies enable us to better tackle extremism and terrorism together. The following principles guide our approach to counter terrorism and CVE in NSW.

<b>Community safety is our first priority</b>	We maintain strong laws aimed at disrupting terrorism and keeping the community safe. Our agencies are well trained and equipped to respond swiftly and effectively to a terrorist incident, and to maintain community harmony. Our activities, policies and laws are responsive to emerging risks in terrorism and violent extremism.
<b>Efforts to enhance public safety reinforce our way of life</b>	Our resilience in the face of terrorism can be measured by the way we respond as a unified, inclusive and democratic society. We seek to divert and disengage individuals from supporting or carrying out unlawful violence, and to reduce the consequences of violent extremism by being prepared and responding appropriately.
<b>We all share responsibility for action</b>	Responsibility for countering terrorism and violent extremism is shared across all levels of government in Australia, as well as by communities, non-government organisations and the private sector. By working together, we minimise the risk of people engaging in violent extremism, and strengthen our ability to respond to and recover from an incident. By learning from each other, we build trust in our approach.
<b>Our approach is based on evidence and intelligence</b>	Policies and programs need to be informed by Australian and international evidence as well as intelligence about emerging threats and global trends. Our efforts have been built on many years of experience and information-sharing.
<b>Our approach is responsive and able to adapt</b>	Terrorism and violent extremism are complex social problems operating in a global context, and are constantly evolving. Evidence shows that the motivations for violent extremism are diverse and can be unique to each individual. This means our programs need to be flexible and effective, and adapt quickly to changing threats. We are implementing innovative, world-leading solutions to these complex issues.

## Objectives

Our counter terrorism and CVE measures help create a safer NSW by reducing both the likelihood and consequences of terrorism and violent extremism. We are guided by five objectives, as shown in Figure 1. These objectives are underpinned by our strong legislative framework, and significant investment in measures to continuously improve our counter terrorism and CVE capabilities.

These objectives align with the *NSW State Emergency Management Plan*, *NSW Counter Terrorism Plan*, *NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan* as well as a number of nationally-agreed strategic documents. Our emergency and law enforcement agencies use the Preparedness, Prevention, Response and Recovery framework. This approach, set out in further detail in the *NSW Counter Terrorism Plan*, is consistent with national efforts.

Figure 1: Objectives



The better we respond to and recover from terrorism and violent extremism, the better chance we will have of preventing it in the longer term.



## 2. OBJECTIVES AND FOCUS AREAS

Each of our core objectives includes several areas of focus, as outlined below.

### Resilience

#### Promoting community harmony

Our approach recognises, and builds on, the harmonious nature of NSW society with all its differences. This is one of the state's key strengths. We promote social cohesion and community harmony through programs such as COMPACT (Community Partnership Action), led by Multicultural NSW. This program supports community-driven youth engagement projects that aim to inspire and empower young people to stand united against hate, fear and division as champions for community harmony.

In the two years since 2016, about 20,000 young people have taken part in the COMPACT program. There is strong evidence COMPACT contributes to social cohesion among young people: two-thirds of surveyed participants reported a greater level of appreciation and respect for others as a result of the program.

#### Improving community resilience to violent extremism

Improving our resilience to violent extremism means proactively building networks across the community to mobilise in response to challenges and threats to community harmony, to resolve conflict and to promote social cohesion. It also means improving community awareness about the pathways that can lead to violent extremism. We offer worried families, friends, community members and professionals information, advice and support regarding violent extremism and, where necessary, referral to relevant support services.

The NSW Government's Step Together helpline and online support service helps people who are worried a friend or family member is being influenced by violent extremism. It has received more than 800 telephone and webchat enquiries, and almost 60,000 website hits as of November 2018.

#### Supporting young people and schools in local communities

School communities are responsible for providing a suitable learning environment for children and young people of all ages and backgrounds. This includes the small number of young people vulnerable and exposed to violent extremist influences. Parents, caregivers and the community play an important role in fostering links between schools and their communities. Schools are also working with the broader community and other NSW Government agencies to help students connect, succeed and thrive.

The Department of Education has support teams working in schools to promote social cohesion within school communities and provide a range of student wellbeing and support services, to prevent students being influenced by anti-social and extremist behaviour.

#### Responding when incidents threaten our community cohesion

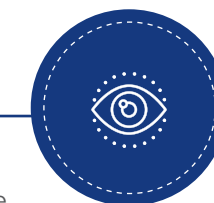
Those who promote fear, hate and division can undermine social cohesion and community harmony. We remain vigilant in the face of these challenges and risks. Violent extremists often thrive on community tension and may try to create rifts within and between communities along ideological, political or religious lines. By promoting fear, hate and division, they increase insecurity and undermine community harmony.

We respond to issues affecting community harmony in a careful and coordinated way, using the *NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan*, which draws together capabilities, and agency and local government networks to help us address emerging risks. Strong communities are better able to respond to conflict and support each other in the wake of a crisis.

The NSW Government has passed laws with harsher penalties for those who incite or threaten violence against people based on their race, religion or sexuality. It includes a maximum penalty of three years in jail and a fine of \$11,000.







## Diversion and disengagement

### Diverting vulnerable individuals away from violent extremism

Our frontline agencies have a sophisticated understanding of the types of individuals who are vulnerable to violent extremism. We deliver programs that aim to help vulnerable individuals resist negative influences and get back on a positive path. These programs include community-based initiatives as well as government programs.

**As part of a NSW engagement and support program, individuals who are at risk of being influenced by violent extremism are case managed. Agencies work closely with the individual's family, community and local services.**

### Disengaging violent extremists

There is a small number of individuals with extreme and violent views who want to divide us and threaten our safety. We are delivering services to rehabilitate and reintegrate those who have already adopted violent extremist views, including people charged or convicted of a terrorism offence.

We are upgrading and expanding infrastructure in our adult correctional facilities, and have improved intelligence-gathering and information-sharing processes. Corrective Services NSW staff are trained to recognise, report and respond to the signs of radicalisation. We operate an offender management model based on individual offender risk. This means the housing, intervention and reintegration needs of inmates are assessed on a case-by-case basis, rather than through a one-size-fits-all approach based solely on offence type. Corrective Services NSW is also delivering the Proactive Integrated Support Model (PRISM) – an assessment and early intervention service to help disengage offenders in custody from violent extremism.

We have also established a specialist team to build capability within Juvenile Justice NSW to help rehabilitate and reintegrate young people charged with terrorism offences, and divert those vulnerable to violent extremism. Our frontline staff have been trained to recognise potential indicators of violent extremism and assess risks relating to violent extremist detainees, to inform development of juvenile-specific interventions.

**NSW is delivering juvenile-specific interventions to disengage or divert young people from violent extremism, which are the first of their kind in Australia. Young people deemed a risk by law enforcement agencies receive a 'National Security Interest' designation, and face increased screening and restrictions on mail, telephone calls and visitors.**

## Disruption

### Assessing and responding to fixated threats

We have established procedures for assessing and managing people with fixated threats who may present a risk to community safety. The NSW Police Force launched the NSW Fixated Threat Assessment Centre in February 2017 to manage people who are fixated on a cause or public office holder to an extent that they pose a threat to the community. The centre also manages people who may engage in lone-actor, grievance fuelled violence. Police work with NSW Health to reduce these threats by connecting the person with local mental health services, undertaking a police investigation, or a combination of both.

### Sharing intelligence

An effective disruption approach requires cooperation between law enforcement and intelligence agencies across Australia and internationally. There are Joint Counter Terrorism Teams (JCTTs) in each Australian jurisdiction, which reflect the law enforcement arrangements of that state. Within NSW, the JCTT is a partnership between the NSW Police Force, NSW Crime Commission, Australian Federal Police and Australian Security Intelligence Organisation. Additional organisations are involved where required. The JCTT conducts operations to prevent, disrupt, respond to and investigate terrorist threats and attacks.

### Disrupting terrorist networks and plans for terrorist activity

Our law enforcement agencies are well supported and have a strong history of detecting and disrupting terrorist plots.

The NSW Police Force is the lead combat agency for terrorism incidents in NSW, as outlined in the *NSW Emergency Management Plan*, and has operational responsibility for investigating,

disrupting and responding to terrorism within NSW as detailed in the *Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002*. Police cooperate with other law enforcement and intelligence agencies in Australia to disrupt terrorist planning and minimise the threat of an attack in NSW. Other agencies, such as Corrective Services NSW and Juvenile Justice NSW, share information to manage terrorism risks.

**The NSW Police Force has a dedicated Counter Terrorism and Special Tactics Command, with more than 500 officers working to keep the community safe. Police may exercise special powers in responding to terrorist incidents, including powers to arrest, detain and question terrorism suspects.**

## Protection

### Protecting people

The public spaces of NSW – our stadiums, shopping centres, pedestrian malls and major events venues – enrich our lives but are also potential targets of terrorist attacks. We have adopted protective measures to minimise the risk of terrorism in these spaces. *Australia's Strategy for Protecting Crowded Places from Terrorism* provides the owners and operators of crowded places with information and tools to assess the risk of terrorism and implement effective and proportionate protective measures. Owners and operators are ultimately responsible for selecting and implementing measures. The NSW Police Force provides advice and guidance on their responsibilities, including through Crowded Places Forums.

NSW is also well equipped to protect the community from people who have been charged or convicted of terrorist-related offences, pose a risk to national security or are vulnerable to violent extremism.

NSW has tightened bail laws to require that bail be refused for anyone who is charged with, or previously convicted of, a terrorism offence or has been the subject of a terrorism control order, unless there are exceptional circumstances.

**NSW is world-leading in its approach to post-sentence detention. It was the first state to introduce a post-sentence detention and supervision scheme to manage offenders who pose an unacceptable risk of committing a terrorist offence.**

Corrective Services NSW and Juvenile Justice NSW ensure that people are identified, assessed and managed in a way that is appropriate to the risk they represent.

NSW has also created a presumption against parole for anyone who has demonstrated support for, or has links to, terrorism.

Under the NSW post-sentence scheme, applications are made to the NSW Supreme Court to continue to manage relevant offenders beyond their sentence. Where an offender is released to post-sentence supervision in the community, they are jointly managed by Corrective Services NSW and the NSW Police Force.

**NSW is spending \$47 million over three years to upgrade the Supermax at Goulburn jail to create a new high-security unit. NSW is also establishing a specialist team to combat radicalisation across NSW jails.**

### Protecting assets and critical infrastructure

'Critical infrastructure' comprises the assets, systems and networks that provide essential services, such as water, energy, transport, telecommunications and health care. NSW has robust and established arrangements in place to protect our critical infrastructure from terrorism, and continues to invest in this outcome. Our agencies are well coordinated and work closely with police, local councils, the private sector and the community.

Owners and operators of critical infrastructure are responsible for the protection of their assets. The NSW Government provides support to owners and operators in line with the *National Guidelines for Protecting Critical Infrastructure from Terrorism*, the national *Critical Infrastructure Resilience Strategy* and the *NSW Critical Infrastructure Resilience Strategy*.

The NSW Police Force assists owners and operators on a case by case basis with their responsibilities by providing guidance about the threat context for key critical infrastructure, crowded places, mass surface transport systems and other locations.



## Protecting secure information

To ensure we are able to proactively monitor the evolving threat environment, we have strengthened our capacity to receive, store and use sensitive and classified information. The Commonwealth Government's *Protective Security Policy Framework* provides governance guidelines for the management of personnel, physical and information security within all jurisdictions. NSW implements the guidelines, which focus on accessing and managing sensitive information.

## Incident management

### Resolving terrorist incidents

If an incident of terrorism does occur, we have robust and regularly tested plans and arrangements in place. These are outlined in the *NSW Counter Terrorism Plan* and *National Counter Terrorism Plan*. These plans include protocols for the operational response to incidents, led by the NSW Police Force, as well as for policy and public information leadership. We work closely with the Commonwealth Government and state and territory governments to ensure we are well prepared for a terrorist incident, including by undertaking exercise and training activities coordinated through the Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee.

After the Lindt Café siege, NSW introduced laws that provide certainty to police in the event they need to use lethal force when responding to a terrorist incident.

### Recovering from terrorist incidents and supporting victims

We also have arrangements in place for recovery from a terrorist attack. Recovery from a terrorist incident would commence immediately after an attack. This includes establishing recovery assistance points and, where needed, recovery hubs. Given the scale and complexity of the Sydney CBD, there are separate, specific arrangements in place for an emergency event in the CBD.

Treating the trauma caused by terrorism is a unique area of work and victims have specialised needs. Specialist training is being developed for counsellors, mental health workers and youth

workers to ensure victims of terrorism in NSW receive the best possible information and support to manage the impacts of trauma.

Amendments to the *Victims Rights and Support Act 2013* ensure victims of vehicular terror attacks, like those that occurred on London Bridge in 2017 and in the French city of Nice in 2016, can access the same victim support as someone stabbed or shot by the driver before or after the attack.

### Promoting community harmony in recovery

A unified, harmonious community can be best measured by the way we come together after an incident. If a situation emerges where there is an immediate threat to the harmony of the community, the *NSW Community Resilience and Response Plan* allows NSW Government agencies to coordinate the response and support the affected community or communities. This includes engaging with our community networks and implementing a recovery action plan to promote community harmony.

The COMPACT Alliance is a network of more than 60 grassroots community organisations, peak non-government organisations, private sector partners, schools, universities, government agencies and police. The alliance has facilitated stronger engagement between government and community organisations.







Legislative framework

The NSW Government continues to work closely with the Commonwealth Government and other states and territories on a consistent approach to counter terrorism laws. Our strong laws ensure police and intelligence agencies have the necessary powers to protect NSW citizens across all forms of terrorist and violent extremist activity.

**NSW has the toughest counter terror laws in Australia**, and we remain committed to adapting and strengthening our laws to meet the evolving threat of terrorism.

**We were the first state to introduce laws** that allow offenders, including those not facing terror charges, to continue to be detained if they pose an unacceptable terrorism threat to the community.



Investigation

Our law enforcement and intelligence agencies work cooperatively to investigate concerning behaviour, including preparation and support for terrorist activity.

**Responsibility:**  
Intelligence and law enforcement agencies

**Legislative tools:**  
Control orders; investigative and preventative detention powers; developing a new national offence for the possession of terrorism-related instructional material



Disruption of terrorist activity

Our law enforcement agencies are equipped with a range of disruption tools, including special powers which can be activated during a terrorist incident.

**Responsibility:**  
NSW Police Force

**Legislative tools:**  
Special police powers to search, seize and detain, enter premises, and cordon off a specific area; laws for reasonable use of force by police, including lethal force; utilising national legislation enabling the Australian Defence Force to support the NSW law enforcement response to incidents



When someone is charged with or convicted of a terrorist act

With the Commonwealth Government, we have enacted a strong and nationally consistent framework of terrorism laws.

**Responsibility:**  
Intelligence and law enforcement agencies, NSW Courts, Corrective Services NSW, Juvenile Justice NSW

**Legislative tools:**  
Terrorism offences (including preparatory offences, accomplice offences, offences relating to membership of a terrorist organisation, and offences relating to financing or promoting terrorist acts); preventative detention orders; investigative detention scheme; special arrest powers; updated NSW laws on the provision of bail



Imprisonment and pre-release

We have laws to effectively manage offenders based on the risk they pose, including assessment of offenders nearing the end of their sentence.

**Responsibility:**  
Corrective Services NSW, Juvenile Justice NSW

**Legislative tools:**  
Legislation to manage offenders based on the risk they pose; laws to stop inmates from possessing extremist material; comprehensive evidence-gathering tools for terrorist inmates; post-sentence detention legislation



After completion of sentence

Our laws enable the continuing detention or supervision of offenders who continue to pose an unacceptable risk at the end of their sentence.

**Responsibility:**  
NSW Courts, law enforcement agencies, Corrective Services NSW, Juvenile Justice NSW, parole authorities

**Legislative tools:**  
Post-sentence detention or supervision where a court is satisfied the person poses an unacceptable risk of committing a terrorism offence, irrespective of whether they have been convicted of a terrorism offence; updated NSW laws on the provision of parole



### 3. GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT

Countering terrorism and violent extremism requires action from across all levels of government.

#### Governance

##### Cabinet and Ministerial responsibilities

**The Premier** leads the state's efforts to prevent terrorism and counter violent extremism, representing NSW in the development of inter-governmental agreements, reforms and changes.

**The Attorney General** is responsible for the majority of counter terrorism legislation, and is responsible for applying on behalf of the state to the Supreme Court to place high-risk offenders on extended supervision orders or continuing detention orders to protect the community.

**The Minister for Police** is responsible for the NSW Police Force – the state's operational counter terrorism agency – and oversees the tactical and operational aspects of counter terrorism as part of the portfolio's broader law enforcement activities.

**The Minister for Counter Terrorism** coordinates the NSW Government's strategic policy around counter terrorism and violent extremism, which includes developing and implementing this strategy, driving the development of relevant policies, and engaging with the community.

**The Minister for Corrections** is responsible for the management of inmates and offenders in the community who are sentenced for terrorist-related offences, and high-risk offenders on extended supervision orders or continuing detention orders.

##### Policy development

The NSW Government develops counter terrorism and CVE policy, supported by the following groups:

**The State Counter Terrorism Committee** is the lead officials-level committee considering strategic counter terrorism and CVE policy issues. It has a number of sub-committees to provide expertise on specific areas.

**The NSW CVE Steering Committee** oversees the whole-of-government approach to CVE in NSW.

**The Cyber Security Senior Officials Group**, which consists of senior cyber and information risk owners, oversees cyber risk management strategy in NSW.

**The State Emergency Management Committee** develops emergency management policy and oversees emergency management arrangements in NSW.

##### Incident response

###### NSW

The NSW Police Force is responsible for responding to and managing a terrorist incident in NSW.

The State Operations Centre, under the command of the Police Commissioner, will manage the operational response in the event of a terrorist incident.

The Crisis Policy Committee may also be activated by the Premier, on the advice of the Police Commissioner. It operates out of the State Crisis Centre and manages overall policy in response to an incident. It may also liaise with the Commonwealth Government and state and territory governments about matters requiring coordination or assistance.

###### National

The National Crisis Committee may be convened by the Commonwealth Counter-Terrorism Coordinator. It is responsible for coordinating and sharing information across jurisdictions.

#### Review and evaluation

We are committed to continuous improvement through evaluation of the programs we are delivering, evolving our approaches and sharing what we have learnt.

The NSW Government ensures authorities have effective powers to combat terrorism and keep the public safe, and that our legal frameworks support these efforts. Our legislation includes statutory review provisions that allow laws to be reviewed and amended where necessary.

Our counter terrorism arrangements are tested regularly through both state and national training exercises. These include exercises for decision-makers and supporting agencies, as well as operational response exercises. Our procedures are regularly reviewed in light of what we have learnt from these exercises.

The NSW Department of Premier and Cabinet is also coordinating a whole-of-government evaluation of the NSW approach to CVE.





## 4. EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

We contribute to a national, cooperative approach that incorporates the Commonwealth Government, other state and territory governments, local government, the private sector, the community, and external experts and international counterparts. We need to face the challenges of terrorism and violent extremism together.

### Commonwealth, state and territory governments

NSW is represented on the Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee, the national coordinating body for counter terrorism, which reports to the Council of Australian Governments (COAG). COAG is Australia's peak inter-governmental forum and its role includes increasing cooperation among governments, including in relation to counter terrorism.

We continue to work closely with the Commonwealth Government to ensure a consistent counter terrorism and CVE approach is applied across jurisdictions, as outlined in *Australia's Counter-Terrorism Strategy*. In the operational context, the JCTT regularly conducts joint investigations into terrorism matters.

### Local government

Local governments own and operate many of our civic and public spaces, and have significant responsibilities for the protection of those areas.

The NSW Police Force has held Crowded Places Forums in each of its six regions, where police have engaged with the owners and operators of crowded places, including local government representatives. Police Area Commands and Local Emergency Management Committees also work with local government in planning, preparation, response and recovery activities generally. We have also formed strong relationships with local government through the delivery of many of our CVE projects.

### Private sector

By working more closely with business we can extend our counter terrorism and CVE efforts. We are building closer partnerships with business and the private sector to improve the protection of our assets and infrastructure.

In addition, when governments work alongside the private sector, risks can be innovatively mitigated in the design phase of new infrastructure. Business

can also contribute significant professional expertise and apply new technology to counter terrorism and violent extremism. We also work with the Commonwealth Government in its engagement with social media companies.

### Community

Community action and collaboration is key to countering terrorism and violent extremism, and to building a unified, resilient society. By working together, we minimise the risk of violent extremism.

The NSW Government plays a supportive role in fostering dialogue between and within communities, including faith-based organisations, where respectful discussions and debate can take place and people are able to increase their understanding and tolerance.

### External experts and international counterparts

The NSW Government continues to engage with non-government experts, including leading academics and research institutes, for advice on issues related to counter terrorism and CVE. This helps us ensure our approach and policy are informed by evidence and experience, especially the experience of other significant subnational governments and organisations. NSW seeks to learn from international best practice, regularly engaging with international counterparts and visiting delegations in consultation with the Commonwealth Government.





## 5. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

### Keeping ahead of rapidly advancing technology

A key challenge for government is to keep ahead of the threats to our safety and our way of life. Some of the threats we will face in the next decade we might not yet be able to imagine. But as the nature of the threats change, so too must our responses.

We are establishing facial biometric matching capability to make it easier for security and law enforcement to identify people suspected of terrorist activity and to prevent fake identities, while also ensuring our privacy is protected.

Driverless cars, remotely-piloted aircraft and drones are emerging policy challenges. Policy responses will need to account for the increasing use of these technologies for sport, entertainment and commercial purposes.

The merging of cybercrime and terrorism is an emerging challenge which will likely require complex policy responses.

### Working with industry

Harnessing the value of new technologies is critical to preventing or disrupting terrorism. This means working with industry, particularly start-ups and other innovative businesses in the design phase, to reduce the risk of their business, product or platform being used for terrorism.

Our strong links with the private sector allow us to work closely in the event of an incident and better protect our community.

### Continuing to learn and improve

We must carefully implement and evaluate our current programs and measures, and learn as we go.

Some of our more complex laws, enacted to give law enforcement the powers they need to protect citizens, require us to design new processes and legal infrastructure. They require high levels of coordination and strong oversight.

Our strong links with academics and researchers, both in Australia and overseas, help us access and share information. Importantly, we are benchmarking our programs against international best practice, and sharing the lessons we have learnt through our evaluations.

### Staying focused

While we are working hard to invest heavily to protect people living and visiting NSW, there is no room for complacency. We will continue to invest in practical counter terrorism and CVE responses, and test and improve those responses periodically. This will ensure we are best placed to deal with threats as they emerge.

In addition, the NSW Government will review this strategy every 12 months to ensure it continues to reflect the rapidly evolving nature of terrorism and violent extremism.









## More information

**nsw.gov.au**

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