

20 April 2007

Media Release



ACT Chief Police Officer found deceased

Australian Federal Police (AFP) Commissioner Mick Keelty regrettably advises of the sudden passing of Chief Police Officer for the Australian Capital Territory, Audrey Fagan, APM.

Assistant Commissioner Fagan was holidaying in Queensland when she was found deceased in her holiday apartment late this afternoon.

The Queensland Police Service is investigating the matter, but believe there are no suspicious circumstances.

Assistant Commissioner Fagan has been the Chief Police Officer of the ACT for two years and her AFP career spans 26 years.

Commissioner Keelty said Assistant Commissioner Fagan was a greatly respected figure within ACT Policing and the wider AFP.

"We have today lost one of our most respected and thoughtful members of the AFP. Audrey was both an accomplished and honoured police officer who will be sorely missed by all her colleagues," Commissioner Keelty said.

"Our thoughts are with Audrey's family and friends and all those in the AFP and the Canberra community who will be deeply affected by her passing."

The Queensland Police Service will prepare a report for the Queensland Coroner.

Media enquiries

AFP National Media
(02) 6275 7100

Biography of Audrey Fagan APM

Audrey Fagan was appointed to the role of ACT's Chief Police Officer on July 4 2005. Her appointment followed a successful policing career spanning more than 20 years at local, national and international levels, as well as experience working at senior levels of government.

Ms Fagan began her policing career with the AFP in Canberra in 1981, working initially in protective services and then in ACT community policing, where she gained wide operational experience in fields such as fraud and general criminal investigations.

She then went on to take up senior appointments in the AFP's national and international operations, including a posting to Christmas Island, international liaison, internal investigations and police recruit training.

In the mid 1990s she accepted an advisory position as a law enforcement liaison officer to the Federal Government. In this capacity she worked with three Federal Ministers, advising on issues of policing and law enforcement including the development of the National Illicit Drug Strategy.

In December 1998, Ms Fagan returned to the AFP to take up a position as Executive Staff Officer in the Office of the Commissioner, where she undertook project management and advisory roles.

She was later promoted to the senior executive position of AFP Director Commercial Support, and then to General Manager Protective Security, where she had responsibility for overseeing close personal protection to high office holders, the national witness security program, protective security intelligence services and special events planning. Key achievements in this role included CHOGM security planning and AFP protective security responses post September 11.

She was then appointed to the position of Executive Director Protection, where she oversaw the integration of the Australian Protective Service into the AFP.

Ms Fagan has received numerous awards and commendations throughout her career, including the Australian Police Medal in 2004 and the Australian Institute of Police Management Scholarship Award in 2001.

She was conferred with a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University, a Graduate Certificate in Applied Management from the Australian Institute of Police Management, a Graduate Diploma in Executive Leadership from the Australian Institute of Police Management and is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Ms Fagan was also a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management, former Chair of the Commonwealth Women in Law Enforcement Strategy, a Member of the Australian Human Resource Institute and a Member of the National Community Crime Prevention Advisory Group.

She is survived by her husband Chris and daughter Clair.