



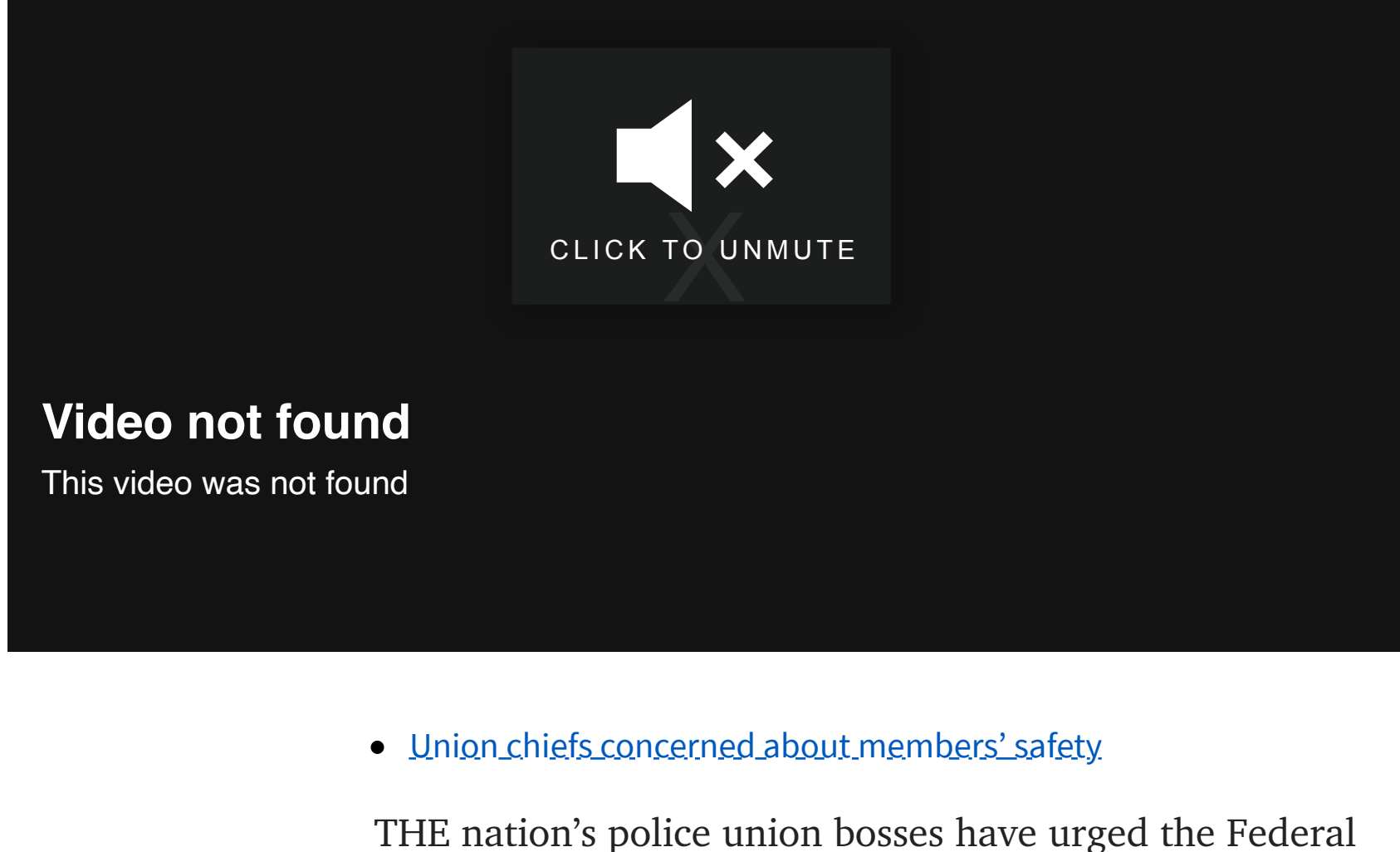
Three-point plan to upgrade IT systems for police to tackle terror

IN the wake of the deadly Parramatta police shooting, the nation's police union leaders meeting in Adelaide have called on the Federal Government to fund an overhaul of IT systems to help prevent terror attacks.

Nigel Hunt

October 20, 2015 - 6:17PM The Advertiser

0 comments



- [Union chiefs concerned about members' safety](#)

THE nation's police union bosses have urged the Federal Government to immediately fund a range of IT measures worth more than \$100 million to fight terrorism.

Police Federation of Australia president Mark Carroll said on Tuesday that police wanted Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and Treasurer Scott Morrison "to show leadership" on this issue so the states would follow.

"We need all states, all territories, all governments in this country working off the same page to make sure we have the tools for the 21st century to minimise the risk of another attack," he said.

"We know if we have the tools and the technology to do our job we can minimise risk. That is what this is about.

"There is no consistent approach to this issue around the country. It has been talked to death for the past decade and now is the time to act to bring our systems into the 21st century."

He suggested the measures — costed at \$110 million — could be funded by the introduction of a national unexplained wealth scheme under which criminals' wealth could be stripped from them by the courts.

He added that federal assistance was also needed to ensure state governments "hardened" security at police stations — similar to Australia's airports following the September 11, 2001, terrorism attacks.

The union leaders have jointly called for three key measures to be immediately adopted to assist police in both detecting terror plots and managing them once they have occurred. They are:

INTRODUCTION of a national case management system, replacing the 18 existing systems, to allow a co-ordinated intelligence and investigational approach by Australia's eight policing jurisdictions.

FROM OUR PARTNERS

His Dark Materials, the fantasy drama series full of magic
Stream on Foxtel Now

A NEW national intelligence system to replace existing 30-year-old systems to provide a real-time national alerting system which provides monitoring indicators and warning and metrics to give a national intelligence picture.

A DEDICATED public safety mobile broadband capability through the allocation of 20 MHz of spectrum specifically for public safety agencies.

PFA chief executive Mark Burgess said the measures had "long been supported by various parliamentary inquiries" but had never been adopted.

"If adopted, these proposals would significantly enhance other government initiatives such as tackling the ice epidemic, tackling illegal firearms, enforcing domestic violence orders and policing organised crime which costs the country \$16 billion a year," he said.

Mr Burgess said other initiatives also identified included enhanced firearms scenario training for police, improved CCTV surveillance around police and court buildings and body armour for all police.

"We tried to start this process 10 years ago. We don't want to be here in another 10 years' time. State and territory governments will be condemned if we are arguing for exactly the same issues then," he said.

"This is in the best interests of Australia, that is why we are standing here today saying to the federal and state governments 'Get on the same page'.

"We know what we have to do, we know what it is going to cost, let's just get on with it and do it."

Mark Carroll and colleagues are calling for improved IT and hardened security at police stations.

Mr Carroll, who is also president of the Police Association of SA, said the existing legislation for confiscation of crime proceeds and unexplained wealth was counter-productive because police had to prove the assets were gained through illegal activities.

"We think a new system for unexplained wealth where the onus is put back on individuals to prove they have not gained those assets illegally is more productive," he said.

"We know the drug barons and organised criminals in this country make a great living out of the suffering of other individuals, especially when it comes to the trafficking of drugs.

"We say all Attorneys-General around the country should be meeting to discuss this issue. We want to see legislation that works across all states and territories that changes the onus from police to the criminals.

"When that happens there will be an enormous amount of money coming in to fund these specific measures for police to be able to do their job."

Justice Minister Michael Keenan said the Federal Government welcomed the comments made by the PFA.

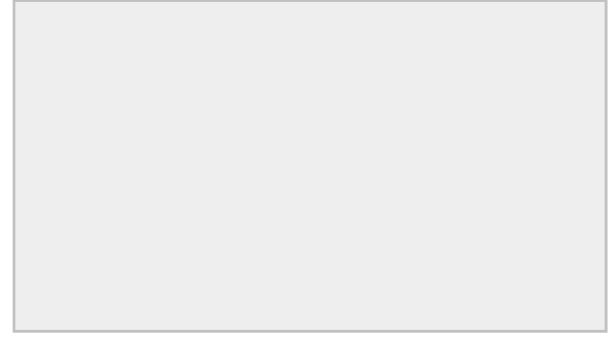
"The Commonwealth Government has provided law enforcement with significant boost of \$630 million to counter terrorism, part of a \$1.3 billion investment in keeping Australians safe since the terror threat level was raised to high in August last year," he said.

"We have also introduced four of a proposed five tranches of legislation to strengthen our agencies ability to act swiftly in the face of terror."



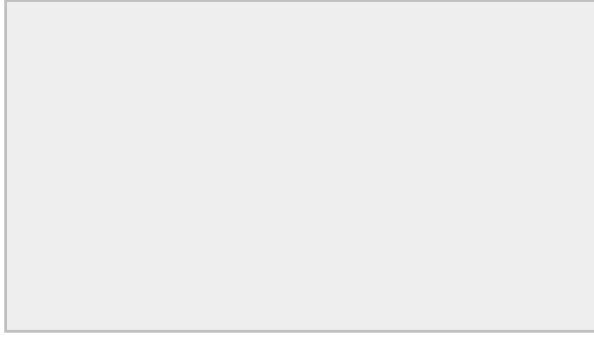
Join the conversation (0 comments)

More related stories



Battle to save animals on the brink at Outback reserve

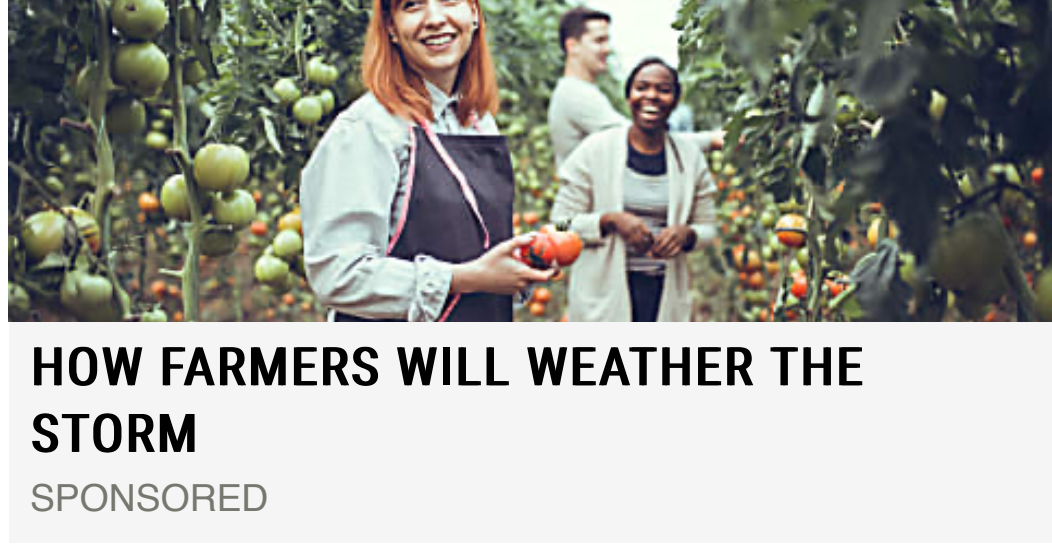
Conservationists are battling to save animals at an Outback reserve from the effects of the worst drought in recent memory, and have received a funding boost to redouble their efforts.



Country tradie to face court over incomplete work

A country tradesman will face the Elizabeth Magistrates Court over allegations he was not licenced and refused to refund money to clients.

11



HOW FARMERS WILL WEATHER THE STORM

SPONSORED

Most commented

Council frustrates push to remove 'extremely dangerous' tree

111

UK COVID strain found in Adelaide medi-hotel patient

98

'Disrespected' SES volunteers fear for safety on virus frontline

74

How did SA's Liberal polities score in 2020?

47

How did SA's Labor polities score in 2020?

33

Membership

Subscription packages
Group/Corporate subscriptions
The Advertiser app
Today's Paper
Newsletters
My Tributes
Rewards

About Us

About us
Meet the team
Job opportunities
Code of conduct
Subscription FAQs
Subscription terms
App only subscription terms
Financial Hardship Policy

Contact Us

Help and support
FAQs
Letter to the Editor
Photo Sales
Advertise with us

Our News Network

Herald Sun
Courier Mail
The Daily Telegraph
news.com.au
The Australian
The Mercury
Geelong Advertiser
The Cairns Post
Gold Coast Bulletin
Townsville Bulletin
The Chronicle
NT News
The Weekly Times

Our Partners

Buy Search Sell
Find Your Local
Foxsports
Foxtel
Hipages
Kayo
Punters
odds.com.au
racenet.com.au
realestate.com.au

Our Apps

