

**Forensic Science
Accreditation Advisory Committee**

Summary of the 31st Meeting - 20 June 2024
115 Cotham Road, Kew VIC

Opening & welcome	Welcome and introductory remarks from the Chair
Committee Membership	<p>The Committee discussed the terms of appointment of current committee members.</p> <p>A number of new AAC experts were approved by the NATA Board since the last meeting, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document examination • Crime scene; and • NIFS <p>The following areas will require an Expression of Interest prior to the next meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemistry Criminalistics • Controlled substances • Parentage testing <p>The Committee expressed its gratitude to Dr Carolyne Bird, Mr Ian Franca and Mr Dean Catoggio who retired from the AAC.</p>
Discussion points	<p>The General Manager update included information on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the review of the Forensic Science accreditation program which is a key strategic initiative for NATA; • the new fee model introduced in 2024 • technical assessor training needs; and • Accreditation Matters 2024 <p>Reports from Committee members were well received with a key trend being workforce sustainability in Forensic Science disciplines and the effect this might have on the Criminal Justice system.</p>
Actions	NIFS are to consider how the Special Advisory Groups (SAGs) could provide feedback to the AAC members prior to the meeting.
Next meeting	The next meeting will be held in June 2025.