



CHOGM 2011
PERTH, AUSTRALIA

CHOGM 2011 - IN FOCUS

The world's largest and smallest, richest and poorest countries make up the Commonwealth, which is home to two billion citizens of all faiths and ethnicities – over half of whom are 25 or under. Commonwealth member countries span six continents and oceans from Africa (19) to Asia (8), the Americas (2), the Caribbean (12), Europe (3) and the South Pacific (10).

Every two years Commonwealth leaders meet at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) to discuss global and Commonwealth issues, and to agree on collective policies and initiatives.

What is CHOGM 2011?

The next CHOGM will be held in Perth, from the 28th October to 30th October 2011.

CHOGM 2011 will be the largest ever gathering of world leaders in Australia and the biggest international event to be held in Perth for almost 50 years. It is an opportunity for Commonwealth leaders to discuss world issues relevant to building a strong and secure future for all.

Australia is a committed and active member of the Commonwealth and takes great pride in being the first nation to host CHOGM three times, with Melbourne hosting in 1981, Coolom in 2002 and now Perth in 2011.

CHOGM 2011 will provide an opportunity to showcase Perth and Western Australia as a progressive and unique destination, economy and community.

What happens at CHOGM 2011?

Based on past attendance as many as 3,000 delegates may attend CHOGM 2011 including Leaders, Foreign Ministers, senior officials and support staff. As many as 1,000 international and domestic media are expected to attend the event providing coverage to more than 50 nations spanning six continents and oceans.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, as Head of the Commonwealth, will visit Perth accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh for CHOGM 2011.

The meeting itself traditionally consists of an opening ceremony, executive session meetings and Retreat sessions; with the Retreat forming the centrepiece of the Leaders' Meeting.

In Perth the principal meeting venue will be the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre.

State Government-owned facilities in Kings Park are being expanded to accommodate the Leaders' Retreat and create a lasting legacy of this historic event as well as a long-term asset for the community of Perth and the people of Western Australia.

How much security will there be?

Australia is highly experienced in managing security arrangements for major special events.

Responsibility for security arrangements for CHOGM 2011 is shared between the Australian Government and the Western Australian Government in accordance with long standing arrangements.



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There will be some disruption in and around Perth during CHOGM 2011 however the Australian and Western Australian Governments are working together to minimise the impact.

A number of major roads in the central business district including St Georges Terrace and Adelaide Terrace are expected to be closed to vehicle traffic for most of, if not all of Friday 28th October. The Queen's Birthday public holiday has moved to this day to minimise disruption.

The city will not be 'locked down' – it will be business as usual for city shops during this time, with shopping malls in the Perth CBD able to open for public holiday trading. Big numbers of people are expected to come into the city that day to be part of associated activities with free public transport for all travellers on the Transperth network. Traffic management plans are being developed and will be well publicised.