A meeting of Justice, Police and Correctional Services officials from across three jurisdictions in Alice Springs tomorrow could herald a new approach to delivering services to the Pitlands area.

Minister for Justice and Central Australia Dr Peter Toyne said the Northern Territory Government is leading the push to see the nation’s first tri-state cross-border servicing arrangements for the most isolated region in Australia.

"Up to 10,000 Australians live in the Pitlands region, the most isolated in Australia, where they face poor access to government services, and ongoing implications like adverse health and educational outcomes.

"By pulling together Justice, Police and Correctional Services officials from the Northern Territory, South Australia and Western Australia we are aiming to break down the jurisdictional boundaries so we can move together towards improving government services and the social conditions of the region.

"Advances made in moving towards cross-border agreements in justice services could set a template for future health and education service arrangements in the region, which for an area with endemic petrol sniffing and substance abuse would be a positive step.

"There is recognition that if there is a better way to deliver government services to the region then we should be doing it better – and that is what will be canvassed at this meeting."

Dr Toyne said the discussions in Alice Springs on the NPY lands are also significant to the future of government service arrangements across the nation.

The two-day meeting will be attended by CEO’s of Justice Departments and Aboriginal and Community Affairs Departments, Police Commissioners, Magistrates, Courts and Correctional Services officials from the three jurisdictions.

Items for discussion include policing issues, night patrol services, victims of crime support services, use of correctional services facilities, court services to the region and the legislative requirements for moving to tri-jurisdictional agreements.