

## Ayscough.DanielleM[OSC]

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**From:** Burson.MeganA[OSC]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 28 November 2017 16:09  
**To:** Ayscough.DanielleM[OSC]  
**Cc:** WLMS Support Officer  
**Subject:** RE: RTI Tracer Request - RTI/22215 (WLB)  
**Attachments:** RTI-22215 Tracer - SSG, WLB.DOCX

Hi Danielle,

Please see below figures relating to Part A of the application.

Please note, for question 1 & 2, application received statistics are collected based on Application Type only; a breakdown of applications received based on Licence Type, Genuine Reason or Licence Condition is not available.

### 1. Applications for new concealable firearms licences where the use is primary production or pest control.

Year	New Application Received
2017*	13941
2016	15972
2015	16716
2014	14560
2013	14791
2012	11282
2011	9643

\*Accurate as at 26/11/2017

### 2. Renewal applications for existing concealable firearms licences where the use is primary production or pest control.

Year	Renewal Received
2017*	18621
2016	15401
2015	26376
2014	31713
2013	30175

<b>2012</b>	24150
<b>2011</b>	8737

\*Accurate as at 26/11/2017

Please note, Licence production statistics are collected based on Licence Type only; a breakdown of Licenses issued/renewed or replaced based on Genuine Reason or Licence Condition is not available.

If deemed suitable, the current figures for concealable firearms licences issued for occupational (rural use) may be provided.

### 3. The number of points one and two granted.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Concealable Licence Issued</b>	<b>Concealable Licence Renewed/Replaced</b>
<b>2017*</b>	1192	1316
<b>2016</b>	1574	1438
<b>2015</b>	1627	1838
<b>2014</b>	1749	1921
<b>2013</b>	1477	1792
<b>2012</b>	717	1388
<b>2011</b>	1903*	0**

\*Accurate as at 20/11/2017

\*\*Figure includes licenses issued, renewed and replaced.

Please note, New Licence or Renewal applications rejected statistics are collected based on Licence Type only; a breakdown of Applications Rejected based on Genuine Reason or Licence Condition is not available.

### 4. The number of points one and two refused.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Concealable Licence Applications Rejected</b>
<b>2017*</b>	227
<b>2016</b>	82
<b>2015</b>	110
<b>2014</b>	81
<b>2013</b>	51
<b>2012</b>	0

\*Accurate as at 27/11/2017

CAVEAT

1. The data is not official Queensland Police Service data as they are outside the bounds of what are published in official Service documents.
2. The data has been extracted from operational systems subject to inconsistency therefore, should be treated as an estimate only.
3. These figures are preliminary and may be subject to change and should not be released to any other agency or person without appropriate authorisation from the Queensland Police Service.
4. These figures should be regarded as estimates only and caution should be taken with their interpretation.
5. These figures are for number of licences, and do not include permits or approvals issued.
6. Multiple licences may be issued to one person.
7. The Renewal figures include renewed, replaced and re-issued licenses.
8. The Rejected application figures include New Licence and Licence Renewal Applications rejected.

**Megan Burson**  
**Senior Information Officer**  
**Weapons Licensing**  
**Queensland Police Service**  
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Weapons Licence and Permit to  
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**From:** Ayscough.DanielleM[OSC]  
**Sent:** Monday, 27 November 2017 2:02 PM  
**To:** WLMS Support Officer <[OSC-D-WLMSSupportOfficer@police.qld.gov.au](mailto:OSC-D-WLMSSupportOfficer@police.qld.gov.au)>  
**Subject:** FW: RTI Tracer Request - RTI/22215 (WLB)

Hi Megan,

As discussed last week. Can you please obtain these figures. Due date is 30 November 2017.

Kind regards,

*Danielle*

Danielle Ayscough  
Sergeant  
Support Officer  
Weapons Licensing  
Specialist Services Group  
Operations Support Command  
Ph: 3015 7710

Requested by: QPS Ministerial Liaison Officer

File Ref:

**MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES and**  
**MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES**

- Submission for Approval
- Information for Minister's Speech
- Locality Brief
- Briefing Note for Information
- Joint Media Release
- Function Checklist

<b>CRITICAL</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>URGENT</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>ROUTINE</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>MINISTER'S DUE DATE</b>		<b>MINISTER'S APPROVAL REQUIRED BY</b>

**SUBJECT:**

**OCCUPATIONAL CONCEALABLE FIREARMS LICENCES (PRIMARY PRODUCTION)**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minister notes the content of the Briefing Note.

<p>NOTED / SUPPORTED</p> <p><i>Steve Gollschewski</i> Deputy Commissioner, Specialist Operations / /16</p>	<p>NOTED / APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</p> <p>The Hon. Bill Byrne MP <b>Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services and</b> <b>Minister for Corrective Services</b> / /16</p>
<p>NOTED / SUPPORTED</p> <p><i>Ian Stewart</i> Commissioner / /16</p>	<p><b>MINISTER'S COMMENTS:</b></p>    
<p>COMMENTS:</p>   	

**MINISTERIAL BRIEFING NOTE**

**SUBJECT: OCCUPATIONAL CONCEALABLE FIREARMS LICENCES (PRIMARY PRODUCTION).**

**PURPOSE:**

1. To inform the Minister of the current policies and justifications for assessing concealable firearms licences by Weapons Licensing, Queensland Police Service.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. Weapons Licensing has recently reviewed the issue of concealable firearms licences (Pistols) for the purpose of an occupational requirement for primary production.
2. Historically, these types of licences have been issued to primary producers for use on large properties to destroy sick and injured animals to prevent prolonged suffering for the animal if the owner returned to their residence to gain access to a longarm.
3. A number of these licences have recently been refused on the basis that applicants do not meet the genuine reason requirements for the issue of a concealable firearm for a variety of reasons including failing to meet the occupational requirement.
4. The current number of concealable firearms licences issued for Occupational (Rural use) is 2,273 licences holding approximately 2788 concealable firearms.
5. There are 450 Category D (semi-automatic centrefire rifles) firearms registered to firearms licences, including for rural purposes and professional shooting companies in Queensland.
6. Current applications and renewal applications for concealable firearms licences are being processed and, where necessary, formal rejection correspondence is sent to applicants. The applicants, if rejected may seek a review in the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal (QCAT). Currently, there are two (2) outstanding reviews from applicants for concealable firearms licences for occupational use.

**ISSUES:**

7. The National Firearms Agreement (1996) specifies the need for a '*genuine reason*' test, and a '*genuine need*' test specifically for the acquisition of Category H weapons.
8. The *Weapons Act 1990* provides a requirement for acquisition of a Category H weapon that the applicant must have a need to possess the weapon and provide a reason why their need cannot be satisfied in another way.
9. Weapons Licensing applies further scrutiny to whether an applicant is meeting the requirements of a 'Primary Producer' in the Act which states that they must be '*primarily engaged in the occupation*'. A number of recent applicants have been found to be carrying on other occupations not engaged with the business of primary production.
10. The CSIRO and other Commonwealth and State agencies, including the Queensland Government, have produced a number of '*Model Codes of Practice*' for the destruction of livestock and feral animals. These documents indicate that in most cases the use of rifles of sufficient calibres should be used for humane destruction of injured or sick beasts.
11. Publications on humane destruction of feral pest animals is not supportive of the use of handguns due to the smaller calibres used and the lack of accuracy over distance both of which can contribute to the suffering of an animal.

12. The Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (SSAA) issues a guide for hunters in Australia in which the association indicates that the most appropriate method for shooting feral animals is with a rifle.
13. Other methods of carrying long arm rifles have been developed in recent years for both motorbike and horseback, including scabbards, gun racks and break down 'survival' type rifles of smaller size. This counters an argument that on rural properties it is not practical to travel distances with long arms.
14. Recent Court and Tribunal decisions from Queensland and other states have supported the decisions to refuse concealable licences for the circumstances provided. Each decision has provided a further clarification of the 'genuine need' provisions, the type of business, the type and size of properties and are consistent with the current decision making processes of Weapons Licensing.
15. QCAT has held previously on 2 occasions that the use of a Category H Pistol should not be considered just on 'convenience' grounds and the applicant must demonstrate both a need and a reason why another method is not suitable.
16. Currently, Queensland, South Australia, Northern Territory and Western Australia issue Category H concealable firearms for use in occupational rural purposes. Concealable firearms licences for rural purposes are not available under legislation in New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.
17. Western Australia Firearms registry advise that they have less than 20 concealable firearm licences issued in the State for rural purposes. Northern Territory indicate that they currently have 150 licences on issue for occupational concealable firearms, however, this also includes security officers. South Australia limits, by legislation, the issue of concealable licences to properties larger than 37,000 acres and have approximately 120 on issue..
18. Weapons Licensing continues to assess each licence application and renewal on a case by case basis to test whether the applicant meets all of these requirements for the issue of a licence.

## RECOMMENDATION

22. That the Minister notes the content of this briefing note.

**P FLEMING**  
**ACTING ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER**  
**OPERATIONS SUPPORT COMMAND**

Contact Officer:  
A/Inspector Clayton Bradford  
Weapons Licensing  
Telephone: 3015 7771  
Date: 19 May 2016