

SAFGA "STATE BOARD"

NewsBulletin

29th December 2025



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FIELD AND GAME

*"The wild life of today is not ours to dispose of
as we please. We have it in trust. We must
account for it to those who come after."
King George vi*

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IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL MEMBERS

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A message from Combined Firearms Council – CFC standing for shooters rights!

Dear Member,

Lots of statements and discussions have occurred publicly over the last week as a result of the horrendous Terrorist Attack last Sunday evening at Bondi Beach.

Very little in these public discussions is good news for lawful firearms owners across the nation.

As usual in times like this, the media and antigun groups were quick to make law abiding firearm owners the kicking boy and called for new firearm laws based on a plethora of misinformation, made up or imaginary firearm types that have supposedly bypassed the Howard Governments 30 year old tough Gun Laws and statements bordering on outright lies.

Unfortunately, as we have seen in the past, many of our political leaders 'run with the hares' with the media and anti-gunners and regurgitate the same talking points that make them look foolish in our eyes – and they are foolish as they simply do not know what they are talking about. Already the Prime Minister and some State leaders have echoed many of these questionable talking points. Others have made official statements with ambiguous wordings regardless of their political party through their Premiers and Territory Chief Ministers - who are all part of the National Cabinet and who have reportedly agreed with the Prime Minister to review the gun laws and to go 50/50 on a potential Gun Buyback with the Federal Government and States/Territories – with no detail on how to fund it.

The Home Affairs Minister, Tony Burke, has stated 'there will be Buyback Scheme' and any debate on whether exceptions will be made for Sports Shooting Clubs, Licenced feral pest shooters, Collectors etc. to be determined by a "Senior Officials Group" of State and Territory Police Ministers who will meet from Monday. This Buyback Scheme will require changes to Federal and State/Territory Laws or Regulations and likely cost many millions of dollars the nation can ill afford.

There has been a lot of push back from around the country, mostly from minor political parties such as One Nation, Shooters, Fishers and Farmers and the Nationals, many individual MPs from all sides, Shooting Association representatives, thousands of firearm licence holders, Industry representatives and others.

The NSW Premier has recalled their Parliament for Monday and Tuesday this week to introduce new laws anyway. If the NSW Opposition agree with the proposed legislation, their laws will change as the minor parties do not have the numbers in their Parliament to stop them. Inevitably this will drive all other States and Territories to do something similar. See the attached NSW Draft Bill.

In SA we are in the Parliamentary Christmas break and the Government is still in place until the State Election in March 2026 – but not yet in ‘caretaker mode’ meaning the Premier can call a session of Parliament to introduce new laws up until 20th Feb - as the writs for our State Election on 21 March must be issued then.

The Labor Party has the majority in the Lower House and if the Greens and minor Party Members side with them in the Legislative Council they will likely get any changes through if Parliament is recalled.

Our Premier publicly stated last Thursday “We have a state that currently has the strictest gun laws in the country on our advice of the South Australian Police. We will see what the New South Wales Parliament passes next week, and assess that against our own legislation here in South Australia.” See the attached SA Premiers Statement.

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We suspect the Premier will not look at any discussion with Lawful Firearms Owners groups - including CFC, until this occurs - but we will try.

Many of you want to speak or write to your local MP’s, to the Premier and/or go on radio or talk to the media and others etc. to have you say. See attached lists of Parliamentary Members of both House of Parliament.

By all means do so if you wish, however please consider the following:

- If you write to you MP or MLC’s avoid using form letters – do it yourself and state your name and address and contacts. Unsigned or anonymous Form Letters are generally discarded or ignored.
- State the facts as you know, do not make things up or use hearsay statements.
- Be proud and stand up for your ‘right’ to possess and use firearms within the laws. **Note:** A privilege is a right as granted by our Parliament - that is the law.
- Do not be aggressive, discredit anyone or use bad language - we can all disagree without being derogatory, condescending or abusive.
- Respect the views of others in discussion (particularly on radio as the listening audience can be quite large and also include police, politicians and those that disagree or oppose lawful firearm ownership) but do not be afraid to call them out if they are clearly wrong and tell them why.

Some key points to consider:

- Firearms Owners are not criminals. We comply with the laws. That is why we are licenced.
- Correct statements and descriptions that are wrong. e.g. There is no such thing as a “Belt Magazine Straight Shotgun”. This is a nonsense statement made by unknowledgeable people to create alarm.
- None of the firearms used were semi-automatic Rifles or Pump Action Shotguns – they were all lawful Category A & B firearms allowed for import into Australia by the Federal Government, Australian Federal Police and Border Force and lawfully owned and used by thousands of Licence Holders Australia wide.
- There is no perpetual or open ended licencing for lawful firearms owners in any State or Territory. Licencing periods vary from 1 year to 5 years depending on licence type and in each State or Territory, and are subject to annual reviews for compliance.
- The State/Territory Police issue Licences based on the criteria that was established by the National Firearm Agreement (NFA) in 1996 and any changes to these agreements made since.

- The NFA has been amended several times by the Federal, State and Territory Governments since then. None have been 'watered' down - in fact the changes made are largely stricter.
- All firearms purchases are subject to a Permits to Acquire that can only be issued by the respective State/Territory Police once they are satisfied that the licence holder has a genuine reason and it is safe to do so.
- Many of the recommended 'new' laws tossed about in media and by Federal or State Leaders in recent days that they believe are needed – are already in place in SA and elsewhere.
- Licence Holders must comply with the firearms laws or their licence can be cancelled - and are for even minor discretions.
- Licence Holders are the most scrutinised members of Australian society.
- SAPOL have mentioned many times - that are quite happy with our laws. See Premiers Statement attached.

Please read all of the attached information and ensure the above points are passed on to your members individually, posted on your Notice Boards and keep updated on what is happening and keep your members informed. In the meantime, make sure that all of your Clubs and their members comply with all of your Association, Club and Discipline Rules, SAPOL Range Certificates and any Conditions and also maintain your Range areas as per the current Range Guidelines.

Inevitably, all members of Shooting Clubs, the firearm types and number we use arms will now be subject to greater scrutiny.

CFC will be writing to the Premier, the Police Minister, all Lower House Members and all Members of the Legislative Council as representatives the majority of State Shooting Associations and their members and on behalf of all licenced firearm owners generally, requesting consultation in a timely manner.

For what it is worth, thank you for your ongoing support and please have a great Christmas and Happy New Year.

Regards

CFC Executive



*Working together for
firearm ownership and
members of Sport
Shooting Clubs*



Combined Firearms Council of South Australia is the State peak body for sporting shooting clubs and organisations in South Australia.

Draft NSW Firearms Amended Bill

OFFICIAL

CROSSBENCH BRIEFING NOTE

TERRORISM AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025

FIREARMS ACT AMENDMENTS

PURPOSE OF THE BILL

- The Bill will strengthen the Firearms Act 1996 to help manage the risk associated with a high number of high-powered firearms in the community, following the Bondi terrorist attack on 14 December.

BACKGROUND

- The reforms in this Bill have been informed by events of the Bondi terrorist attack on 14 December 2025, National Cabinet commitments to strengthen gun laws across Australia, and recommendations from the Edwards Coroner's Inquest and the Audit Office of NSW.

CONTENT OF THE BILL

- The amendments to the *Firearms Act* fit into 4 categories, namely:
 - Limiting the possession and use of firearms
 - Restricting the availability of firearms
 - Strengthening the firearm application and renewal process
 - Enhancing the operation of gun clubs and shooting ranges

Limiting the possession and use of firearms

- Currently, the Act restricts ownership of certain guns under certain categories only but does not impose a general cap on the number of firearms a licensee may possess or use. Schedule 2 [7] and [21] will limit the number of firearms possessed or used by one individual to 4, across all licence categories except dealers and collector licences. Sport/target shooters (with the Regulation further allowing elite shooters to apply to the Commissioner for additional firearms above the limit) and primary producers will have a limit of 10 firearms.
- Currently, the Commissioner of Police needs to be satisfied that an applicant is – or about to become – a resident of NSW prior to issuing them a licence. Schedule 2 [12] – [13] will require firearms licence holders to be Australian citizens, with exceptions for certain New Zealand citizens for employment related activities and as provided for in the Firearms Regulation 2017 (the Regulation).
- Currently, interstate residents (including non-Australian citizens) moving to NSW can have their interstate firearms licences temporarily recognised while they apply for a NSW licence. Schedule 2 [19] will remove this ability for persons who are not Australian citizens, as they could not be issued a firearms licence in NSW.
- Currently, when a licence or permit holder passes away, their executor is permitted to possess the holder's firearms provided they lawfully disposed of them within 6 months. Schedule 2 [10] – [12] will require licence applicants, when applying for a new licence or licence renewal, to nominate alternative arrangements for the safe keeping of their registered firearms in the event of their death. Schedule 2 [27] will empower Police to seize the registered firearms of a licence holder in the event of their death.
- Currently, an exemption exists for unlicensed persons to possess and use firearms under supervision without a licence or permit while shooting on an approved range or while participating in an approved firearms safety training course (P650 form). Schedule 2 [2] will remove this exemption. Future amendments will be made to the Regulation to enable persons to obtain a permit to use and possess a firearm at an approved shooting range.

Restricting the availability of firearms

- Schedule 2 [1], [3]–[6] and [28] will limit the types of guns that are legal, including the re-classification of straight pull/pump action firearms and button/lever release firearms as Category C firearms; classification of semi-automatic air guns as Category B firearms;

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Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia - SIFA Media Release

MEDIA RELEASE – Industry demands answers on \$15 billion gun buyback scheme

19 December 2025

Share

The peak body representing Australia's lawful shooting industry has called for the Federal Government to clarify whether it will increase the Medicare levy to fund the buyback of licensed and legal firearms.

The Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia (SIFA) today predicted the Prime Minister's new gun buyback scheme could cost as much as \$15 billion with up to half of the nation's 4 million firearms facing forced recall.

The 1996 national gun buyback program, referenced today by the Prime Minister, bought back guns and all accessories and ammunition rendered unusable by surrendering of the guns along with a compensation scheme for businesses impacted by the change.

This time, the Prime Minister has claimed that states will fund the scheme on a 50 per cent basis which differs from the *National Firearms Program Implementation Act 1996*.

The Prime Minister has announced a scheme that will impact all Australians during a cost-of-living crisis and will do nothing to prevent the administration failures that led to the terrorist attack at Bondi Beach last Sunday.

SIFA calls on all state and territory leaders considering participating in the buyback scheme to declare what state-based taxation mechanisms will be used to fund their contributions.

Since National Cabinet met on Monday, the shooting industry has researched the potential impact of a nationwide gun buyback and compensation scheme. Some estimates put the total cost to the nation at up to \$15 billion to cover the mass bans, purchase of ammunition, spare parts, unusable accessories, loss of business compensation job redundancy payments for industry and potential business closures and administration costs.

SIFA does not believe that Australians will provide widespread support for a new tax during a time of struggle.

SIFA believes this is a shameless attempt to divert national attention from the underlying issue of antisemitism and the increased risk of terrorism in the nation.

\$15 Billion buyback explained:

- There are 4.3million registered firearms in Australia
- The average number of firearms owned per license is 4.3
- So on average more than half of licensed guns are impacted at a limit of 4.
- Conservatively that equates to 2 million firearms and their associated ancillaries and ammunition to be subject to buyback.
- Average firearm prices range from \$1000 to \$5000 per firearm with some up to \$200,000.
- Effected ammunition, optics and ancillaries per firearm can be well upwards of \$10,000.
- If we use an average claim of \$6000 per firearm including ancillaries and ammunition that equals \$12 Billion.
- In 1996 government admin costs were 20%. So an extra \$2.4 Billion.

- Loss of business compensation is proportionate at an estimated 50%, circa \$6 Billion.
- So figures could be in excess of \$20 Billion.
- A \$15 Billion figure is considered conservative.
- Failure to pay fair market price for unregistered effected ammunition, spare parts and ancillaries risk seeing private disposal of those items via unregulated channels.
- Licensed firearms business are facing immediate financial hardship and need emergency funding to keep storage facilities manned and alarms on.

South Australia Premier's Statement – 18th Dec 2025

Malinauskas 'stands ready' to recall SA Parliament after Bondi massacre

The Premier will recall State Parliament if there's a need to pass laws to tighten gun controls in the state following the Bondi attack saying "we're not going to be sitting around watching others go past us".

[David Simmons](#)

Dec 18, 2025, updated Dec 18, 2025

Prime Ministers press Conference - 19th Dec 2025

ANTHONY ALBANESE, PRIME MINISTER: Thanks for joining us. And I'm joined by AFP Commissioner, Krissy Barrett, and Minister for Home Affairs, Tony Burke. Today I confirm that the Federal and New South Wales Governments have declared Sunday 21st of December, a Day of Reflection to honour the victims of the horrific terrorist attack at Bondi Beach and to stand in solidarity with the Jewish community. Further, my government and the New South Wales Government and other Premiers as well will work closely with the Jewish community on arrangements for a National Day of Mourning to be held in the new year. This will allow families the time and space to lay their loved ones to rest, and to support those still recovering. On Sunday, flags on all New South Wales and Australian Government buildings will be flown at half-mast. As a mark of respect for the lives lost and the grief shared across our nation, we invite people across Australia to light a candle at 6:47pm, exactly one week since the attack unfolded, as a quiet act of remembrance with family, friends or loved ones. We're asking all Australians to observe a minute of silence and talking with media organisations about that as well. This day is about standing with the Jewish community, wrapping our arms around them and all Australians sharing their grief. It is a moment to pause, reflect and affirm that hatred and violence will never define who we are as Australians. The terrorist atrocity committed against Australia's Jewish community last weekend was motivated by the evil of antisemitism. And yesterday, I stood in this courtyard and announced further measures to eradicate antisemitism from our society. In responding to the mass murder that we witnessed on Sunday, we must consider both motivation and method.

The National Security Committee has met now six times since Sunday evening. We continue to receive advice on intelligence issues around that important body. And today we've been informed that by the Office of National Intelligence has identified a regular online video feed from ISIS that reinforces that this was an ISIS inspired attack. Further work has been done by the security agencies around motivation, and we'll continue to meet and provide them with whatever support they need at this difficult time.

Today, I'm also announcing that the government will establish a National Gun Buyback scheme to purchase surplus, newly banned and illegal firearms. The largest buyback since the Howard Government initiated one in 1996. Australia's gun laws were last substantially reformed in the wake of the Port Arthur tragedy. The terrible events at Bondi show we need to get more guns off our streets. We know that one of these terrorists held a firearm licence and had six guns in spite of living in the middle of Sydney's suburbs there at Bonnyrigg. There's no reason why someone in that situation needed that many guns. There are now more than four million firearms in Australia. More than at the time of the Port Arthur massacre nearly 30 years ago. The government will introduce legislation to support the funding of this buyback scheme and meet the costs on a 50/50 basis with states and territories. We expect hundreds of thousands of firearms will be collected and destroyed through this scheme. Consistent with the approach that was taken in 1996, the government is proposing that states and territories will be responsible for the collection, processing and payment to individuals for surrendered firearms. The Australian Federal Police will then be responsible for the destruction of these firearms. The National Gun Buyback scheme is on top of the work that was agreed by National Cabinet on Monday - limiting the number of firearms to be held by any one individual, limiting open ended firearms licensing and the types of guns that are legal, making Australian citizenship a condition of holding a firearm licence, accelerating work on standing up the National Firearms Register, and allowing the additional use of criminal intelligence to underpin firearms licensing. Australians are rightly proud of our gun laws. And until five years ago, Australians were rightly proud that there had not been a repeat Port Arthur. They were rightly proud we're not home to the constant carnage we see in some countries, but there have been of course incidents in both Queensland and Victoria that have seen so called sovereign citizens murder police officers. We will introduce this National Buyback Scheme to get guns off our streets and to help to assist to make all Australians safe. In addition to this, we will also boost the AFP and the work they're doing through Operation Avalite. This is the operation that was established of course, to deal with antisemitism. We will provide extra funds to provide the National Security Investigation teams. Those teams disrupt high harm, high impact, politically motivated violence, communal violence and hate crimes. And Commissioner Barrett will speak to more of that detail now. Thank you.

KRISSY BARRETT, AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE COMMISSIONER: Thank you. Good morning. Hate speech and the weaponisation of words can have serious national security consequences. History has taught us, and recent events have reinforced, that hatred creates a permissive environment that can lead to violent extremism and terrorism. There are groups and individuals across Australia who are eroding the country's social fabric by advocating hatred, fear and humiliation. I'm not going to mince my words - too much of this is directed at the Jewish community. A year ago, the AFP set up Operation Avalite to investigate antisemitism. Because of rising concerns and threats, The AFP has 161 current Avalite investigations and ten individuals have already been charged. Now, this is just unbelievable. As a country we should really reflect on those statistics. When I became Commissioner in October, I was so concerned about Australia's degrading security environment that I announced the formation of the new National Security Investigations teams to target groups and individuals causing high harm to our social cohesion. Essentially, the National Security Investigations teams are a flying squad of hate disruptors who focus on high harm, high impact, politically motivated violence, communal violence and hate crimes that don't meet the threshold for terrorism investigations, but that we know drive fear and division. This is all about stopping hate and division earlier and well before it leads to violence. So, far this crack squad has charged 14 individuals across 13 investigations. And of those, four individuals across four operations were charged for offences relating to antisemitism. The teams were responsible for a recent weeklong national blitz on the distribution and display of prohibited symbols, and for charging a passenger who only this week allegedly threatened violence toward a member of the Jewish community on a flight from Bali to Sydney. The announcement today to boost the numbers of our hate disruptors as well as planned changes to lower the threshold for hate speech will make it easier for the AFP to take action quicker. It could be the difference between us just knocking on a door to warn an individual, to an individual being placed in handcuffs. And finally, if I could make these observations as funerals for the Bondi Beach victims continue, I offer my sincere condolences on behalf of the AFP. Thank you.

TONY BURKE, MINISTER FOR HOME AFFAIRS: Thanks, Prime Minister. Yesterday we spoke about the motivation and today we talk about the method that was used in the horrific, disgusting antisemitic attacks of Sunday. The announcements today with the buyback scheme make possible what the National Cabinet decision referred to. If you're going to reduce the number of guns, then a buyback scheme has to be a piece of that puzzle. The reduction happens in a number of ways: in the limiting of number of firearms held by any one individual, in limiting open ended licensing, in making citizenship a condition of a firearm licence, in accelerating the work on the National Firearms Register and improving the intelligence sharing decisions that underpin firearms licensing. As well as that, with the announcements that were made yesterday, it is important to note the National Security Investment teams mean that anyone who wants to engage in hate crimes, hate speech, or use of hate symbols needs to know that even though we are lowering the threshold, criminal offences are already there. The extra arrests are happening because of the National Security Investigation teams, and the resources are being provided today for what is a - was originally a measure established by Commissioner Barrett and something that she's been very passionate about, which has helped boost the work of Operation Avalite, that the expansion of those teams now happens. For those who want to engage in hate speech, hate crimes or use of hate symbols, they need to know the thresholds are being lowered and the resources for the Australian Federal Police are already there and are being expanded now.

JOURNALIST: The buyback is going to cause a lot of friction, I imagine, not just with some elements of the Opposition like the Nationals, but also with gun owners, even some of your own MPs, Dan Repacholi this morning said that while he supports strong gun laws, he doesn't support measures that are blunt, symbolic, or designed to appease public anger. What is your message to people who may have to give up their weapons because of the actions of terrorist?

PRIME MINISTER: My message is that in 1996, the then Howard government did the right thing, intervened to have a scheme which Australians have been rightly proud of. We need to go further. My message is that the issue of someone involved as a sporting shooter, like Dan Repacholi is quite rightly proud of his representation of Australia, and he is a great local member, but he has a proud record going back. But if a bloke in Bonnyrigg needs six high powered rifles and is able to get them under the existing licensing scheme, then there's something wrong. I think Australians can see that.

JOURNALIST: Thanks, PM. We've had Royal Commissions in recent years into Robodebt, bushfires, veteran suicide, and so on. Do you believe a Royal Commission now is inevitable now into this issue? And will you expose your government to a full examination of its response to antisemitism?

PRIME MINISTER: We are acting and we've continued to act over a period of time. One of the things that I spoke about before was about motivation. We know that in this ISIS, regular video that they put out, they are claiming that it was ISIS inspired, and we know there's evidence there that that's the case. This has been around for a long period of time. What my Government has focused on is any further measures that we need to do. We have continued to act. Everything from setting up Operation Avalite, the work that was done as well in finding out the connection between the IRGC and the attacks on the Adass synagogue in Melbourne, the Georgina Street Newtown synagogue, and of course, the caravan incident in North West Sydney. The agencies did substantial work to identify that. We then acted by being the first government since the Second World War to expel an ambassador from Australia, with the Iranian ambassador. What I'm focused on is continuing to work.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, are you surprised at the lack of bipartisan support for gun reform at a federal level?

PRIME MINISTER: What I'm focused on is Australia's national interest. I'm focused on unity. People have decisions to make. This is not a time, in my view, for political differentiation, this is a time to bring the country together. I think overwhelmingly that's what the country wants to see.

JOURNALIST: Have you been communicating with the Opposition leader about how best to approach this in a bipartisan way? And has she offered you the Coalition's support in any of the measures that you've announced yesterday or today?

PRIME MINISTER: The Coalition put out a very, I think, positive statement on Sunday night, offering support for the Australian Government and the New South Wales government for any action that should be taken. I spoke with her personally. I spoke with her again on Monday morning. We offered briefings. She received those full briefings. People

can make their own assessments about what has happened since, but I've made it very clear publicly that I want to see bipartisanship on this issue. But that's not something that I can impose.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, you said yesterday that you took responsibility as Prime Minister for the fact that more could have been done to tackle antisemitism. Why wasn't things like vilification, stronger hate speech laws considered or worked on in even the last 12 months when that initial amendment was put forward? It was decided it would be too complicated to do it off the floor at the time. Do you accept that it was a mistake to have not been working on strengthening those laws before the announcement yesterday?

PRIME MINISTER: We introduced the first hate speech laws. We introduced the first hate speech laws that have been introduced in Australia. We're the first government to outlaw Nazi symbols. We inherited a situation where -- I've been in this building a long time. For a lot of the time, I've been defending the existing anti-discrimination laws, which the Coalition for a long period of time said was an attack on freedom of speech and tried to remove them. We have undertaken those laws. If you look at what we have done consistently as well, it hasn't been set and forget. Can governments do better? Yes, they always can. Yes, they always can, as I said yesterday. But we have been meeting regularly not just on the political level, but with all of the agencies. We've provided every level of support. I've engaged with state and territory governments as well on a full range of measures. And we've worked really closely as well since we received the report of the Special Envoy in rolling out the measures that were called for there, whether it be the National Student Ombudsman, whether it be the increase in security as well. I was meeting, before Sunday, I was speaking with Jewish community leaders about an increase, an extension of the security measures, for example, that we included in the lead up to my MYEFO. Which of course was announced on Wednesday, but we included that work and discussions were taking place beforehand.

JOURNALIST: Sussan Ley says, "Let's get to work on what you've announced yesterday." Will you be recalling parliament before Christmas?

PRIME MINISTER: No, it's not practical, and I suspect that the Opposition leader knows that that's not the case. We want to make sure that we get the laws right. I take it to some of the previous comments which have been here as well, have gone to why didn't we do more? We want to make sure that the laws are got right and we want to make sure as well that there is broad support for it across the board. We will engage constructively. We will provide when draughts are able to be achieved for what is complex laws -- because there are constitutional issues, there are issues of free speech involved in this as well -- we want to make sure that these laws don't get passed and then get knocked over. We have seen in High Court decisions in areas relating to migration and other issues related to that national space, we've seen courts make decisions. We don't want that to occur. We want to make sure that they are very tight.

JOURNALIST: Did information from ASIO help lead to those arrests at Liverpool?

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: So, what I would say about that, it is an ongoing and active matter. New South Wales police have still got a number of people in custody and I know that they did put a media statement out and that Deputy Commissioner Hudson has done some media interviews this morning. So, I won't go into further detail other than to confirm that there was information that was passed to New South Wales police from partner agencies.

JOURNALIST: Including ASIO?

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: I won't confirm that. This is a New South Wales Police matter. And as I said, it's ongoing and active.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, was critical information that could have prevented this deadly terror attack in Bondi in the wrong hands and could it have been prevented with greater information sharing?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, that is not -- the information up to this point does not suggest that that's the case. The information, as the agencies have said, indicates that these two individuals were involved in considerable planning of this terrorist act last Sunday. There is not an indication of others' involvement, but that continues to be an ongoing series of investigations.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, just to confirm the information that was available --

PRIME MINISTER: What information are you talking about, with respect?

JOURNALIST: That would have led police to make arrests prior to the deadly terror attack?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I'm not sure what it is that you're implying. I'm making it clear that none of the agencies are saying that they had information that was not passed on to anybody, if that is what is being suggested.

JOURNALIST: Two questions off the back of Sunday's attack and yesterday's police arrests. How many suspected Islamic extremists are on ASIO's watch list? And considering these events, is radical Islam an enemy from within Australia? Are there too many people here who don't share Australia's values and culture?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, when it comes to figures and ASIO's work, I will leave those comments to the Director General and as to whether they wish to make those matters public. I can say this, that one proponent of support for ISIS, motivated by a perversion of Islam that leads to extremism, is one too many. Is one too many.

JOURNALIST: So, how many guns should people be allowed to have? For example, if someone is living in suburban Sydney, how many -- will you consider putting a cap on the number of guns they're allowed to have?

PRIME MINISTER: That is the subject of work. Because these are state laws, I mean, one of the things that happened, to be clear about the guns issue, is that New South Wales said on Monday morning they were going to act on guns. One of the reasons why there should be national leadership and a National Cabinet process was brought in, because these laws are largely done by states and territories, the laws are only as strong as the weakest laws in any state. So, Western Australia, for example, has, in the wake of a recent incident, undertaken a strengthening of their laws, something that I suspect you're conscious of, given your recent media background. That's why we have tasked Premier Minns together with Premier Cook to oversee that process. They will undertake through state and territory governments, then come back to National Cabinet with the details there. I want laws to be as strong as possible, whilst of course providing for legitimate use of guns as well.

JOURNALIST: Are you expecting push back from Premier Crisafulli?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, that's a matter for the Premier, but I would hope that all premiers and chief ministers engage in the spirit in which this is intended, which is about keeping Australians safe.

JOURNALIST: One of the killers being able to purchase identical shotguns within months of each other, should that be a red flag? And as for authorities patrolling and protecting Jewish events, should they be in possession of high-powered shotguns?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I'll leave operational matters, with respect, it's important that they be left to the police, whether it be state jurisdictions or the Australian Federal Police. I think that politicians doing that -- what I would say as the Prime Minister is any requests from agencies, I would be supportive of. And yes, I am surprised that that is the case. There's something wrong with the licensing laws when this guy can have six high-powered rifles, which is why the Government's acting.

JOURNALIST: Maybe for Mr Burke, but it's on the guns. Just on the details of the buyback. I'm just casting my mind back to Port Arthur. A couple of things. Will it involve an amnesty as well, as we had 30 years ago, for illegal weapons, including those that have been banned for 30 years? To sort of try to hoover those up. And I remember back then, legitimate sporting shooters who might have a number of firearms for different disciplines at their sporting club, if I remember correctly, there were carveouts or exceptions made or an attempt to accommodate that. Will that be the case this time when you're talking about a limit on guns or can you see a way for that?

MINISTER BURKE: These effective details are now going to meetings of officials. So, I met with the other police ministers earlier this week. We had the Police Ministers' Council and at that, we set up a senior officials group. That senior officials group meets for the first time on Monday to be able to start to work through all the detail. The decision today from the Federal Government in making the decision with respect to buyback makes everything else possible in terms of what then gets resolved.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, just to follow on Reuben's question, is radical Islam in your view the greatest domestic security threat Australia faces?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, the assessments are that, that is one of the issues that we're dealing with. But I want to deal with all of the threats, whether it be extremist perversions of Islam leading to support for the ideology promoted by ISIS, whether it be also concerned about the issue of sovereign citizens killing police in Victoria and Queensland. I'm concerned about neo-Nazis thinking it's okay to march down our streets dressed in black, not worrying about their faces being covered, explicitly promoting that as well. Some of these things are not new. James Saleam, National Action person, tried to kill Eddie Funde from the African National Congress. When I was a student, I was a candidate against that reprehensible fascist at Sydney University in 1983. This has been around a long period of time. Issues have escalated and we need to take action against all of them.

JOURNALIST: Prime Minister, I note your earlier comments about information sharing not being identified as an issue. What early consideration has been --

PRIME MINISTER: Well, I didn't say that. What I said was --

JOURNALIST: -- in response, okay. But on that point, what early consideration has been given to the current structures of our law enforcement and intelligence community? Was it a mistake to, after disbanding the Home Affairs model that was inherited, to then go back to it, now that that department is responsible for not only internal security and immigration, but social cohesion?

PRIME MINISTER: Well, we have continued to engage across government. But one of the five points that the National Cabinet agreed on was allowing additional use of criminal intelligence to underpin firearms licensing, for example. So, that instead of just looking at, does Andrew Greene have a record, that there be an analysis from intelligence agencies as well. That's a practical step going forward.

JOURNALIST: Commissioner Barrett, in terms of the operation in South West Sydney yesterday, do you believe that that potentially prevented another terrorist attack? And just in relation to the gun buyback, Prime Minister, will that be mandatory or voluntary?

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: As I said, it's an active and ongoing matter and there are people still in custody, so I won't speak specifically to that. What I will say though is it is an example of the high threat environment that we're operating in, and it's an example that the members of the public can be confident that police will take swift and decisive action. Yesterday afternoon was a clear example of that.

MINISTER BURKE: You have a legal change about access to weapons, then if people have more weapons than they are now legally able to have, then it is mandatory to hand them in.

JOURNALIST: If it is set at five in a particular state and someone has seven, they would have to forfeit two of those?

MINISTER BURKE: Yes. And so, that's what's now being negotiated with the states in terms of what those numbers should be on that principle. But effectively, if it becomes illegal to be holding the number of firearms that you hold, then at that point you have to dispose of it and the buyback scheme is the way that that would happen.

JOURNALIST: If someone had under the limit, but just wanted to take part in the buyback to sacrifice their guns, would that be a possibility?

MINISTER BURKE: These are issues that'll be worked through with states.

JOURNALIST: Minister Burke, you mentioned today that you're going to push hate speech laws to the absolute constitutional limit. Are you able to just elaborate on what that means and whether that could cover potential political parties like White Australia that are seeking to register, that the AEC doesn't have any control over? And Mr Albanese, I just want to ask, sorry, on a separate matter, do you have any more information about an Australian killed in Ukraine, fighting on the frontlines in Eastern Ukraine?

MINISTER BURKE: I'll start with my comments this morning that what I'm making clear is a determination from the Government, but I also said in that same interview that my first meeting with my officials, starting to work through the legal instructions on that, was yesterday. There'll be a lot more work being done on that.

PRIME MINISTER: I've been in the National Security Committee meeting this morning. If we have any further information, my office will update you. Thank you very much, everyone.

NSW Proposed Gun laws Media release - 19th Dec 2025

Ministerial media release

NSW Government to introduce toughest gun law reforms in a generation

Published:

19 December 2025

Released by:

The Premier, Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism

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The NSW Government will introduce tough new laws into NSW Parliament to significantly tighten gun laws and reduce the risk of mass violence, following the devastating terrorist attack at Bondi Beach.

The reforms respond directly to lessons from the attack, where the offender brought multiple firearms into a public place, and are designed to limit access to high-risk weapons, strengthen oversight and put community safety first.

If passed these reforms will ensure that NSW has the toughest laws in the country when it comes to firearms.

The new laws will include:

Capping and restricting the number and types of firearms:

- Imposing a cap of four firearms per individual, with strict exemptions for primary producers and sports shooters, who may hold a maximum of 10 firearms.
- Reclassifying straight-pull/pump-action and button/lever release firearms into Category C, limiting their access primarily to primary producers.
- Reducing magazine capacity for Category A and B firearms to a maximum of five to ten rounds, from a current unlimited capacity.
- Introducing a complete ban on firearms that can use belt-fed magazines.

Strengthening firearms licence checks and accountability:

- Removing the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal (NCAT) review pathway, ensuring we can use sensitive police intelligence without concern that a decision will be overturned by a tribunal, while retaining a robust internal review process to ensure fairness and accountability.

- Reducing standard firearms licence terms from five years to two years, increasing the frequency of safety and suitability checks.
- Restricting firearms licences to Australian citizens only, with a carve out for New Zealand permanent residents engaged in roles such as primary production or security.
- Replace a current exemption allowing unlicensed shooting at shooting ranges with a robust NSWPF permit system to suitably assess unlicensed individuals before they access firearms.

Strengthening oversight, storage and compliance:

- Making gun club membership mandatory for all firearms licence holders, with the ability to exempt certain licence holders in the regulations.
- Requiring all gun clubs to use the GunSafe online platform to improve record-keeping, compliance and traceability of club membership and activities.
- Making safe storage inspections mandatory prior to the issue of a first permit to acquire a firearm, individuals will now need to meet the safe keeping requirements before obtaining a permit to acquire a firearm.
- Prevent any permit or licence holder from acquiring a firearm unless the Commissioner is satisfied that they meet safe keeping requirements. Police may conduct an inspection for this purpose.
- Tightening rules around deceased estates, requiring firearms licence holders to nominate alternative storage arrangements for safe keeping of their firearms in the event of their death when applying for, or renewing, their licence. Police will also be able to seize these firearms, if required.

In addition to new legislation, the Government will move quickly on a range of practical changes, including:

- Expanding disqualifying offences in the regulations, including personal and domestic violence offences within the Crimes (Domestic and Personal Violence) Act 2007.
- Increasing the use of criminal intelligence in firearms licensing decisions.
- A comprehensive audit of existing firearms licences, prioritising higher-risk cases, noting that licence holders will now be subject to scrutiny on reapplication every two years, instead of five years.

A comprehensive buyback scheme will accompany these changes:

- These reforms will be paired with a buyback scheme, with further details to be announced before the changes are in force, in line the announcement by the Commonwealth Government.
- The NSW buyback scheme will be operated and funded in partnership with the Federal Government and AFP, to encourage gun owners to hand back guns that will now no longer be legal, to be destroyed.
- Existing unregistered firearms are already captured by the permanent national firearms amnesty and should be surrendered through that scheme.

The NSW Government will move to control access to all dangerous weapons - not just guns

- Consultation will commence around whether further knives or bladed articles should be made prohibited weapons under the Weapons Prohibition Act 1998, as well as how knives are stored in retail settings.

NSW Premier Chris Minns said:

“Gun reform alone will not solve hatred or extremism, but we can’t fail to act on restricting access to weapons which could lead to further violence against our citizens.

“We cannot undo what happened in Bondi, but we can act decisively to reduce the risk of this ever happening again.

"These reforms are about one thing: protecting people."

Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism Yasmin Catley said:

"These reforms are about putting the safety of the community above all else."

"Owning a firearm is a privilege, not a right and we are balancing that privilege with the overwhelming need for public safety."

"Our strong legislation reduces risk and increases oversight around firearms ownership with the aim of making this state safer for all."

Northern Territory – Media release by Chief Minister



Lia Finocchiaro
Chief Minister

Media Release

Territory first approach to national reforms

19 December 2025

National Cabinet and Police Ministers have met this week to progress work on any reforms needed to eradicate antisemitism, hate, violence and extremism. This work includes developing options to strengthen gun laws.

The Territory will meaningfully participate in the work ahead and bring to the national debate a uniquely Territory perspective.

We have commenced work on how we can strengthen powers for police to better target criminals and people of interest to federal authorities for violence, extremism, or risk to the community.

The Finocchiaro CLP Government also acknowledges the thousands of Territorians who legitimately own firearms as antique collectors, hunters, sports shooters and for work, who do not form part of our focus.

Chief Minister Lia Finocchiaro said, "The Northern Territory has a very different context to the larger states and will not blindly follow approaches designed for other jurisdictions. Instead, we will contribute meaningfully and make decisions on what is best for the Territory."

"We are particularly interested in better powers for police and the flow of information from federal intelligence agencies to support Territory police to take guns off threats and their families, and to stop people who may be a threat from getting a licence in the first place," Mrs Finocchiaro said.

The Territory already has a proactive regime of removing firearms from domestic violence offenders and is well advanced in its part of the National Firearms Register, which we welcome being fast-tracked.

NSW is forging ahead with its gun reforms next week, and we deeply respect their autonomy to do that.

"The Northern Territory doesn't have the same challenges as other parts of the nation, and I make no apologies for fighting for Territorians in the national debate," Mrs Finocchiaro said.

"Any reform in the Territory must be about putting the rights of Territorians to be safe above the rights of those who threaten our way of life, our freedoms and our community."

Media contact: Elle Arnold – 0408 663 361

Queensland – Signs on to gun ban limits, but antisemitism is bigger issue

Deputy Premier Jarrod Bleijie says of all national cabinet's proposals following the Bondi terror attack, Queensland has so far only committed to limits on gun ownership, as he insisted the biggest issue to tackle was antisemitism.

On Wednesday, Bleijie blamed the federal and former state Labor governments for failing to keep Jewish Australians safe, as Labor's state leader, Steven Miles, said he was ready to work with the premier to urgently change laws.

Sunday's attack on a Jewish Hanukkah event at the iconic Sydney beach saw the father-son gunmen allegedly kill 15 people and injure dozens more, setting off an outpouring of community fear, mourning, and calls for government action.



As police began to probe how and why the attack was carried out, national cabinet met on Monday, with all states and territories agreeing to work on options to strengthen gun laws.

Other proposals included limiting the maximum number of guns one person could own, limiting the types of guns deemed legal, and making Australian citizenship a condition of holding a gun licence.

However, Bleijie told reporters in Brisbane on Wednesday that so far, Queensland had only "signed on" to changing possession limits.

"But now we are calmly going through those reforms, and what those reforms look like in each jurisdiction. Each jurisdiction has different gun laws that apply," Bleijie said.

"Yes, there should be gun law reform, but as people, including former prime minister John Howard, said yesterday, let's not let gun reform be the be-all and end-all of the bigger issue here ... that is, the rising antisemitism in Australia, and the fact that we've got a federal government and a former state Labor government that allowed it to happen."

Bleijie did not say how many guns a single person would be allowed to own under new limits, or when this would be legislated. A recent inquest also recommended new laws to require mental health checks for gun owners.

NSW Premier Chris Minns will recall parliament next week to pass reforms said to give his state the strictest gun laws in the country after it emerged that one of the shooters, 50-year-old Sajid Akram, held a NSW gun licence for the six firearms he and his son, Naveed, allegedly used in the attack.

Minns is also considering a ban on protests while the state is under a terrorism designation, and has said the West Australian cap of five guns was too high. The NSW state Liberal opposition has committed to work with Minns, but also warned about gun laws being a distraction.

Queensland Premier David Crisafulli said on Tuesday that his government would be considering further reforms to address antisemitism, without providing detail.

On Wednesday, Bleijie said he was unaware of the NSW plans and would not be drawn on whether the Crisafulli government would recall state parliament before a scheduled return in mid-February.

Speaking just an hour after Bleijie, state Opposition Leader Steven Miles – in his first media conference since the attack – said the hearts of his team were with the Jewish community.

“We also, as the Queensland Labor team, stand ready to work with the Crisafulli government on sensible reforms to ensure that an incident like this can never happen again,” Miles said, citing the recall of the NSW parliament.

“If David Crisafulli was anything like the kind of leader that John Howard was, he would be moving swiftly now, responding to these calls to get dangerous guns out of the hands of extremists and implement these reforms.”

Miles said such changes should include national cabinet’s proposals, those being acted on in NSW, and the Wieambilla inquest’s calls, adding that governments could, and must, address both gun laws and antisemitism.

“I don’t think politicians should be blaming each other rather than acting in ways that we know will help,” he said.

In a statement on Wednesday, Queensland’s peak farmers body, AgForce, said any gun law changes needed to focus on preventing violent criminal acts rather than burdening law-abiding gun owners who rely on them for their livelihoods.

Tasmania “won’t ban” guns for recreational shooters

Tasmania 'won't ban' guns for recreational shooters

The minority Liberal government needs to keep crossbenchers happy, but while Mr Di Falco is resisting changes, the Tasmanian Greens, who have five of the eleven crossbenchers, have called for tighter rules around gun ownership.

The Tasmanian government has agreed to a national approach to any changes.

In a statement, Premier Jeremy Rockliff said the government would "continue to work with the federal government in a careful and considered manner on this issue".

But he drew the line at getting rid of recreational licences.

"We will not be banning gun ownership for recreational shooters."

Government minister Jane Howlett said there would be "no changes as far as our recreational shooters are concerned".

"It's very important for our deer control, vermin control and recreational shooters, it's a sport ... and we're very supportive of our recreational hunters," Ms Howlett said.

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SA Members House of Assembly - 2025

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AS AT Friday 19 September 2025 - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Member Update

In the current regulatory climate, there is significant activity and discussion occurring across the firearms sector. The information in this bulletin has been provided by the Combined Firearms Council (CFC), and SAFGA acknowledges and appreciates the extensive work being undertaken to keep member organisations informed and up to date.

CFC Executives have worked tirelessly with **very little** or **NO sleep** to compile and distribute timely information on behalf of all member organisations, and we thank CFC for their efforts.

Over the coming days/weeks, further clarity is expected following recent legislative developments in New South Wales, with additional updates anticipated from National Cabinet.

Through ongoing and extensive meetings within SAFGA and with key external stakeholders, we remain committed to keeping members informed as developments occur. Please be assured that the State Board and its appointed delegates continue to work diligently behind the scenes on your behalf.

SAFGA — Working for You

Phillip Papaioannou
State Secretary

Letter to SA Government - 2025



South Australian Field & Game Association Inc.

"The wildlife of today is not ours to dispose of as we please. We have it in trust. We must account for it to those who come after."

King George VI

PO Box 1438
Mt Gambier SA 5290
E: secretary@safga.org.au

29 December 2025

Hon Peter Malinauskas MP
Premier of South Australia
Email to: premier@sa.gov.au

Dear Premier,

Firearms Reforms – Consultation with Lawful Firearms Organisations

The Association notes recent statements by the Prime Minister and other political leaders regarding reviews of firearms legislation in various Australian jurisdictions, and the subsequent changes to firearms laws in New South Wales.

However, before addressing this topic, may I first say that the Association abhors and totally rejects the extreme violence and anti-Semitism that occurred recently at Bondi Beach. On behalf of the Association's members I extend heartfelt condolences and sincere sympathy to the families and others affected by this tragic event. Such violence and extremism have no place in our society.

In South Australia we operate under a comprehensive and robust firearms regulatory framework. Where applicable, this includes stringent "fit and proper person" requirements, licensing eligibility checks, background screening, firearms and ammunition storage requirements, compliance inspections, and mandatory membership of recognised firearms clubs. Collectively, these measures ensure a strong and effective balance between responsible firearms ownership and public safety.

The South Australian Field and Game Association has a proud history, and has been actively involved in sporting, conservation, and hunting activities since 1962. Our members lawfully use a variety of firearms and calibres for distinct purposes, including competitive target shooting, conservation wildlife management, and pest and vermin control. As such, a "one-size-fits-all" approach to firearms ownership and usage does not reflect operational realities and would severely impact our members and other organisations with similar lawful objectives.

It has been almost thirty years since the Port Arthur tragedy. Whether the major changes made to firearms legislation subsequent to that event have worked well, or have had little impact, is a matter of opinion. But the point is, those changes followed lengthy consideration and public debate.

Clearly, there has been neither time, nor an appropriate investigative structure established, to properly analyse the Bondi tragedy. Thus, the Association is very concerned that within ten days of the Bondi tragedy the New South Wales parliament has passed new laws impacting on the ownership and usage of firearms.

In the context of Port Arthur, and in the context of responsible and considered decision making, the NSW changes can only be seen as being a knee jerk reaction with virtually no evidence to support them. We note that the governments of Queensland, Tasmania, and the Northern Territory have rejected the NSW approach.

Mr Premier, we would not like to see a lack of proper process, such as we have just witnessed in NSW, be emulated in South Australia. Should the government consider that a review of SA firearms legislation is necessary I advise that the Association would be pleased to co-operate with that review. We believe that consultation and open dialogue with affected stakeholders are important factors in any review.

The Association remains willing to participate in constructive consultation and be part of any solution that genuinely enhances public safety while preserving the rights of lawful firearms owners to the greatest extent possible.

We appreciate the Government's consideration of our concerns and would welcome the opportunity to provide further input if required.

Yours sincerely,



Charles Wallis
President
Email: president@safga.org.au

CC:
The Hon Kyam Maher MLC, Attorney-General of South Australia
Email: attorneygeneral@sa.gov.au

Grant Stevens APM, Commissioner of Police
Email: sapol.enquiries@police.sa.gov.au

Terrorism and other Legislation Amendment Bill – 2025
Statement of Public Interest



Statement of Public Interest

Tabled by... *Ms. Stange*

TERRORISM AND OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL 2025

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC INTEREST

Clerk of the Parliament

Need: Why is the policy needed based on factual evidence and stakeholder input?

The *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act) sets the legal framework governing firearms possession and use in NSW. It confirms that firearm possession and use is a privilege, and conditional on the overriding need to ensure public safety.

The underlying principles of the Act include improving public safety by imposing strict controls on possessing and using firearms and promoting the safe and responsible usage of firearms. It also aims to facilitate a national approach to the control of firearms.

The Act came into force on 1 July 1997, as part of a nation-wide, bi-partisan commitment to introduce stricter gun control laws in response to the Port Arthur massacre. While these reforms were significant, they were enacted nearly thirty years ago. In this time, new and serious threats to community safety have emerged. On 14 December 2025, a terrorist attack was perpetrated against Jewish members of the NSW community at Bondi Beach, Sydney, taking 15 lives, and injuring many others. This attack has demonstrated the need for NSW to reconsider its laws, and strengthen them to protect the community and minimise the risk of similar events occurring.

The reforms in the *Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025* respond directly to lessons from the attack, where the offender brought multiple firearms into a public place. They are designed to limit access to high-risk weapons, strengthen oversight of firearms licensees, and put community safety first.

The reforms will deliver on several of National Cabinet's commitments to strengthen gun laws across Australia in response to the Bondi terrorist attack, and recommendations from the Inquest into the deaths of John, Jack and Jennifer Edwards (Edwards Coronial Inquiry) and the Audit Office of NSW.

Over the years, the NSW Police Force has also identified some legislative enhancements that would better protect community safety and strengthen the operation of the Act.

In addition, in the aftermath of terrorist incidents, community cohesion can be fragile. Mass public assemblies, such as protests or demonstrations, may be divisive and can give rise to safety concerns, both for those participating in such assemblies, as well as members of certain community groups that may be perceived to be targeted, and those in the vicinity of large assemblies. Large gatherings may also block roads and impede police and emergency vehicles, when urgent action may be required to keep the community safe. Following the terrorist incident at Bondi Beach, community members have highlighted such assemblies and the conduct therein may inflame tensions and further fear and social disharmony, and may pose a risk to public safety.

Objectives: What is the policy's objective couched in terms of the public interest?

As of December 2025, there were over 250,000 firearms licence holders and over 1 million registered firearms in NSW. This means that 1 in 7 NSW residents have a firearms licence, and licensees have 4.5 firearms each on average.

It is in the public interest for the community to be safe from violence, including where perpetrated using firearms. The Bill seeks to reduce the risk of such violence by reducing the number of firearms in the community and imposing stricter controls on firearms possession and use.

The reforms will achieve this objective by:

- Limiting the overall number of firearms that an individual can possess and use, with a standard cap of four firearms per individual unless a different limit applies.
- Further restricting the types of firearms that people can possess and use, including by applying more restrictive licence categories to certain firearms.
- Strengthening the firearms licence and permit application and renewal process, including through more frequent licence renewals and preventing permits from being issued unless applicants can meet safe keeping requirements.
- Enhancing the operation of approved clubs and approved shooting ranges.

Additionally, Public Assembly Restriction Declarations are a tool which will facilitate general limitations on public assemblies (such as protests) in a designated area that are likely to cause fear of harassment, intimidation, violence, threats to safety; or that pose a risk to community safety. This scheme furthers the public interest in ensuring safety at times of heightened risk following a terrorist incident.

The prohibition on the public display of symbols of prohibited terrorist organisations and the ability for police to require masked attendees at public assemblies who are suspected of an offence to remove their face mask aim to set strong standards and increase community safety.

Options: What alternative policies and mechanisms were considered in advance of the bill?

The Bill has been developed rapidly in direct response to lessons from the Bondi attack. Given its urgency, there has been limited opportunity to consider alternative policies and mechanisms. Some of the various alternative policies and mechanisms considered include:

- Whether the policy outcome can be achieved through mechanisms rather than legislation.
- Variations on some of the reforms in the Bill.

It was determined however that alternative mechanisms were insufficient in order to advance the policy intent contained in the Bill. The limits of firearms, licence settings and provisions relating to review mechanisms, for example, are contained in the Act itself and must be amended through legislation. National Cabinet made a decision to lower the limit of firearms held by any one person, limit open-ended firearms licencing and the types of guns that are legal, make Australian citizenship a condition of holding a firearm license and allow additional use of criminal intelligence to underpin firearms licencing. These reforms can only be achieved by legislative reform.

In relation to legislative reform on public assemblies and displaying terrorist organisation symbols, consideration was given as to whether existing discretionary mechanisms would be sufficient. However, it was determined that a legislative gap remained in the ability to restrict public assemblies for a limited time, ban terror symbols in NSW and provide police adequate powers to identify people, and the amendments in the Bill are specifically tailored to address that gap.

Analysis: What were the pros/cons and benefits/costs of each option considered?

Achieving the policy outcome through alternative mechanisms

Alternative mechanisms may include changes to the *Firearms Regulation 2017* (the Regulation) rather than to the Act, or amending operational policy in lieu of legislation. The benefits of this approach are that existing legislative settings are well understood by firearms licensees and other impacted stakeholders, and this may involve fewer direct changes to those settings. However, this is outweighed by the fact that the reforms are either direct changes to existing legislative provisions; or are significant policy matters which should be set out in primary legislation.

The proposed legislative settings are based on current available evidence, the views of impacted stakeholders, decisions from National Cabinet, and recommendations from the Edwards Coronial Inquiry and the Audit Office of NSW. The NSW Government therefore considers these reforms offer the greatest benefits for protecting public safety.

Pathway: What are the timetable and steps for the policy's rollout and who will administer it?

Most proposed changes to the Act and Regulation in relation to firearms are proposed to commence upon proclamation, except two. This will enable time for the NSW Police Force to make necessary operational changes to implement the reform, and provide time for consultation to take place on the final form of the Regulations.

The precise timeframes for implementation will be considered closely following passage of the Bill. The Government will work closely with impacted agencies and stakeholders to plan for implementation of these amendments.

These reforms will be paired with a buyback scheme, with further details to be announced before the changes are in force, in line the announcement by the Commonwealth Government.

The provisions relating to the availability of external reviews by the NSW Civil and Administrative Tribunal will commence on assent. Additionally, from the time of assent to the commencement of the limit on the number of firearms, licensees will not be able to apply for permits to acquire a firearm if that would put them in excess of their limit.

The provisions for public assembly restriction declarations and associated reforms will commence on assent. They will be implemented by the NSW Police Force as the operational agency responsible for use of declarations and any powers which follow.

Consultation: Were views of affected stakeholders sought and considered in making the policy?

The reforms in the Bill deliver on several of National Cabinet's commitments to strengthen gun laws across Australia in response to the Bondi terrorist attack, and recommendations from the Edwards Coronial Inquiry and the Audit Office of NSW.

While the NSW Government has not formally conducted public consultation, noting the urgency of these reforms, it has considered the views of affected stakeholders in developing the Bill.

Further policy changes to the *Firearms Regulation 2017* will be needed to support and further operationalise the reforms. The Government will undertake appropriate stakeholder consultation through this process.

Terrorism and other Legislation Amendment Bill – 2025

Passed by both Houses



New South Wales

Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

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I have examined this bill and find it to correspond in all respects with the bill as finally passed by both Houses.

Assistant Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

New South Wales

Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment
Bill 2025

Act No , 2025

I certify that this public bill, which originated in the Legislative Assembly, has finally passed the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.

Legislative Assembly,

Sydney, 2025

An Act to amend legislation administered by the Minister for Police and Counter-terrorism and the Attorney General regarding terrorism and related matters.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—

1 Name of Act

This Act is the Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025.

2 Commencement

This Act commences as follows—

- (a) for Schedules 2[1]–[23], [25]–[31] and [32] to the extent it inserts clauses 37, 39–42, 45 and 46, and 3[1]–[7]—on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation,
- (b) otherwise—on the date of assent to this Act.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 1 Amendment of Crimes Act 1900 No 40

Schedule 1 Amendment of Crimes Act 1900 No 40

Part 3A Offences relating to public order

Insert after section 93ZA—

Division 10 Display of prohibited terrorist organisation symbols

93ZB Offence of displaying prohibited terrorist organisation symbols

(1) A person who knowingly displays, by public act and without reasonable excuse, a prohibited terrorist organisation symbol commits an offence.

Maximum penalty—

- (a) for an individual—200 penalty units or imprisonment for 2 years, or both, or
- (b) for a corporation—1,000 penalty units.

(2) Without limiting subsection (1), a reasonable excuse includes the display of a prohibited terrorist organisation symbol, done reasonably and in good faith—

- (a) for an academic, artistic or educational purpose, or
- (b) for another purpose in the public interest.

(3) In this section—

Commonwealth Criminal Code means the Criminal Code set out in the Schedule to the Criminal Code Act 1995 of the Commonwealth.

prohibited terrorist organisation symbol has the same meaning as in the

Commonwealth Criminal Code, section 80.2E(3).
public act has the same meaning as in section 93Z.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

[1] Section 4 Definitions

Insert in alphabetical order in section 4(1)—

button/lever release firearm means a self-ejecting, lever, button or similar release repeating firearm that operates using the energy of the firearm discharge to perform some of the cycle of operation.

cycle of operation, in relation to a button/lever release firearm, means the following—

- (a) the automatic unlocking, extraction and ejection of the fired cartridge case after discharge,
- (b) the cocking of the hammer or firing pin,
- (c) the locking rearwards of the mechanism under spring tension until the lever, button or similar release is depressed or moved, causing the mechanism to move forward, feed a cartridge and lock, enabling the firearm to be ready to discharge a subsequent shot when the trigger is depressed.

semi-automatic air gun means an air gun that contains a magazine or cylinder and can discharge subsequent pellets without mechanical action by the shooter other than depressing the trigger.

straight pull/pump action firearm means a straight pull or pump action repeating rifle, shotgun or other firearm—

- (a) in which the action is cycled using a linear motion using the shooter's hand on a handle, bolt or other part, and
- (b) that does not require rotation during unlocking and locking as in a traditional bolt action repeating firearm when cycling the action.

[2] Section 6B Exemption for unlicensed persons shooting on approved ranges and for persons undertaking firearms safety training courses

Omit the section.

[3] Section 8 Licence categories and authority conferred by licence

Omit the following from section 8(1), matter under the heading Category A licence—

- air rifles
- rimfire rifles (other than self-loading)
- shotguns (other than pump action, lever action or self-loading)
- shotgun/rimfire rifle combinations.

Insert instead—

- air rifles (other than self-loading) with a magazine capacity of no more than 10 rounds
- rimfire rifles (other than self-loading, pump action, straight pull, button/lever release) with a magazine capacity of no more than 10 rounds
- shotguns (other than pump action, straight pull, button/lever release, lever action or self-loading) with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds
- shotgun/rimfire rifle combinations that do not have a magazine
- shotgun/rimfire rifle combinations with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

[4] Section 8(1), Category B licence

Insert “with a magazine capacity of no more than 10 rounds” after “self-loading)”.

[5] Section 8(1), Category B licence

Omit “5 rounds.”. Insert instead—

5 rounds

- semi-automatic air guns.

[6] Section 8(1), Category C licence (prohibited except for limited purposes)

Insert after “Firearms to which the licence applies:”—

- straight pull/pump action firearms (rimfire rifles, centre-fire rifles and shotguns)
- button/lever release firearms (rimfire rifles, centre-fire rifles and shotguns)

[7] Section 8(1), Category C licence (prohibited except for limited purposes)

Omit “or 11”. Insert instead “, 11 or 19”.

[8] Section 8(1), Category D licence (prohibited except for official purposes)

Omit “or 10”. Insert instead “, 10 or 19”.

[9] Section 8A

Insert after section 8—

8A Authority conferred by licence—limitation on number of firearms possessed by individuals across all licence categories

(1) A licence that authorises the licensee to possess and use firearms authorises the licensee to possess and use firearms subject to the following limitations, if any, on the number of firearms that may be possessed and used by the licensee—

(a) for a licensee who possesses and uses firearms for any of the following genuine reasons—no more than 10 firearms—

- (i) primary production,
- (ii) occupational requirements relating to rural purposes,
- (iii) animal welfare,

(b) for a licensee who possesses and uses firearms for the genuine reason of sport/target shooting, vertebrate pest animal control or business or employment—no more than the greater of—

- (i) 10 firearms, or
- (ii) the number of firearms approved by the Commissioner in accordance with the regulations,

(c) a firearms dealer licence—no limitation,

(d) a firearms collector licence—no limitation,

(e) a person who is a member of a class of persons prescribed by the regulations for this paragraph—no more than 10 firearms,

(f) otherwise—4 firearms.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

(2) If more than one paragraph of subsection (1) applies to the licensee, the number of firearms the licensee may possess and use is the highest number of firearms permitted under the applicable paragraphs.

[10] Section 10 Applications for licences
Omit section 10(2)(b). Insert instead—

(b) provide consents, documents and other information to allow the Commissioner to verify the applicant's identity—

- (i) using an identity verification service within the meaning of the Identity Verification Services Act 2023 of the Commonwealth, or
- (ii) using another process or means determined by the Commissioner, and

(b1) if the applicant is a natural person—provide the information required under section 10A, and

[11] Section 10(2A)

Insert after section 10(2)—

(2A) If the applicant does not provide consents, documents or other information required under subsection (2)(b) within the period required by the Commissioner, the applicant's application is taken to have been withdrawn by the applicant.

[12] Section 10A

Insert after section 10—

10A Additional information required for natural persons

(1) For section 10(2)(b1), the person applying for the licence must nominate an alternative arrangement for the possession of the firearms the person will possess under authority of the licence if the licence is granted and the person dies.

(2) The alternative arrangement must be one of the following—

(a) the executor or administrator of the person's deceased estate will surrender the firearms to a police station as soon as practicable after the person's death,

(b) the nomination of a licensee, who is authorised to possess the same category of firearm as the licensee, to take possession of the firearms until the earlier of the following occurs—

(i) the executor or administrator of the person's estate lawfully disposes of the firearms,

(ii) the end of the period of 6 months after the person's death,

(c) the nomination of a firearms dealer, who is authorised by the firearms dealer's licence to possess the firearms, to take possession of the firearms until the earlier of the following occurs—

(i) the executor or administrator of the person's estate lawfully disposes of the firearms,

(ii) the end of the period of 6 months after the person's death.

Note— See section 82A, which provides for deceased estates and matters relating to the executor or administrator of an estate of a person who was authorised by a licence or permit to possess a firearm.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

(3) To avoid doubt, this section extends to an application for the renewal of a licence.

[13] Section 11 General restrictions on issue of licences

Insert before section 11(3)(a)—

(a1) the Commissioner is satisfied the applicant's identity has been verified,
and

[14] Section 11(3)(d) and (e)

Omit section 11(3)(d). Insert instead—

(d) the Commissioner is satisfied with the alternative arrangements
nominated by the applicant under section 10A, including that if another
licensee will take possession of the firearms, the other licensee will
meet the requirements under Part 4, and

(e) the Commissioner is satisfied the applicant is—

(i) an Australian citizen or a person referred to in subsection (4A),

and

(ii) a resident of the State or about to become a resident of the State.

[15] Section 11(4A)

Insert after section 11(4)—

(4A) For subsection (3)(e)(i), the persons are—

(a) a person—

(i) who is a New Zealand citizen and a permanent resident of
Australia, and

(ii) whose genuine reason for having a licence is any of the
following—

(A) primary production,

(B) vertebrate pest animal control,

(C) business or employment,

(D) occupational requirements relating to rural purposes,

(E) animal welfare,

(F) another genuine reason prescribed by the regulations, or

(b) a person who is a member of a class of persons prescribed by the
regulations for this paragraph.

[16] Section 19 Conditions of licence

Insert before section 19(2)(a)—

(a1) the licensee must be—

(i) a member of a club approved by the Commissioner in accordance
with the regulations, or

(ii) exempted, in accordance with the regulations, from the
requirement to be a member of a club referred to in subparagraph

(i),

Note— A club may include a shooting club, hunting club or collectors' society
or club.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

[17] Section 21 Term of licence

Omit "5 years" from section 21(1). Insert instead "2 years".

[18] Section 21(2)(a)

Omit ", 2 years or 5 years". Insert instead "or 2 years".

[19] Section 26 Recognition of interstate licences for certain purposes

Insert "and an Australian citizen" after "resident of another State or Territory" wherever
occurring in section 26(1)(a) and (2).

[20] Section 27 Interstate residents moving to this State

Insert "an Australian citizen and" after "who is" wherever occurring in section 27(1) and
(3).

[21] Section 29 General restrictions on issue of permits

Insert after section 29(3)(a)—

(a1) is not an Australian citizen or a person referred to in section 11(4A), or

[22] Section 30 General provisions relating to permits

Insert after section 30(1)—

(1A) An applicant for a permit must provide consents, documents and other information to allow the Commissioner to verify the applicant's identity—

(a) using an identity verification service within the meaning of the Identity Verification Services Act 2023 of the Commonwealth, or

(b) using another process or means decided by the Commissioner.

(1B) If the applicant does not provide consents, documents or other information required under subsection (1A) within the period required by the Commissioner, the applicant's application is taken to have been withdrawn by the applicant.

[23] Section 31 Permits to acquire firearms

Omit section 31(3). Insert instead—

(3) The Commissioner must not issue a permit authorising a person to acquire a firearm unless—

(a) the person is the holder of a licence or permit authorising the person to use or possess the firearm, and

(b) the Commissioner is satisfied—

(i) the person has a good reason for acquiring the firearm, and

(ii) the acquisition of the firearm would not result in the person possessing or using more firearms than the total number of firearms the person's licence authorises the person to possess or use, and

Note— See section 8A, which provides for the total number of firearms a licensee may possess and use under the authority of the licensee's licence.

(iii) the person will meet the storage and safety requirements set out in Part 4 for the firearm, and

(iv) the person—

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

(A) to the Commissioner's knowledge, has never been investigated by a Commonwealth or State law enforcement or intelligence agency for terrorism-related offences or for association with members of a prescribed terrorist organisation under the Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995, and

(B) to the Commissioner's knowledge, is not an associate or does not reside at the same residential dwelling as someone who has been investigated by a Commonwealth or State law enforcement or intelligence agency—

(I) for terrorism-related offences, or

(II) for associating with members of a prescribed terrorist organisation under the Commonwealth Criminal Code Act 1995.

[24] Part 8

Omit the part. Insert instead—

Part 8 Review of decisions

75 Administrative reviews by Civil and Administrative Tribunal of certain decisions regarding firearms prohibition orders

(1) A person may apply to the Civil and Administrative Tribunal for an administrative review under the Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997 of a decision to make a firearms prohibition order made against the person.

(2) Despite subsection (1), a person may not apply for a review of a firearms prohibition order made against the person if the person would be required under section 11(5) or 29(3) to be refused a licence or permit (a disqualified person) had the person not been subject to a firearms prohibition order.

(3) However, the decision to make a firearms prohibition order against a disqualified person is taken to be an administratively reviewable decision for the Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997, section 53 and that section applies, with any necessary modifications, in relation to the decision to make the order.

(4) Subsection (2) does not apply to a person who is a disqualified person only because the person is less than 18 years of age.

(5) In determining an application for an administrative review under this section, the Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and any Appeal Panel of the Tribunal in determining an internal appeal against a review under the Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 2013—

(a) must ensure that the Tribunal or Appeal Panel does not, in the reasons for the Tribunal's or Appeal Panel's decision or otherwise, disclose the existence or content of any criminal intelligence report or other information to which the Commissioner has had regard in making the firearms prohibition order, and

(b) must receive evidence and hear argument in the absence of the public, the applicant for the administrative review and the applicant's representative to prevent the disclosure of a report or other information referred to in paragraph (a).

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

75A Internal review of certain other decisions

(1) The Administrative Decisions Review Act 1997, section 53 applies, with any necessary modifications, to the following decisions as if the decisions were administratively reviewable decisions within the meaning of that Act—

(a) the refusal of or failure by the Commissioner to issue a licence or permit, other than a permit for a prohibited firearm, to the person,

(b) a condition imposed by the Commissioner on a licence or permit issued to the person,

(c) the revocation of a licence or permit issued to the person, other than a revocation on the basis the holder of the licence or permit is subject to a firearms prohibition order, an apprehended violence order or a serious domestic abuse prevention order,

(d) the refusal of or failure by the Commissioner to register a firearm,

(e) the cancellation of the registration of a firearm by the Commissioner,

(f) a decision made under the regulations about the person that belongs to a class of decisions prescribed by the regulations for this paragraph.

(2) Despite subsection (1), a regulation referred to in subsection (1)(f) may limit the class of persons who may make an application for an administrative review of a decision referred to in that paragraph.

[25] Section 78 Arrangements for online services

Omit "but a person cannot be required to use online service arrangements" from section 78(2).

[26] Section 81 Delegation

Insert after section 81(1)—

(1A) The Commissioner's functions under section 11(5A) or 29(3A) may be delegated to a police officer of or above the rank of Assistant Commissioner.

[27] Section 81(2)

Insert “, other than functions under section 11(5A) or 29(3A),” after “delegated by the Commissioner”.

[28] Section 82A Deceased estates

Insert after section 82A(2)(a)—

(a1) comply with the alternative arrangements nominated by the licensee under section 10A, unless the executor or administrator has a reasonable excuse, and

[29] Section 82A(2A) and (2B)

Insert after section 82A(2)—

(2A) The limitation on the number of firearms a person may possess does not apply to the executor or administrator to the extent the limitation is exceeded because the executor or administrator is in possession of the firearm for the purpose of surrendering the firearm to a police station or otherwise lawfully disposing of the firearm.

(2B) A police officer is authorised to seize a firearm the subject of a notification to the Commissioner under subsection (2)(a).

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Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

[30] Section 82B

Insert after section 82A—

82B Deceased estates—related matters

(1) This section applies if—

(a) a licensee (the first licensee) nominated another licensee (the second licensee) to take possession of the first licensee's firearm in the event of the first licensee's death, and

(b) the first licensee has died, and

(c) the second licensee has applied for and been issued with a permit to acquire the firearm, and

(d) the second licensee has taken possession of the first licensee's firearm.

(2) If taking possession of the first licensee's firearm would cause the second licensee to exceed the maximum number of firearms the second licensee is authorised to possess under authority of the second licensee's licence, the second licensee must do one of the following as soon as practicable—

(a) surrender the firearm to a police station,

(b) give possession of the firearm to a firearms dealer who is authorised by the firearms dealer's licence to possess the category of firearm.

(3) The second licensee does not commit an offence under section 7 or 7A in relation to the possession of the firearm if the second licensee retains possession of the firearm for subsection (2).

[31] Schedule 1 Prohibited firearms

Insert after item 18—

19 Any firearm that can use any of the following ammunition sources outside of a detachable or fixed magazine—

(a) a link ammunition source,

(b) a belt ammunition source,

(c) an ammunition source that is similar to a link or belt ammunition

source.

[32] Schedule 3 Savings and transitional provisions

Insert after Part 12—

Part 13 Provisions consequent on enactment of Terrorism

and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025

36 Definition

In this part—

amendment Act means the Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025.

37 Applications for new categories of licence

(1) This clause applies if—

(a) before the commencement of a relevant amendment, a licensee was authorised to possess and use a firearm under a particular category of licence, and

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Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

(b) on the commencement of the relevant amendment, a different category of licence will be required to possess and use the firearm, and

(c) before the commencement of the relevant amendment, the licensee applies for a licence of the category that, under this Act as amended by the relevant amendment, will be required for the licensee to possess and use the firearm.

(2) Despite the commencement of the relevant amendment, the licensee's existing licence continues to authorise the licensee to possess and use the firearm until the application is determined by the Commissioner.

(3) In this clause—

relevant amendment means an amendment made to section 8 by the amendment Act, Schedule 2.

38 Maximum number of firearms

(1) The licensee must not, during the relevant period, apply for a permit to acquire a firearm if the granting of the application would mean the number of firearms possessed and used by the licensee would exceed the maximum number of firearms the licensee will be permitted to possess and use under section 8A, as inserted by the amendment Act, after the commencement of that section.

(2) An application for a permit made contrary to subclause (1) is taken never to have been made and is of no effect.

(3) In this clause—

relevant period means the period—

(a) starting on the date of assent to the amendment Act, and

(b) ending on the day on which section 8A, as inserted by the amendment Act, commences.

39 Identity verification—existing applications

(1) This clause applies to an application for a licence or permit, including the renewal of a licence or permit, made but not determined before the commencement.

(2) The application must be determined as if the amendments made to section 10 or 30 by the amendment Act had not commenced.

40 Term of existing licences

Section 21, as in force before the commencement of the amendment Act, continues to apply to a licence in force before that commencement.

41 Existing licences and permits held by non-Australian citizens

(1) This clause applies to a licence or permit in force immediately before the commencement that was held by a person who is not an Australian citizen.

(2) From the commencement, the licence or permit ceases to have effect.

(3) No compensation is payable in relation to the cessation of a licence or permit under this clause.

(4) In this clause—

commencement means the commencement of this clause.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 2 Amendment of Firearms Act 1996 No 46

42 Storage and safety requirements

(1) The amendment made to section 31 by the amendment Act apply to an application for a permit made on or after the commencement.

(2) In this clause—

commencement means the commencement of this clause.

43 Administrative reviews by Civil and Administrative Tribunal—firearms prohibition orders

(1) An application to the Civil and Administrative Tribunal under Part 8 in relation to a firearms prohibition order decision made, but not finally determined, before the commencement is taken to continue under section 75 as in force immediately before the commencement.

(2) In this clause—

commencement means the commencement of this clause.

firearms prohibition order decision means a decision in relation to a firearms prohibition order made against a person.

44 Review rights for certain other decisions

(1) An application to the Civil and Administrative Tribunal under Part 8 in relation to a relevant decision made, but not finally determined, before the commencement is taken to have been withdrawn by the person who made the application.

(2) In this clause—

commencement means the commencement of this clause.

relevant decision means a decision other than a decision to make a firearms prohibition order against a person.

45 Exemption for unlicensed shooting for persons undertaking firearms safety training courses

(1) This clause applies to a person who, before the commencement, was exempt from any requirement under this Act to be authorised by a licence or permit to possess or use a firearm while participating in a firearms safety training course because of the operation of section 6B(1)(b) as in force before its repeal.

(2) From the commencement, section 6B as in force immediately before its repeal continues to apply to the person but only until the person completes the firearms safety training course referred to in that section.

(3) In this clause—

commencement means the commencement of this clause.

46 Seizure of firearms—deceased estates

Section 82A(2A), as inserted by the amendment Act, extends to a firearm in the possession of any person who has died and was authorised by a licence or permit to possess the firearm, whether the person died before or after the commencement of section 82A(2A).

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 3 Amendment of Firearms Regulation 2017

Schedule 3 Amendment of Firearms Regulation 2017

[1] Clause 8 Term of licence

Omit clause 8(1)–(3) and (4).

[2] Clause 8(3A)

Omit “, 2 years or 5 years”. Insert instead “or 2 years”.

[3] Clause 22 Application for permit—proof of identity

Omit the clause.

[4] Clause 24 Term of permit

Omit “5 years”. Insert instead “2 years”.

[5] Clause 28A Licences and permits extend to authorise sighting in, patterning and related activities

Omit clause 28A(4).

[6] Clause 94 Special conditions relating to shooting ranges

Omit “(unless the person’s use of the firearm is exempt under section 6B of the Act from the requirement to be authorised by a licence or permit)” from clause 94(1)(a).

[7] Clauses 128 and 129

Omit the clauses.

[8] Clause 154, heading

Omit “to Civil and Administrative Tribunal under section 75 (1) (g)”.

Insert instead “for internal review under section 75A(1)(f)”.

[9] Clause 154(1)

Omit “section 75 (1) (g)”. Insert instead “section 75A(1)(f)”.

[10] Clause 154(2)

Omit “to the Civil and Administrative Tribunal under section 75 (1) (g)”.

Insert instead “for internal review under section 75A(1)(f)”.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 4 Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 No 103

Schedule 4 Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and

Responsibilities) Act 2002 No 103

[1] Section 19A Power of police officer to require removal of face coverings for identification purposes

Omit “particulars.” from section 19A(1)(b). Insert instead—

particulars, or

(c) the person is participating in a protest, demonstration, procession or assembly and the officer reasonably suspects the person may have, or is likely to, commit an offence.

[2] Section 19A(3) and (4)

Omit “this section” wherever occurring. Insert instead “subsection (1)(a) or (b)”.

[3] Section 19B Failure to remove face covering

Insert “or 19A(1)(c)” after “section 14” in section 19B(1), penalty, paragraph (a).

[4] Section 200 Limitation on exercise of police powers under this Part

Omit “subsection (3) or (4)” from section 200(2). Insert instead “subsection (3)–(5)”.

[5] Section 200(5)

Insert after section 200(4)—

(5) A police officer is not precluded from giving a direction in relation to a demonstration, protest, procession or assembly referred to in subsection (2)(a)–(c) if the demonstration, protest, procession or assembly is being held in an area the subject of a public assembly restriction declaration made under the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, Part 2, Division 3A while the declaration is in force.

[6] Schedule 5 Savings, transitional and other provisions

Insert at the end of the schedule, with appropriate part and clause numbering—
Part Provision consequent on enactment of Terrorism
and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025

Directions in relation to demonstrations, protests, processions or assemblies
in areas subject to public assembly restriction declarations

(1) Section 200(5), as inserted by the Terrorism and Other Legislation
Amendment Act 2025, Schedule 4[5], extends to a demonstration, protest,
procession or assembly being held in an area the subject of a public assembly
restriction declaration made in relation to a terrorism incident that occurred
before the commencement of Schedule 4[5].

(2) In this clause—

public assembly restriction declaration means a public assembly restriction
declaration made under the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, Part 2,
Division 3A.

terrorism incident means a terrorist act to which an authorisation given under
the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, section 6 or a declaration made under
that Act, Part 2AAA applies.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 5 Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1988 No 25
Schedule 5 Amendment of Summary Offences Act 1988 No

25

[1] Section 22 Definitions

Insert in alphabetical order—

public assembly restriction declaration has the same meaning as in the
Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, Part 2, Division 3A.

[2] Sections 27A and 27B

Insert after section 27—

27A Public assembly must not be authorised if held in area subject to declaration
under Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002

(1) A public assembly cannot be an authorised public assembly under section 23,
or authorised by an order made under section 26, if the public assembly will
be held, or partially held, in an area the subject of a public assembly restriction
declaration while the declaration is in force.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to a public assembly that forms part
of industrial action, an industrial dispute or an industrial campaign.

27B Effect of making, extending or varying public assembly restriction
declarations on previously authorised public assemblies

(1) This section applies if, before a public assembly restriction declaration is
made, extended or varied under the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, Part
2, Division 3A, a public assembly in the area the subject of the declaration,
including as extended or varied, was authorised to be held on a date on which
the declaration is in force.

(2) The authorisation of the public assembly is taken to be revoked when the

public assembly restriction declaration is made, extended or varied.

(3) The Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police making the declaration, extension or variation must ensure reasonable steps are taken to notify the organiser of the public assembly that the public assembly has ceased to be authorised.

[3] Schedule 2 Savings and transitional provisions

Insert at the end of the schedule, with appropriate clause numbering—

Provision consequent on enactment of Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025

(1) Sections 27A and 27B, as inserted by the Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025, Schedule 5, extend to a public assembly proposed to be held in an area the subject of a public assembly restriction declaration made in relation to a terrorism incident that occurred before the commencement of that schedule.

(2) In this clause—

public assembly restriction declaration means a public assembly restriction declaration made under the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, Part 2, Division 3A.

terrorism incident means a terrorist act to which an authorisation given under the Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002, section 6 or a declaration made under that Act, Part 2AAA applies.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 6 Amendment of Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002 No 115

Schedule 6 Amendment of Terrorism (Police Powers) Act

2002 No 115

[1] Section 4 Other definitions

Insert in alphabetical order in section 4(1)—

public assembly restriction declaration, for Part 2, Division 3A—see section 23A.

[2] Part 2 Special powers

Insert after section 23—

Division 3A Public assembly restriction declarations

23A Definition

In this division—

public assembly restriction declaration—see section 23B(2).

23B Special powers to declare restrictions on holding of public assemblies

(1) This section applies if—

(a) an authorisation is given under section 6 by a police officer, or

(b) a declaration is made under Part 2AAA by the Commissioner of Police.

(2) The Commissioner of Police or a Deputy Commissioner of Police may, by written instrument, make a declaration (a public assembly restriction declaration) that an area described in the declaration is an area in which the authorisation of the holding of public assemblies is restricted.

Note— See section 23F, which provides for Ministerial concurrence or confirmation of the making of the public assembly restriction declaration.

(3) A public assembly restriction declaration may be made—

(a) within 14 days after the making of an authorisation or declaration referred to in subsection (1), and

(b) only if the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner making the declaration is satisfied the holding of public assemblies in the area to which the declaration applies would be likely to cause—

- (i) a reasonable person to fear—
 - (A) harassment, intimidation or violence, or
 - (B) for the person's safety, or
- (ii) a risk to community safety, including the safety of participants in public assemblies in the area.
- (4) A public assembly restriction declaration—
 - (a) commences when the declaration is made, and
 - (b) ends 14 days after the day on which the declaration is made unless the declaration—
 - (i) is extended under section 23C, or
 - (ii) ceases to have effect under section 23F(3)(b), or
 - (iii) is sooner revoked under section 23G.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 6 Amendment of Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002 No 115

23C Extension of public assembly restriction declaration

(1) The Commissioner of Police or a Deputy Commissioner of Police may, by written instrument, extend a public assembly restriction declaration for a period of not more than 14 days if the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner is satisfied the declaration continues to be necessary on the grounds referred to in section 23B(3)(b).

Note— See section 23F, which provides for Ministerial concurrence or confirmation of the making of the public assembly restriction declaration.

(2) A public assembly restriction declaration may be extended more than once under subsection (1), but the total period for which the declaration is in force must not be more than 90 days.

23D Variation of public assembly restriction declaration

The Commissioner of Police or a Deputy Commissioner of Police may, by written instrument, vary a public assembly restriction declaration to change the area to which the declaration applies if the Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner is satisfied the grounds referred to in section 23B(3)(b) apply to the area as varied.

Note— See section 23F, which provides for Ministerial concurrence or confirmation of the variation of a public assembly restriction declaration.

23E Publication of public assembly restriction declarations, extensions and variations

(1) A public assembly restriction declaration or an extension or variation of a public assembly restriction declaration must be published in the following ways as soon as practicable after the declaration, extension or variation is made—

- (a) in the Gazette,
- (b) on the NSW Police Force website.

(2) However, failure to publish a public assembly restriction declaration or an extension or variation of a public assembly restriction declaration under subsection (1) does not affect the validity of the declaration, extension or variation.

23F Ministerial concurrence or confirmation

(1) Subject to subsection (2), a public assembly restriction declaration may be made, extended or varied only with the concurrence of the Police Minister.

(2) A public assembly restriction declaration may be made, extended or varied without the concurrence of the Police Minister if the Police Minister is not able to be contacted when the declaration is made, extended or varied.

(3) If a public assembly restriction declaration is made, extended or varied without the concurrence of the Police Minister—

(a) the Commissioner of Police or Deputy Commissioner of Police making, extending or varying the declaration must ensure the Police Minister is notified of the making, extension or variation of the declaration as soon as the Police Minister is able to be contacted, and

(b) the declaration, or the extension or variation of the declaration, ceases to have effect if the Police Minister has not confirmed the declaration, extension or variation within 48 hours after the declaration, extension or variation was made.

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]

Schedule 6 Amendment of Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002 No 115

23G Revocation of public assembly restriction declarations

The following persons may, at any time, revoke a public assembly restriction declaration and must revoke the declaration if directed by the Police Minister—

(a) for a public assembly restriction declaration made by the Commissioner of Police—the Commissioner,

(b) for a public assembly restriction declaration made by a Deputy Commissioner of Police—the Deputy Commissioner or the Commissioner of Police.

23H Cessation of public assembly restriction declarations

The cessation of a public assembly restriction declaration, whether by revocation or otherwise, does not affect anything lawfully done in reliance on the declaration before the declaration ceased to have effect.

[3] Section 24 Annual reports to be given to Attorney General and Police Minister
Omit “Part.” from section 24(3)(b). Insert instead—

Part,

(c) the number of public assembly restriction declarations made under Division 3A and any extensions of the declarations.

[4] Section 36A

Insert after section 36—

36A Review of Part 2, Division 3A

(1) The Minister must review Part 2, Division 3A to determine whether—

(a) the policy objectives of the division remain valid, and

(b) the terms of the division remain appropriate for achieving the objectives.

(2) The review must be undertaken as soon as practicable after the period of 2 years from the commencement of the division.

(3) A report on the outcome of the review must be tabled in each House of Parliament within 30 months after the commencement of the division.

[5] Schedule 2 Savings and transitional provisions

Insert at the end of the schedule, with appropriate part and clause numbering—

Part Provision consequent on enactment of Terrorism

and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025

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Terrorism and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025 [NSW]
Schedule 6 Amendment of Terrorism (Police Powers) Act 2002 No 115
Public assembly restriction declarations
Part 2, Division 3A, as inserted by the Terrorism and Other Legislation
Amendment Act 2025, applies in relation to an authorisation given under
section 6 or a declaration made under Part 2AAA, whether made before or
after the commencement of the division.

Keeping  informed

This *News Bulletin* brought to you by the **State Board**.

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&

SAFGA Delegate to Combined Firearms Council – (CFC)