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PROV 14/3

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Question Without Notice

Tuesday, 12 March 2024

C112. Hon Nick Goiran to the Minister representing the Minister for Police

I refer to the answer on 19 October 2023 to my Question without Notice through which the House was informed that the Government will consider the working group's recommendations as part of the rewrite of the Firearms Act 1973, and I ask:

1. On what date was the working group established to investigate the most effective process for health assessments?
2. On how many occasions did the working group meet?
3. What were their recommendations and when were they provided to Government?
4. Does the Government support recommendation 50 in the Law Reform Commission's final report on project 105?
5. If yes to 4, will you table the detailed analysis and assessment of the policy surrounding mental health and access to firearms in accordance with recommendation 50?

Answer

I thank the Honourable Member for some notice of the question. The following information has been provided to me by the Minister for Police.

The Western Australia Police Force advise:

1. 6 February 2023.
2. 7.
3. 15 February 2024 recommending a Mandatory Health Assessment Process; For Existing firearm licence holders to undertake a health assessment within five years of Proclamation and recurrent assessment every five years on the anniversary of their initial health assessment, or upon reaching the age of 80 or older; and a Self-Assessment Form to be part of the firearms Mandatory Health Assessment and be included in the Regulations.
- 4-5 The Cook Labor Government agrees that a health component is required as part of legislative reforms surrounding access to firearms. In preparation there has been considerable work and consultation undertaken with the rewriting of the *Firearms Act 1973* primarily based on the paramount principal of public safety and the Firearms Bill 2024 strikes the right balance between public safety and legitimate and responsible gun ownership.

