

WESTERN AUSTRALIA FIREARMS CONSULTATIVE WORKING GROUP

530. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:

I refer to the group known as the firearms consultative group that represents sectors of the firearms industry and clubs in meetings with WA Police's firearms licensing division. Given that the members represent associations and industry bodies to which they are accountable, will the minister explain the rationale for making the discussions and minutes of the meetings confidential?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

The Western Australia firearms consultative working group—WAFCWG—meetings are minuted to allow members to review and record motions and issues discussed. The minutes are for the review of the members only because on occasions matters of operational sensitivity are discussed. The actual minutes should not be communicated to a third party not represented on the WAFCWG. However, matters discussed and resolutions agreed upon that impact on or are raised by the represented bodies are communicated to those bodies by the appropriate WAFCWG members.