

FIREARM LICENCE APPLICATIONS — POLICE RESOURCES

1087. Hon RICK MAZZA to the Attorney General representing the Minister for Police:

Section 18(8) of the Firearms Act 1973 provides that when the commissioner refuses an application for a firearms licence, the commissioner is to forthwith notify the applicant, in writing, of the reasons for the decision. Can the minister please advise —

- (1)
 - (a) Given the stringent resources under which Western Australia Police operate, why is the practice of two police officers personally delivering the commissioner's written decision still being used?
 - (b) Is the personal delivery by police officers to establish a time and date of delivery to ensure that the time frame for an appeal to the State Administrative Tribunal is established?
 - (c) If yes to (b), are the provisions for the rights of appeal printed on the written decision?
 - (d) If no to (c), why not?
- (2) Would police resources benefit by using Australia Post and a notional delivery period, such as exists under other legislation, for the delivery of written decisions?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

On behalf of the Minister for Police, I thank the honourable member for some notice of the question.

- (1)
 - (a) In the past postal delivery was utilised but applicants disputed delivery or knowledge of the commissioner's written decision and personal delivery was reinstated.
 - (b) Yes.
 - (c) Yes.
 - (d) Not applicable.
- (2) This would have minimal impact on police resources, as on average there are only four such decisions per month.