

FIREARMS ACT 1973 — FIREARMS CATEGORISATION

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

I refer to the response to parts (1) to (3) of my question without notice 54 of Thursday, 19 February 2015 as follows —

The Minister for Police has requested the Commissioner of Police to develop a policy document outlining the features that should be taken into consideration by WA Police licensing enforcement division officers when assessing whether a firearm is a self-loading centre-fire rifle designed or adapted for military purposes or a firearm that substantially duplicates such a firearm in design, function or appearance. This policy document has not been finalised.

Given that there is no existing policy document under which licensing enforcement can accurately determine whether a firearm “duplicates such a firearm in design, function or appearance”, under what criteria or guidelines are firearms currently being seized from legitimate firearm owners under this section of the act?

Hon MICHAEL MISCHIN replied:

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

The document referred to in Legislative Council question without notice 54 formalises and clarifies existing procedures already undertaken by WA Police licensing enforcement division officers when assessing firearms. The aim of this policy document is to provide a reference tool for firearms dealers and the firearms-owning community outlining the approach adopted by firearms licensing services officers when considering firearms licence applications when the firearm may be prohibited due to its military appearance.