Question on Notice No. 1747 Asked on 11 October 2016

MR DICKSON ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON W BYRNE MP)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister explain why peak sporting and recreational shooting groups in Queensland have not been consulted, or advised of recommendations, that this government will put forward at the upcoming National Firearms meeting?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for the question.

I am advised the national forums have previously engaged in stakeholder consultation with a number of peak shooting bodies and community groups on the review of the National Firearms Agreement (NFA).

The technical elements of the NFA are currently under review by the Firearms and Weapons Policy Working Group, which is made up of Police representatives from all Australian jurisdictions. The Working Group reported to the national law, Crime and Community Safety Council (LCCSC) in April and October 2016 on the review. At the meeting held on 21 October 2016 the Council acknowledged the ongoing importance of the NFA, but have yet to reach a consensus on the issues. The Council agreed to give further out of session consideration to the issues.

I am pleased to advise the Member that I have established a number of weapons consultation forums to ensure that Queensland's weapons policy framework reflects the diverse needs of key stakeholders including police, victims of crime organisations, the legal community, the agricultural industry, firearms dealers and sporting and recreational shooters.

These forums have provided a constructive mechanism for full and open consultation with stakeholders regarding Queensland firearms policy and regulatory settings, including the NFA review, and will continue to meet into the future. At the last meeting on these forums on 25 October 2016, I advised members present of the outcomes of the latest LCCSC meeting.