

Question on Notice
No. 928
Asked on 31 August 2022

MR DAMETTO ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise, over the past five years, year on year, what is the minimum, maximum, and average number of days it has taken for Weapons Licensing Branch to suspend or cancel a firearms licence when a licence holder is alleged to have committed, or is charged with, an act of (a) domestic and family violence and (b) violence, not domestic and family violence related (for example, non DV assault or grievous bodily harm)?

ANSWER:

I am advised by the QPS that when a police protection notice or a temporary protection order is issued and the respondent holds a weapons licence, the licence is immediately suspended.

I am further advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that while the QPS holds significant amounts of data relevant to this matter, the information requested is not easily extracted from the Weapons Licensing database and to extract the data would require the manual examination of individual incidents within this database. Accordingly, the QPS considers this to be an unjustifiable use of police resources, at this time.

However, in the interests of providing for the information of the Member the QPS advises that over the last five years the QPS have suspended 4,080 and cancelled 3,082 firearm licenses in the interests of community safety.

Further, when a Domestic Violence Order is issued, and the respondent holds a weapons licence, the licence is revoked from the issue date of the order.

I am also informed by the QPS that when a person is charged with an offence involving the use or threatened use of violence, and the person holds a weapons licence, a compliance assessment is conducted. Consequently, the person's weapons licence may be suspended, pending the outcome of the relevant court proceedings. If the person is convicted of the charge and the conviction is recorded, action is taken to revoke the person's weapons licence. If the conviction is not recorded, an Authorised Officer will consider the matter and determine whether the person's weapons license will be revoked.