

**Question on Notice**  
**No. 1550**  
**Asked on 29 November 2023**

**MRS D FRECKLINGTON** ASKED MINISTER FOR POLICE AND CORRECTIVE SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

With reference to Weapons Licensing— Will the Minister advise, for 2019 to present (reported separately by year) (a) the average wait time for a Permit to Acquire and (b) the average wait time for a weapons licence notification?

ANSWER

I am advised by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that processing times remains a key focus area for Weapons Licencing and that there are many variables, which influence processing times, including incomplete and incorrect information.

I am further advised by the QPS that an increase in new weapons licence applications between 2019 and 2021 of approximately 12.5%, as well as strengthened vetting criteria related to Queensland Audit Office recommendations, has impacted processing times.

I am informed by the QPS that Weapons Licensing has recently filled key positions and has re-aligned the Weapons Licensing structure to monitor business strategies and optimise processing timeframes more effectively. This includes the establishment of a trained surge workforce to meet demand, and the enhancement program for the new Weapons Licencing Management System.

I am advised by the QPS that the average processing time for permits to acquire was 12.5 days in 2019, 12.5 days in 2020, 17.7 days in 2021, and 20.9 days in 2022. I am advised that, while the average processing time was 20.6 days for 2023, these times have progressively improved throughout the year due to improvements put in place by the QPS and, as such, the average processing time for December 2023 was 13.5 days.

It is unclear from the Member's question what is meant by 'weapons licence notification'. There are a number of notices which may be issued under the *Weapons Act 1990*. For example, the Member may be referring to notifications regarding weapons licence applications, weapons licence renewals or change of address/storage details. As such, I am unable to answer this portion of the Member's question.