

Portfolio Committee No. 5 - Legal Affairs

**Inquiry into the Provisions of the Firearms and Weapons Legislation
Amendment (Criminal Use) Bill 2020**

Inquiry hearing: Wednesday 28 October 2020
Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney

**SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS
WITH ANSWERS**

(NSW Police Force)

ACTING DEPUTY COMMISSIONER MARK WALTON, NSW POLICE FORCE

Questions 1 to 3.

1. How many cases of illegal manufacture were identified in the review by the Firearms and Weapons Policy Working Group (FWPWG) where no action could be taken under the existing state legislation?
2. Can you provide the Firearms and Weapons Policy Working Group (FWPWG) report to the Committee?
3. In his second reading speech, the Minister stated law enforcement agencies have continued to see a growth in the domestic manufacture of improvised firearms.
 - a. Can you provide the Committee with data on illegal manufacture of improvised firearms?

Answer: 1 to 3.

The report states –

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SUPERINTENDENT ANTHONY BELL – COMMANDER NSW FIREARMS REGISTRY

Question 1

1. Are you aware there [sic] widespread numerical errors in the numbers of Firearms Prohibition Orders (FPO) and Weapons Prohibition Orders (WPO) published by the NSW Firearms Registry – please see attached tables.

Will you undertake to check the accuracy of FPO data published by the Firearms Registry?

Answer

The NSWPF acknowledges that an error was made in the March 2020 report and will be rectified. A refreshed report for that period is pending upload once approved.

Question 2

2. Can you provide for the Committee detailed information on Firearm Prohibition Orders for previous years 2015-2020?

Answer

The NSW Police Force’s webpages for the Firearms Registry provides information on FPOs served “to date” that are recorded on COPS. The most current report is titled: *Firearm and Weapon Prohibition Order Statistics QTR3 Sep 20* and is available at:

www.police.nsw.gov.au/about_us/information_of_interest_to_the_community/firearms_data

It should be noted however, that FPOs have been issued since 1973 and that some of those historical FPOs made prior to the COPS mainframe being introduced (launched in 1994) are stored on microfilm and are in the process of being recorded on the COPS system.