



Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services

Ref No: 2020/6620 JF
Your Ref: A540943

1 William Street Brisbane
PO Box 15195 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3035 8300
Email police@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

16/04/2020

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Queensland Parliamentary Service
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000
ClerksOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to your letter of 18 March 2020 relating to Petition 3282-20 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly regarding the reclassification of silencers from Category R weapons to Category A weapons.

The Queensland Police Service (QPS) has advised that Category R represents the most restricted weapons under Queensland's weapons licensing framework and that this category includes silencers and other items "made or used, or capable of being used or intended to be used, for reducing the sound caused by discharging a firearm".

Silencers have remained Category R since the modern category system was implemented following sweeping reforms to Australia's gun laws after the Port Arthur tragedy in 1996. In practice, this limits their possession to licensed armourers who repair weapons for official Commonwealth Defence or Commonwealth and State policing purposes, or Queensland collectors who, with the appropriate storage and licence, can possess permanently deactivated silencers.

Queensland remains committed to the spirit of the National Firearms Agreement. Therefore, in the interests of safety, I can advise that there is no intention to remove silencers from Category R weapons at this time.

Thank you for considering this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mark Ryan".

The Honourable Mark Ryan MP
**Minister for Police and
Minister for Corrective Services**