



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS
Ms Chiaka Barry MLA (Chair), Mr Taimus Werner-Gibbings
MLA (Deputy Chair), Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA (Member)

Inquiry into Legislation on proposed Firearms Reform

Question Taken on Notice (Committee)

Asked by: Mr Shane Rattenbury MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Redirection:

Reference: MPESD DLO

Hearing Date: 21/04/2026

In relation to: Stolen Firearms Incidents in the ACT

Question Lodgement Date: 21/04/2026

Date Answer Due: 04/05/2026

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MR RATTENBURY: Can I just clarify, sorry, Mr Lee, you said between July '25 and now is essentially that ten incidents?

Mr Lee: Ten reports of firearms being reported stolen to ACT Policing.

MR RATTENBURY: What sort of premises were those firearms stolen from?

Mr Lee: I might just pass if I can. I do not know whether we have that information, Mr Rattenbury.

MR RATTENBURY: I guess what I am trying to explore is, are there issues with the storage requirements? Was there a particular pattern here? Was it rural, was it metropolitan? I am sort of interested, from a policy point of view, to think through whether we have an issue.

Mr Lee: Yes, certainly. I will pass it to see whether—I might just pass to the DCPO whether we have that data, but if not we will take it on notice and come back to the committee.

MR RATTENBURY: Sure, thank you.

Mr Chin: Yes, that is something we will have to take on notice.

MR RATTENBURY: All right. And perhaps just the other part is I am interested in the **volume of weapons stolen or firearms stolen**. You know, is it sort of one each time or multiples and those sort of things?

Mr Lee: I can give you a breakdown of the types here, but we can clarify for you the number just to make sure it is absolutely accurate. So three of those firearms were pistols, seven were rifles, and that was the total of ten but we will just clarify that for you as well, Mr Rattenbury.

MR RATTENBURY: Okay, thank you.

DR MARISA PATERSON MLA - The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

The ACT currently operates under a comprehensive and stringent firearms regulatory framework, including for licensing, registration, storage, training and compliance requirements.

The ACT Firearms Registry is responsible for ensuring compliance with ACT firearms legislation as well as the ACT prohibited weapons and articles legislation. Under the *Firearms Act 1996*, ACT Policing members have the power to conduct on-the-spot inspections for firearms and firearm licenses as well as conduct storage inspections either by consent or without consent of the license holder.

ACT Policing confirms that for the period 01 July 2025 to 31 March 2026, 10 firearms were reported to ACT Policing as being stolen (3 Pistols and 7 Rifles).

Of the 10, ACT Policing systems show the following regarding the circumstances of their theft:

- The thefts related to four separate incidents, and all took place at residential dwellings, where the firearms were being stored.
- ACT Policing notes that, at the time of the firearms thefts, the storage arrangements in place, in relation to some of the incidents, may not have met all requirements prescribed under relevant legislation.
 - Incident 1 –
 - The theft occurred at the victim's residence.
 - Three firearms were stolen and belonged to licensed firearms owners.
 - Incident 2 –
 - The theft occurred at the victim's residential complex.
 - Three firearms were stolen and belonged to a licensed firearms owner.

- Incident 3 –
 - The theft occurred at the victim's residential complex.
 - One firearm was stolen and belonged to a licensed firearms owner.
- Incident 4 –
 - The theft occurred at the victim's residential complex and three firearms were stolen.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 

Date: 12/5/26

By the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Dr Marisa Paterson MLA