



Submission cover sheet

Inquiry into Legislation on proposed firearms reform

Submission number: 072

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Submission on the Firearms (Firearm Prohibition Orders) Amendment Bill 2026

From Ian Coombes

Audi alteram partem

If a highly qualified lawyer considers there is a possibility of risk to the community or to the welfare of a person involved in security matters through the application of audi alteram partem, or a highly qualified security operative has similar concerns about the wording in closure of decision making in regard to issuing or withdrawing a gun licence under Section 18, then perhaps the Commonwealth Ombudsman could be written into the Bill as the arbiter to make a determination binding on all parties, without giving reasons.

Ian Coombes