



# Inquiry into Annual and Financial Reports 2023–2024

## Answer to question on notice

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Asked by: Ms Deborah Morris MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Services

Reference: ACT Policing

Hearing: 18/02/2025

In relation to: Firearms Registry

Question received: 25/02/2025

Answer Due: 05/03/2025

1. How many firearms crossed the border into the ACT in:
  1. 2020
  2. 2021
  3. 2022
  4. 2023
  5. 2024
  6. 2025 to date
2. Has the federal government provided any funding to the ACT to support the ACT's participation in the National Firearms Register?
  1. If yes, how much?
    1. How much has been directed to ACT Policing?

Dr Marisa Paterson MLA: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

### Question 1.

There are currently 22739 registered firearms in the ACT and 7118 licenced firearm holders.

ACT Policing is unable to provide data on the number of firearms transferred to ACT residents in any given year as the current data management system features extremely limited search and filtering parameters for data drawdown.

Servicing this request would require a manual interrogation of ACT Policing's systems and databases. This would be an onerous task that would unreasonably divert police resources.

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The National Firearms Register (NFR) and uplift of the ACT Registry under the NFR is expected to improve these capabilities.

**Question 2**

To date, the Federal Government has provided \$500,000 in funding to support the ACT's participation in the National Firearms Register through a Federal Funding Agreement which will contribute 75 per cent (\$18.7m) of the total cost of the ACT Firearms Registry uplift over the 4-year expected life of the program. ACT Government will contribute up to 25 per cent (\$6.2m). This is only for the ACT Registry component of the program and excludes any Commonwealth component of the National Firearms Register.

At this stage, none of the \$500,000 has been allocated because National Firearms Register activities have been conducted using ACT Government funding, including a budget allocation of \$996,000 from the 2024-25 Budget initiative *Delivering the National Firearms Register* to undertake design and discovery work for the project.

Federal Funding Agreement funding will be facilitated through the Attorney General's Department and Commonwealth Treasury to ACT Treasury with disbursement across participating agencies according to their respective input.

The ACT Government has established governance arrangements headed by an Executive Oversight Committee jointly chaired by the Deputy Director-General Justice and Community Safety Directorate and ACT Policing's Deputy Chief Police Officer. Senior executives from ACT Treasury, Digital, Data and Technology Solutions and the Australian Federal Police's Chief Information Office also attend the Committee.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature:

*M. Paterson*

Date:

*7/3/25*

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