



# Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–2025

## 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: Police

Hearing: 20 November 2025

In relation to: ACT Policing and Bladed Implements

Question received: 27/11/2025

Answer Due: 04/12/2025

1. Has ACT Policing made representation to the current review of police powers related to knife crime, and if so, can you summarise the key points made.
2. Has ACT Policing shared an opinion on Jack's Law powers, or the broader introduction of less-invasive search powers such as wandering for the detection of bladed implements, and if so, can you summarise the key points made.
3. Relating to QON 647, specifically that relevant 'provisions in the Crimes Act 1900 are enforced by ACT Policing', what powers are available to general duties police officers relating to the sale of bladed implements.

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

1. ACT Policing is engaged with ACT Government in relation to the current review of police powers related to knife crime, and is readily providing subject matter expertise, relevant data and key insights to inform an overall policy position.
2. There are ongoing discussions with ACT Government in relation to whether any legislative amendments or additional provisions are required to address knife-related crime.

ACT Policing has been consulted on a discussion paper in relation to introducing Jack's Law.

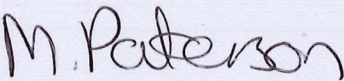
On 4 March 2025, the ACT Legislative Assembly passed a motion calling on the ACT Government to revisit the evidence base in consultation with stakeholders to consider whether there is a need to increase powers for ACT Policing relating to knife crime violence.

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The ACT Government reported back to the Legislative Assembly on December 3, 2025.

3. In relation to the sale of bladed instruments, ACT Policing may lay charges relating to section 383 (sell knife to person under 16 years) or section 384 (relating to signage about the sale of knives) of the Crimes Act 1900.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Legal Affairs

Signature: 

Date: 16/12/25

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