



THE HON PETER MALINAUSKAS MP

PREMIER OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr Tom Kenyon
Chief Executive Officer
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia
Via email: tom.kenyon@ssaa.org.au

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Dear Mr Kenyon

I refer to our recent discussions in relation to firearms laws in South Australia, thank you for taking the time to share the views of the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia.

The attack at Bondi was a horrific act of terrorism that targeted Jewish people and has deeply shaken communities across Australia. It has understandably prompted strong emotions, difficult questions, and renewed discussion about safety, extremism and community protection.

While the incident did not occur in South Australia, the Government has taken the matter seriously. South Australia Police continue to work closely with the Jewish community to ensure people feel safe, supported and protected, with appropriate operational resources deployed.

In addition, the Government has doubled funding for Holocaust education, committing more than \$500,000 to the Adelaide Holocaust Museum and the Andrew Steiner Education Centre to combat antisemitism and promote understanding.

In relation to firearms regulation, I can advise that the South Australian Government currently has no plans to amend firearms laws. South Australia already has some of the strictest and most comprehensive firearms laws in the country. These laws are designed to protect the broader community while recognising that the overwhelming majority of firearm owners in South Australia are responsible, law-abiding citizens who comply with their obligations.

South Australia is one of only two jurisdictions to require Australian citizenship or permanent residency to apply for a firearms licence. We do not allow open-ended licences, with all licences requiring renewal at least every five years, and we maintain robust fit-and-proper person checks prior to any licence being issued.

South Australia is also well advanced in implementing the National Firearms Register, with funding secured and work underway on a new South Australian Firearms Register (SAFR) system.

Importantly, South Australia has a strong and well-established history of constructive consultation with the firearms community. When serving as Police Minister I oversaw one of the most comprehensive reviews of firearms legislation undertaken in this State, spanning more than four years and involving extensive engagement with firearm owners, representative organisations and South Australia Police.

That process led to a Firearms Act which were widely recognised for taking a sensible, evidence-based and balanced approach. The SSAA South Australia branch played a significant and valued role throughout the review, to ensure reforms improved public safety while recognising the legitimate needs of licensed firearm owners.

The outcome demonstrated that meaningful consultation delivers better policy.

Any future consideration of changes to firearms legislation in South Australia must therefore be approached carefully, thoughtfully and with genuine consultation. As discussed, no changes would occur without engagement with SSAA Inc and other key firearms stakeholders and firearm owners. Responsible firearm owners deserve certainty, fairness and respect, and reforms must always be grounded in evidence.

Thank you again for taking the time to engage on this important issue. Responsible firearm ownership and community safety are not competing values, both are essential, and both deserve careful, balanced consideration.

Yours sincerely



Peter Malinauskas
PREMIER

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