



Committee **COMMUNIQUE**

Wildlife Policing and Firearms Committee

Held on 20 June 2024

The Committee discussed:

1. The Chair provided an update on recent feedback provided by the committee to Firearms Services relating to the proposed changes to firearm licence training requirements.
2. Dick Shaw (GST) attended to introduce himself to the committee and discuss key current issues including wildlife damage, the current permit systems and options for wildlife control.
3. Discussions were held around the Government's role in supporting farmers to control wildlife on their properties.
4. Inspector Phil Burton (Firearms Services) attended to brief the committee on the status of the Antique Firearm transition process. There will likely be a further set of amendments to the Act in relation to antique firearms.
5. Discussions were held around the proposed National Firearms Registry (NFR) and cyber security concerns with firearm licence holders reminded to remain vigilant.
6. Discussions were held regarding the issue of physical and mental health questions on Firearm licence application/renewal forms.
7. A brief update was given on current issues on King Island mainly in relation to feral cats and bird species including swans.
8. The committee discussed the importance of continuing to progress the discussion around exemptions for suppressors for use during wildlife control.

Alastair Cameron

Chair, Wildlife Policing and Firearms Committee