

**SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S PORTFOLIO**

Program: 1.2 AGD Operating Expenses - National Security and Criminal Justice

Question No. AE17/147

Senator Pratt asked the following question at the hearing on 24 March 2017:

1. Does the Department hold information about the volume and type of firearms being imported into Australia? You are responsible for firearms regulation, why would you not require this information?
2. How many Adler lever-action shotguns are in Australia? And of these, how many have a capacity of five rounds or more?
3. How many Adler lever-action shotguns does the Department believe are modified?
4. How many Adler lever-action shotguns does the Department believe are now on the illicit market?
5. What steps is the Government taking that the Department is aware of to get any Adler lever-action shotguns of five rounds or more which were imported by people who do not have a Category D licence?
6. What steps has the Department taken to prepare for a firearms amnesty? How many guns does the Department estimate an amnesty will take off the legal and illicit firearms markets?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

1. The Department of Immigration and Border Protection is responsible for recording the importation of firearms.
2. This information would be held by state and territory governments.
3. State and territory authorities are responsible for regulating the modification of firearms.
4. The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission conservatively estimates that there are 260,000 firearms (250,000 longarms and 10,000 handguns) in the domestic illicit market. The Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission has not provided further breakdown of these figures by firearm type.
5. The licensing of firearm owners and the registration of firearms is a matter for the states and territories.
6. The department is managing the public information campaign that will support the amnesty. The department has not made an estimate of the number of firearms that will be surrendered in the amnesty.