

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

Output 2.1

Question No. 43

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 13 February 2007:

Of the outstanding issues that were being dealt with by the Firearms Policy Working Group (as per QoN 61 of May 24 2006), please indicate:

- a) Of those issues, how many have been finalised?
- b) For those that have been finalised:
 - i) What was the outcome?
- c) Are there any reports, summaries or other papers released as a result of those finalisations.

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

None of the issues have been finalised. Of the eight items that were being dealt with, work continues to advance on all issues. The projects have a number of phases and outcomes that are continuing to be met to progress the projects through to finalisation.

Work that has been progressed includes:

National Firearms Management System – in June 2006, the then Australasian Police Ministers Council (APMC) approved the development of a Business Case. The Business Case is to be provided to the Ministerial Council for Policy and Emergency Management – Police (MCPEMP) at the second meeting in 2007.

Firearms Theft research – in June 2006, the then APMC endorsed a four year program of continuing research into firearms theft. This followed the 2006 release of a report titled “Firearms Theft in Australia: a six month exploratory analysis”. The first report from the four year program will be released shortly.

Deactivated Firearms – In November 2006, the then APMC agreed to minimum national standards for deactivated firearms. The States and Territories are currently implementing compliance with the APMC resolutions and standards.