Question on Notice No. 148 Asked on 16 February 2017

MR T MANDER ASKED THE MINISTER FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES AND MINISTER FOR CORRECTIVE SERVICES (HON M RYAN)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise how many weapons licence holders had their licence either cancelled or suspended (reported separately) for committing a crime in 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 (reported separately)?

ANSWER:

I am informed by the Queensland Police Service (QPS) that the statistics relating to weapons licence holders that have had their licence either cancelled or suspended for committing a crime cannot be accurately generated due to software statistical reporting limitations. If the QPS were to extract the information requested, it would require each cancelled, suspended and revoked licence on the Weapons Licensing database to be examined manually. This would be an unjustifiable use of police resources.

The firearms licence statistics as recorded by QPS Weapons Licensing have been used in preparing this response. The table below provides the total number of suspended and revoked licence holders per calendar year, but does not provide statistics for cancelled licences and crime related matters per financial year due to the complexity of extracting data. Multiple licences may have been suspended or revoked by the Authorised Officer within a single suspension or revocation case. Again, that information cannot be easily extracted.

| Year | Suspension Cases | Revocation Cases | Total |
|------|------------------|-------------------------|-------|
| 2012 | 416 | 286 | 702 |
| 2013 | 416 | 359 | 775 |
| 2014 | 500 | 420 | 920 |
| 2015 | 563 | 545 | 1108 |
| 2016 | 562 | 556 | 1118 |

I am advised by QPS that, even if the question was scoped down to include only one of the above years, the manual extraction of between 702 and 1,118 records would be prohibitive.