

STRONG GUN LAWS, SAFER COMMUNITIES

BUILDING BACK GREENER & FAIRER: A GREEN NEW DEAL FOR LUTRUWITA/TASMANIA

BACKGROUND

All Tasmanians should feel safe in their community. Strong laws ensure people are protected.

The 1996 the Port Arthur massacre resulted in 35 people being killed, 23 more wounded and a community and island devastated. The impact was profound, and the suffering continues for many to this day.

In the weeks following this tragedy, the Tasmanian Greens were central in the negotiating and signing of the National Firearms Agreement.

The world-leading National Firearms Agreement, and state laws that followed, have been a public health and safety success. Since 1996, there has been no mass shooting event in Australia.

Gun laws must always put public safety first, before convenience and outside interests.

After the last state election, where the Liberals were caught making a secret deal with the firearms lobby to weaken the NFA. The Labor Party also proposed weakening Tasmania's laws, and the NFA.

Tasmanians do not want any changes to gun laws that could weaken public safety.

The Greens reaffirm their commitment to the National Firearms Agreement and every one of the individual resolutions within it.

The only reason a state government should ever advocate for a change to the NFA, including to make states' firearms laws uniform, is to strengthen the agreement further to increase public safety.

Strengthening Firearms Legislation

Conformance with the National Firearms Agreement

We will review the Tasmanian Firearms Act 1996 to identify and fix non-conformities with the National Firearms Agreement.

Theft of Firearms and Ammunition

We will review the current legislation in relation to theft and the usage of stolen firearms and ammunition, to make these offences carry appropriate penalties to deter offending.

Repeal of Minor's Permits

We will amend the law to remove the capacity for a child to be granted a "minor's permit".

Ban on 3D Printed Weapons

We will investigate safety-proofing existing Tasmanian legislation to explicitly ban the manufacture and possession of 3D printed weapons, until such time as a nationally-consistent agreement is reached for legislating to protect Australians from these technologies.

Improving the safety of firearm use

Firearms Services Funding

We will increase funding to Firearms Services to ensure the agency is capable of processing firearms' applications and renewals, and undertake safety background checks, in a comprehensive and timely manner. We will also resource Firearms Services to develop more educative material and advice for firearm owners about the detail of the law in practice.

Mental Health and Criminal History

We will establish a formal review between Firearms Services and medical authorities to establish notification protocols if a medical practitioner is concerned about a person who has a firearms licence.

We will undertake an education campaign, including the production of information resources, to inform medical and health practitioners of their responsibilities and of the processes they need to follow to keep the community safer.

We will fix the Firearms Services licence database to make sure all potential flags for concern (example suicide, family violence, mental illness) in a licence holder can be thoroughly identified, assessed and addressed by Firearms Services and Tasmania Police.

The Tasmanian Greens acknowledge and pay respect to the palawa/pakana people as the original owners and ongoing custodians of lutruwita/Tasmania. We are committed to Truth, Treaty, Justice, and the return of lands.