



Minister for Police

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Our ref: CD/18/401649

Mr Graham Ashton AM
Chief Commissioner of Police
Victoria Police Centre
637 Flinders Street
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Dear Chief Commissioner 

2018-20 STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS (SOE) FOR VICTORIA POLICE'S LICENSING & REGULATION DIVISION (LRD).

I am pleased to provide you with this 2018-20 SOE for Victoria Police's LRD which applies for the period 1 July 2018 to 30 June 2020, or until otherwise amended.

Improving the administration and enforcement of regulation

This SOE sets out my expectations of LRD's contribution to the Government's Regulation Reform Program to reduce red tape affecting business, not-for-profit organisations, government service providers and households by promoting greater efficiency and effectiveness in the administration and enforcement of regulation. It also outlines my expectations on broader improvements for LRD's performance.

As Minister for Police, I am responsible for administering the *Firearms Act 1996*, *Private Security Act 2004*, *Control of Weapons Act 1990* and other associated Regulations that affect businesses and the broader Victorian community. This SOE should be read within the context of the objectives, obligations and functions outlined in these Acts as amended.

This SOE continues outline the key governance, performance objectives and targets aimed at improving the administration; and enforcement of regulation; and thus reducing its cost impact on businesses and community.

The current six performance targets that have been identified for LRD's 2017-18 SOE were carried forward from 2016-17 SOE; and were expected to be reported at the end of June 2018. These will be published in both the Victoria Police 2017-18 Annual Report and website.

Improvements and targets

Based on consultation between Department of Justice and Regulation and LRD, I have identified five new performance improvements for the 2018-20 SOE, mainly encompassing the timeliness and risk-based regulation elements of the key areas of governance and operational performance, where there are opportunities for LRD to make improvement that would reduce cost impacts on business.

The LRD is expected to identify activities it will undertake to achieve the following performance improvements by 30 June 2020:

- New Firearm Licence application forms converted to online e-forms;
- Firearm and Private Security Licence renewal application forms converted to online e-forms;
- Information previously provided to LRD by individuals and businesses including small businesses is automatically pre-populated in renewal applications;
- Online access to the status of a Firearm or Private Security Licence application; and
- A risk based framework that supports compliance activities within the Regulation Support Unit of LRD.

In developing actions to achieve these improvements, LRD is expected to consult with the Red Tape Commissioner, business and the broader community as appropriate.

Reporting

Reporting on your progress to achieve these SOE performance improvements should be undertaken in the context of annual reporting to avoid dual reporting streams. As part of annual reporting, regulators are expected to report on:

- current baseline levels for performance improvements set in this SOE; and
- activities to be undertaken to reach the performance improvements set out in this SOE.

I expect that these SOE performance improvements should be published on Victoria Police's website upon receipt.

I also ask that Victoria Police responds to this letter by 30 June 2018, outlining how it intends to achieve the performance improvements are set out in this SOE. This response should include details of the specific activities that will be undertaken by the LRD; and should also be published on the Victoria Police website.

I have been advised of the co-operative way in which LRD has worked with the Department of Justice and Regulation in fulfilling the requirements of this SOE, and I look forward to LRD continuously working towards achieving best practice in the administration and enforcement of regulation.

Yours sincerely



Hon Lisa Neville MP
Minister for Police

21/6/18

