



**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Your Ref : 20388566  
Our Ref: 25-1133  
Telephone: 8207 5555



Email: [Redacted]

Dear [Redacted]

**Re: Freedom of Information Act application**

In reference to your application made pursuant to the *Freedom of Information Act 1991* (FOI Act), access was sought to:

*“1. How many operations involving the use of handheld scanners (wands) have been conducted across South Australia by SAPOL? 2. How many individuals have been subjected to the use of handheld scanners across South Australia? (i.e. How many individual instances of handheld scanners being used?) 3. How many knives (or other edged weapons) have been detected as a result of handheld scanning across South Australia?” Date range: 1/7/2023 to 30/6/2024*

On 23 October 2024, as a result of a discussion with your office, it was confirmed that ‘*handheld scanners (wands)*’ refers to handheld metal detectors.

**In relation to part 1 of your request:**

*“1. How many operations involving the use of handheld scanners (wands) have been conducted across South Australia by SAPOL?”*

South Australia Police (SAPOL) has interpreted your request for ‘*number of operations*’ as ‘*number of declarations*’ as SAPOL record the number of events in which metal detectors are used by way of a declaration pursuant to Section 72A (4) of the Summary Offences Act and not per ‘*operation*’.

SAPOL has located information that falls within the scope of your request, and it is agreed to **release this information to you in full.**



METAL DETECTOR SEARCHES	2023-24
Declarations made under subsection (4)	1*

\* Refinements to statistical data entry submissions were made for 2023-24 to support more efficient reporting of the number of declarations made under subsection (4). Results for 2023-24 are not comparable to previous years.

**In relation to part 2 of your request:**

*“2. How many individuals have been subjected to the use of handheld scanners across South Australia? (i.e. How many individual instances of handheld scanners being used?)”*

South Australia Police (SAPOL) has located information that falls within the scope of your request, and it is agreed to **release this information to you in full**.

METAL DETECTOR SEARCHES	2023-24
At declared event & licence premises	799
At declared public precinct	279
<b>Total</b>	<b>1078</b>

**In relation to part 3 of your request:**

*“3. How many knives (or other edged weapons) have been detected as a result of handheld scanning across South Australia?”*

South Australia Police (SAPOL) has located information that falls within the scope of your request, and it is agreed to **release this information to you in full**.

METAL DETECTOR SEARCHES	2023-24
'Knives or other edged weapons'* detected	30

\* Only weapons that fit within the descriptor of 'knives or other edged weapons' have been counted

**Disclosure Log**

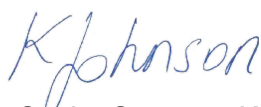
In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, and the documents to which you are given access will be published on the SAPOL website Disclosure Log.

A copy of PC045 can be found at:

[https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Logs.pdf](https://www.dpc.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/20818/PC045-Disclosure-Logs.pdf).

If you disagree with publication, please advise the undersigned in writing by 20 December 2024.

Yours sincerely



Senior Sergeant Kelly Johnson  
**Freedom of Information Unit**  
 (Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

15 November 2024