



**SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE**  
**SAFER COMMUNITIES**



**OFFICIAL: Sensitive**

Our Ref: 25-1898  
Your Ref: 20851458  
Telephone: 8207 5555



Dear

**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:

*“I/we are requesting access to the following firearms licencing data in South Australia from SAPOL Firearms Branch: The total number of current firearms licence holders. A breakdown of firearm licences by category. A breakdown of firearm licences by genuine reason. The total number of registered firearms, broken down by category. The number of firearms licence applications in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The number of Permits to Acquire (PTAs) issued in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The total number of registered Firearms Dealers. The total number of registered Armourers.”*

On the 21 January 2025, one of my staff contacted you via telephone seeking clarification on the scope of your request. You confirmed you are seeking data in relation to:

*“The total number of current firearms licence holders and the total number of registered firearms, broken down by category. The number of firearms licence applications in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The number of Permits to Acquire (PTAs) issued in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The total number of registered Firearms Dealers. The total number of registered Armourers. A breakdown of firearm licences by category. A breakdown of firearm licences by genuine reason”*

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



**Government of  
South Australia**

Service Integrity Leadership Collaboration Courage Respect

South Australia Police, GPO Box 1539, Adelaide SA 5001 ABN 93 799 021 552 [www.police.sa.gov.au](http://www.police.sa.gov.au)



In relation to these parts of your request:

*“The total number of current firearms licence holders.”*

and

*“The total number of registered firearms, broken down by category.”*

**The below firearms data is accurate as of 31 January 2025:**

- Total number of firearm licence holders is **62,037**.
- Details of registered firearms is detailed in the below table:

<b>The total number of registered firearms by category</b>	
Category A	204,975
Category B	93,113
Category C	6,070
Category D	4,106
Category H	19,801
Category P	156
Deactivated	684
<b>Total</b>	<b>328,905</b>

In relation to these parts of your request:

*“The number of firearms licence applications in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The number of Permits to Acquire (PTAs) issued in the past 12 months, broken down by category. The total number of registered Firearms Dealers. The total number of registered Armourers.”*

- There were **3,451** firearms licence applications in the past 12 months.

The data is unable to be broken down by category. SAPOL therefore hold no documents relative to this part of your request.

- There were **20,713** Permits to Acquire (PTAs) issued in the last 12 months.

The data is unable to be broken down by category. SAPOL therefore hold no documents relative to this part of your request.

- Total number of registered Firearms Dealers is **137** (broken down into categories)
  - Firearm and Ammunition Dealers – **95**
  - Ammunition Only Dealers - **42**
- Total number of registered Armourers is **19**.

**In relation to these parts of your request:**

*“A breakdown of firearm licences by category. A breakdown of firearm licences by genuine reason.”*

Whilst SAPOL does hold this information within its computer systems, the data is not readily accessible through any output, as the system is not capable of generating a document containing the requested information. To fulfill your request, an employee would need to manually extract the data for each specific part of your request and subsequently spend a significant amount of time merging and cleansing the data to create a document.

For example, a single licence application may cover multiple licence categories, but our system only recognises that the licence itself has been processed. Each licence application would need to be manually reviewed to obtain the data. Consequently, SAPOL hold no documents relative to this part of your request.

As SAPOL hold no documents relative to these parts of your request, these parts of your application hold no review rights. Should you be dissatisfied, a complaint can be made to the Ombudsman under the Ombudsman Act 1972.

**Disclosure Log**

In accordance with the requirements of Premier and Cabinet Circular PC045, details of your FOI application, including the information and/or 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 **28 March 2025**.

Yours sincerely



Sergeant Christian Ainley  
**Freedom of Information Unit**  
(Accredited Freedom of Information Officer)

27 February 2025