



TASMANIA
PREMIER OF TASMANIA

22 July, 2021

Mr Neil Jenkins
National Secretary
National Shooting Council
By Email: admin@nationalshooting.org.au

Dear Mr Jenkins

I refer to your email of 15 July 2021, and earlier correspondence with Tasmanian Government Ministers, regarding shooting as an off-campus school activity as well as other firearms related matters.

I was deeply disappointed by the tone of your letter and wish to make clear that the Government I lead does not respond to threats, and our position on these matters remain as previously stated.

To reiterate, clay target shooting is not considered suitable as an off-campus activity for Tasmanian public schools. This is the case not just for shooting but for a range of activities, including bungee jumping, hang gliding, parachuting, and caving. This longstanding position reflects the potential risk of serious injury associated with these activities in this setting.

I recognise that many parents choose to be members of clay target shooting clubs with their children and to participate as a family. I welcome that, and support those who wish to take up this pursuit to do so in this way.

Our broader firearms policy remains as outlined to you, with recommendations from the House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms and Legislation Policy, which had tripartisan membership from the Liberal, Labor and Greens parties, currently being considered by the Government.

As you would be aware, Tasmanians have deeply held concerns about any changes to firearms laws, and we respect their views. Our over-riding principle remains that where there is any change to firearms laws, there needs to be widespread community understanding and support for that change.

In addition, as per the previous letter, Tasmanian Firearms Services are currently seeking to employ a Communications and Engagement Officer, which will work to enhance stakeholder engagement across the State, including with your organisation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Peter Gutwein'.

Peter Gutwein MP
Premier