

# **Weapons (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021**

Explanatory notes for SL 2021 No. 66

made under the

*Weapons Act 1990*

## **General Outline**

### **Short title**

*Weapons (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021*

### **Authorising law**

Section 172 of the *Weapons Act 1990*  
Schedule 1 of the *Weapons Act 1990*

### **Policy objectives and the reasons for them**

In accordance with Government policy, regulatory fees and charges are reviewed annually. The indexation of fees and charges seeks to maintain their value over time, relative to the anticipated increase in associated costs. The current Government indexation policy is that fees and charges are to be indexed at 1.7% for the 2021-2022 financial year.

The objective of the *Weapons (Fees) Amendment Regulation 2021* (the Amendment Regulation) is to amend the *Weapons Regulation 2016* to apply annual indexation of fees and charges in accordance with the current Government indexation policy.

### **Achievement of policy objectives**

The Amendment Regulation achieves its objectives by applying the Government indexation policy to fees and charges in the *Weapons Regulation 2016*.

### **Consistency with policy objectives of authorising law**

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the objectives of the authorising Acts.

### **Inconsistency with policy objectives of other legislation**

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the policy objectives of other legislation.

## **Benefits and costs of implementation**

Weapons licensing fees are regulatory fees that are charged to recover the costs of providing a regulatory service for the broader public good. Under the 'Principles for Fees and Charges' issued by Queensland Treasury (January 2020), the QPS must consider whether the administrative costs of charging and collecting weapons licensing fees are more than, or may be more than, the revenue collected. The Government indexation policy therefore has two benefits. Firstly indexation assists to ensure that the cost of charging and collecting weapons fees is not less than the revenue collected as part of the overall maintenance of the weapons licensing regulatory framework. Secondly, indexation ensures that weapons licensing fees maintain their value over time.

The costs associated with the implementation of the Amendment Regulation are negligible and will be met through existing budgets. Such cost include, for example, updating forms and publicly available information about weapons licensing, including the QPS Internet website.

## **Consistency with fundamental legislative principles**

The Amendment Regulation is consistent with the fundamental legislative principles as defined in section 4 of the *Legislative Standards Act 1992*.

## **Consultation**

The Queensland Police Service has concluded that the Amendment Regulation is exempt from regulatory impact analysis as it falls within the following exclusion categories outlined in the Queensland Government Guide to Better Regulation:

- category (h) 'Regulatory proposals that put forward standard annual fee variations in line with or below a government endorsed indexation factor'.

Consequently, the Office of Best Practice Regulation was not consulted about the Regulation.