



The Hon. Rick Mazza MLC
Member for the Agricultural Region
Parliament of Western Australia

Australia Post carriage of firearms service a win for regional WA

Agricultural Region MLC Rick Mazza of the Shooters Fishers and Farmers Party has welcomed the implementation of Australia Post's Secure Accept & Collect service.

The service allows for the safe delivery of firearms and firearm parts between licenced firearm dealers, repairers or manufacturers through 34 of 44 designated post offices in Western Australia commencing in July and the other 11 locations coming into service during August.

A requirement, introduced in 2015, for commercial carriers of firearms and ammunition to meet strict new conditions, eventually led to Australia Post being unable to carry firearm components. Farmers, firearms owners, dealers, repairers, manufacturers and industry stakeholders experienced significant problems in transporting firearms components necessary to continue their day to day operations.

Mr Mazza, a member of the Firearms Reforms Ministerial Working Group, (formed to assess the implementation of the Law Reform Commission's 143 recommendations from their review of the *Firearms Act 1973*) said the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (WA), the Firearms Traders Association and the Shooting Industry Foundation of Australia played a crucial role in negotiating with Australia Post and WA Police to provide a secure service.

"Firearms are a necessary tool in regional Western Australia and the period during which Australia Post was not an approved carrier for firearms forced some regional small business dealers to the brink of collapse," Mr Mazza said.

"Work on the implementation of the Law Reform Commission's recommendations is also ongoing and I am hopeful that we can deliver more positive outcomes for the industry," he said.

The resumed service allows for delivery into a number of metro locations and certain remote areas in WA, attracting an expected \$55 surcharge in addition to postage costs including \$500 transit warranty cover.

Ends

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