

FIREARMS



**KATTER'S
AUSTRALIAN PARTY**



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**KAP will always fight
to protect the rights
of law-abiding licenced
firearm owners.**

KAP supports:

- State government policies that recognise the difference between responsible firearm owners and those who misuse or illegally obtain firearms.
- Legislation based on facts, evidence and genuine consultation with law-abiding firearms users, rather than feelings, “optics” or to be seen to be “doing something”.
- An improved, electronic state-based firearms licensing system and firearm register; not a flawed and expensive national firearm register.
- Legislation that separates paintball guns, gel blasters, and other “non-firearms” (including antiques and pellet guns) from “proper” firearms.
- Establishment of hunting on suitable Crown Land, subject to proper oversight and management – much like the highly successful “R” Licence system in NSW.
- Recognition that licensed firearms owners are among the most responsible and law-abiding people in the community and should be treated as such.

KAP strongly supports legitimate firearms users, regardless of whether they are primary producers, hunters, recreational shooters, target shooters, collectors, or occupational users.

Licensed firearm owners in Queensland are among the most responsible, law-abiding citizens who have negotiated the complex and stringent suitability requirements mandated by the state’s Weapons Licensing Branch. Some examples of the challenges facing legitimate firearm owners are:

- Despite their compliance, law-abiding firearm owners are often unfairly blamed by some political parties and media outlets for gun related criminal conduct. They face continual government scrutiny and regulatory changes, particularly in the wake of high-profile incidents, which unjustly penalise legitimate firearm users and fail to address the real sources of criminal firearm misuse.
- Primary producers and sports shooters are amongst those most significantly impacted by the stringent weapons licensing regulations in Queensland.
- The Queensland Police Service Weapons Licensing Branch operates under an outdated and inefficient system, with insufficient resources.

In addition to supporting licenced firearm owners to navigate the above challenges, KAP opposes the proposal of a national firearm register. This will cost hundreds of millions of dollars and is unnecessary. Given the existing inefficiencies at the state level, KAP believe that improving the Queensland state firearm registry system’s efficiency and accuracy is a far more effective solution than implementing a new national register, which will only inherit the existing issues of the current Queensland registry.