

## Inquest into the death of Russell Winks

Mr Winks died on 17 November 2016 when he was shot by a police officer acting in the course of his duties. Police were called to Mr Winks' property when his wife called 000 to seek assistance as she mistakenly assumed Mr Winks had shot himself.

State Coroner Terry Ryan delivered his findings of inquest on 12 December 2018.

The Queensland Government responds to recommendations directed to government agencies at inquests by informing the community if a recommendation will be implemented or the reason why a recommendation is not supported.

The departments named in this response will provide implementation updates until the recommendation is delivered. Further information relating the implementation of recommendations can be obtained from the responsible minister named in the response.

### Recommendation 1

The Queensland Police Service review the Operational procedures manual in order to clarify the use of the term 'deployment' with respect to service rifles, including the point at which authorisation is required and the criteria necessary to justify such deployment.

Response and action: the recommendation is implemented.

Responsible agency: Queensland Police Service.

On 2 May 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective services responded:

The Queensland Police Service Operational Improvement Unit is collaborating with key stakeholders to review the *Operational procedures manual* relating to service rifles.

It is expected the amendments to the manual will be published in mid-2019.

### On 26 November 2019 the Minister for Police and Minister for Corrective Services responded:

The Queensland Police Service Operational Improvement Unit comprehensively reviewed section 14.5.1 of the Queensland Police Service *Operational procedures manual* pertaining to service rifles. The manual was amended to address the specific concerns of the state coroner, including:

- removed ambiguity with regards to the term 'deployment' of rifles (eg. approval authority)
- clarified the circumstances and approval authority for service rifle deployments for supervisors and trained officers
- clarified the use of force reporting.