

# HISTORIC ARMS COLLECTORS' COUNCIL OF AUSTRALASIA LTD

(A.C.N. 087 597 493)



## HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Antique & Historical  
Arms Collectors Guild of  
Victoria Inc.

New Zealand Antique  
Arms Association  
Incorporated

The Western Australian  
Arms & Armour Society  
Inc.

West Australian Ballistics  
Association (Inc.)

Antique Arms Collectors  
Society of Australia Co-op  
Ltd.

Arms & Militaria  
Collectors Association of  
NSW

The Arms Collectors  
Guild of N.S.W.

A.C.T. Antique &  
Historical Arms  
Association Incorporated

Arms Collectors Guild of  
Tasmania Inc.

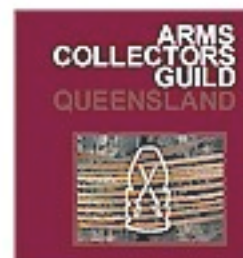
Heritage Arms Society  
(S.A.) Inc.

Arms Collectors'  
Association of N.T.

Arms Collectors Guild of  
Queensland Inc.

Southern Tasmanian  
Volunteer Artillery  
Service

Australian Cartridge  
Collectors' Association  
Inc.



## NEWSLETTER

### President's Introduction

My apologies for the delay in sending out this newsletter, however I have been busy in Sydney relocating my professional practice, and I've also moved house late last year.

The issues so far as HACCA is concerned are as follows:

- 1 Sporting Shooters & Firearms Advisory Council Meeting – Canberra 16 June 2005.
- 2 National Firearms Agreement Licence Category Review
- 3 National Firearms Management System Scoping System (KAZ Technology Services).
- 4 AGM set down for 21-23 October 2005 in Albury.

### Sporting Shooters & Firearms Advisory Council

I confirm that this meeting took place in Canberra on 16 June 2005. A copy of the Minutes tabled for that meeting are enclosed (Item 1). The Minutes and other reports in this newsletter are so lengthy that they are being sent by mail for ease of communication.

There are two main issues out of the Council being:

- Item 4 - NFA Category Review
- Item 8 – Firearms Theft and Storage Review

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### National Firearms Agreement Licence Category Review

The issues coming out of the Licence Category Review are many, even as far as historical collectors are concerned. With the material is the letter sent by me on behalf of HACCA to the Honourable Senator Ellison expressing the views of the Council (**Item 2**).

It is my recommendation that each State send a similar response to the Minister or Registry in charge of firearms in their own State.

### National Firearms Management System Scoping System Study

Directors will have, I assume, been approached by a KAZ Technology Services representative on behalf of the Government at State level to advise on the NFMS Scoping Study. I enclose for the Directors' benefit a copy of the submission sent to KAZ Technology Services on behalf of HAACA (**Item 3**).

If State groups have not made representations to KAZ Technology then I suggest they take up the suggestions in the enclosed submission.

I have not enclosed with this Newsletter a full copy of the NFMS Scoping Study or Consultation Process Guidelines as handed out at the meeting I attended in Sydney with representatives of KAZ Technology, as I assume that similar studies have been or will be handed out to directors through their own State collecting groups.

### AGM - Albury

You will have received an email from me recently advising you of the date of the AGM and requesting confirmation of numbers attending so that rooms can be confirmed and booked. I note that I have heard from Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory and New South Wales. Could

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Queensland, WA, South Australia and ACT advise whether they are attending.

### Timothy Powell, Queensland Collector and Customs Department

Some months ago received a position paper on Mr Powell's issue with the Queensland Police and the Customs Department. He had requested that the Council take matters up with the Customs Department in Canberra on his behalf in relation to various complaints he has about the Department and other matters.

The resolution of the Council was not to do so, and after having the matter investigated in Canberra by the Council's lobbyist a letter of advice was written to the Queensland Guild. Copies of this letter were circulated to all Directors.

There is a very lengthy letter dated 27 June 2005 from Timothy Powell, I presume in his capacity as a Committee Member of the Guild, although the letter has not been endorsed by the Secretary or President of the Queensland Guild. In the earlier letter of advice to the ACGQ I outlined procedures available to Mr Powell and the Guild if they wished to take the matter up by way of lodging complaints against the Queensland Police or the Customs Department. My opinion is still the same, however if other Directors have concerns I suggest they be aired at the AGM.

Paul Duffy  
President  
July 30, 2005

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**4<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council**

**4.00 pm, Thursday, 16 June 2005**

**Parliament House, Canberra**

1. Welcome and Opening of Meeting
2. Discussion and Endorsement of the Minutes of the Meeting of 2 August 2004
3. Update of Action Items Arising from Meeting of 2 August 2004
4. NFA Category Review
5. Export Processing of Shooting Teams
6. National Firearms Management System
7. National Minimum Firearms Safety Training Standards
8. Firearms Theft and Storage Review
9. National Handgun Buyback – Loss of Business
10. Up date on Review of the *Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations 1956*, including:
  - a. Film Armourers
  - b. Firearms Manufacturing
11. International Marking and Tracing Instrument
12. Other Business
13. Next Meeting

Herb 0417 685 584.

## National Firearms Agreement Review

### Objective

To inform Council members of the National Firearms Agreement (NFA) review, including the scope and purpose of the review.

### Background

The Australian Government together with the States and Territories have introduced reforms since the Port Arthur and Monash University shootings which aim to improve public safety whilst taking into account the interests of people that have a genuine reason to access firearms, including sports shooters, primary producers, hunters and collectors. Recently, advances in firearm technology have highlighted the need to review the firearm licence categories developed in 1996 under the NFA to ensure that the ownership, possession and use of firearms remains consistent with emerging technologies, and that the type of firearm owned, possessed and used is matched appropriately to the genuine reason for which the firearms licence has been granted.

As a result, the Senior Officer's Group, consisting of each of the State and Territory Police Commissioners and representatives of the Australian Government, requested on 21 April 2005 that a review be conducted of the firearms categories developed under the NFA.

### Purpose

The purpose of the NFA category review is to address recent advances in firearms technology which have highlighted gaps in the current firearm categories. The aim is to ensure that appropriate levels of control are in place to protect the community and take account of the interests of the firearms community.

Some of the identified gaps include:

- Beretta has released to the market a two shot semi-automatic shotgun specifically designed for clay target shooting. Under the present law it is classified as a Category C firearm, which is not generally available to sports shooters.
- A range of pump-action centrefire rifles has been manufactured with the ability to take detachable high capacity magazines (e.g. 20 – 30 rounds). Currently, these firearms are considered Category B firearms and therefore are available to sports shooters and hunters. However, concerns have been raised by various parts of the firearms community that such high capacity firearms are not appropriate for sports shooting purposes.

### Progress

The FPWG has commenced the NFA category review. It is open ended but is expected to be completed towards the end of the year. There will be an opportunity for Council members to consult on any proposals that result from the review,

however, at this stage, we cannot provide a timeframe on when information on proposals will be available. In the interim the Attorney-General's Department is currently receiving comments on the review and welcomes the input of Council members through comments at the meeting or submissions in writing to the Department.

The table at Attachment A is a summary of initial discussions with States and Territories which sought to develop a comprehensive approach to classifying firearms under the NFA licence categories. The Council's input is sought on the impact of the proposed reclassifications on the firearms community.

In addition to comments on Attachment A, the Australian Government is interested in gaining Council member views on the following specific issues:

- Are there gaps in the NFA firearms categories that you believe need to be addressed?
- Are there any emerging "genuine reasons" that are not currently covered by the NFA license categories that should be addressed?
- What is an appropriate maximum magazine capacity for the various long arms covered by the current NFA categories?
- Do you have any other specific concerns you would like to raise at this stage?

The Council's input will be integral to the future of these proposals, particularly advice on the practical impact of any changes.

Comments are requested by 4 July 2005.

## **Firearms National Minimum Safety Standards**

### **Objective**

To provide Council members with an update on implementation of the standards, and an opportunity to comment on a proposal to develop training material to be used in delivering the standards.

### **Background**

As part of the 1996 National Firearms Agreement it was agreed that States and Territories would ensure that all first time firearms licence applicants would successfully complete an accredited course in firearms safety training. Further, in November 2002, as part of its resolutions on handguns, the Australasian Police Ministers' Council (APMC) resolved that a national firearms safety training program should be developed, in consultation with key stakeholders, as a matter of priority.

The aim of the "Minimum National Standards for Firearms Safety Training, in Australia" (Standards) is to introduce a nationally consistent minimum standard of content for firearms safety training courses across Australia that draw firearms owners' attention to their legal obligations, community safety awareness, and teaches them how to use firearms safely and responsibly.

Council members commented on the Standards a number of times during their development. Following a final round of community wide consultation in April/May 2004, the Standards were provided to APMC for endorsement. The Standards have not yet been fully endorsed, with some jurisdictions undertaking further consultation.

### **Training Materials**

In support of the Standards, the Firearms Policy Working Group (FPWG) resolved to investigate the development of training materials to support the training standards once they have been fully endorsed. A working group has been formed to investigate training material options.

While it is not envisaged that all training will be conducted in exactly the same way by each State and Territory, the provision of consistent training materials will assist in ensuring a level of uniformity across States and Territories.

The working group is currently proposing that the core content of the training materials be based on the National Firearms Safety Code. The content will not address legislation or procedures which vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction nor will it dictate how jurisdictions should deliver their training program.

It is suggested that training be provided in a number of different forms to ensure the widest dissemination of information. This might include:

- Video/CD or DVD located at various establishments including community libraries to enable broad access

- Interactive CDROM
- Web based E-Learning materials located centrally on the Attorney-General's Department site and linked to each jurisdiction's website
- Brochures – not considered necessary, at this stage as the National Firearms Safety Code could be made available in PDF format on the Internet site.

All further actions to implement the Standards or develop materials from the working group's draft plan are subject to the endorsement of the Standards by all jurisdictions.

### **Proposed Next Steps**

The working group is interested in gaining your views on the following issues:

- What firearms training materials you think would best assist your members?
- Are there particular concerns that your members face which could be addressed through the training materials?
- Do you think sports shooter clubs would benefit from using training materials as refresher training for members as well as to prepare new members for the required course?
- Are there any particular marketing strategies that would appeal to your members?
- Do you have any other comments or issues you would like to raise about training materials?

The working group will take account of all feedback received in developing its plan. It is expected that you will be provided with further opportunity to comment on the training materials as they develop.



## **National Firearms Management System Scoping Study**

### **Objective**

To provide Council members with an update on the progress of the National Firearms Management System (NFMS) Scoping Study.

### **Background**

On 17 November 2004, the Australasian Police Ministers Council (APMC) agreed to the conduct of the NFMS Scoping Study. I announced that the Australian Government would provide up to \$1M to fund the study and that the balance would be funded by jurisdictions.

The Scoping Study is being managed by a Project Team comprising senior representatives from the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department (co-chair), Victoria Police (co-chair), CrimTrac, South Australia Police and New South Wales Police. The Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department is also performing the secretariat function for the Project Team.

### **Purpose**

The purpose of the Scoping Study is to investigate broad options and costs for the development of a national firearms management system. Ideally, the NFMS will provide a system for managing firearms from the point of import/manufacture to the point of export/destruction.

The NFMS is being proposed to improve Australia's management of firearms.

It is envisaged the NFMS will:

- Improve the processes involved with owning, selling, manufacturing, importing and exporting firearms.
- streamline the amount of paperwork required to own, sell, manufacture, import and export firearms.
- simplify the processes involved with moving firearms between States/Territories (eg relocation or interstate events).
- improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to identify the diversion of legal firearms into the illicit market.

The Scoping Study will consider input from stakeholders as well as legislative, operational, policy, international and financial considerations to provide a report to APMC. The report will assist the APMC in deciding whether to proceed with a business case to fully cost the development of the NFMS.

An open tender process to identify a person to conduct the study was advertised on the AusTender website from 12 January 2005 to 25 February 2005. The tender was evaluated by the Project Team, and on 5 May 2005 KAZ Technology Services Pty Ltd (KAZ) was contracted by the Attorney-General's Department to conduct the Scoping Study.

All jurisdictions have provided input into the development of a stakeholder list that has been provided to KAZ to ensure all relevant parties have input into the Scoping Study. The process will give you the opportunity to provide information about your current processes and what you would like the NFMS to achieve.

The list of stakeholders includes:

- All members of the SSFAC
- State and Territory Police Services
- State and Territory Police Ministries
- Australian Government Agencies
  - Attorney-General's Department
  - Australian Customs Service
  - Department of Defence
  - Australian Crime Commission
  - Australian Institute of Criminology
  - CrimTrac
- Firearms dealers
- Firearms importers and exporters
- Sporting shooters
- Sports shooting clubs and associations
- Film armourers
- Historical collectors
- Primary producers
- Firearm manufacturers
- Security industry
- Anti-gun lobby

- Other interest groups (medical groups, universities).

### **Progress**

KAZ has commenced the consultation process and it is envisaged that a final report will be submitted to APMC in the second half of 2005.

KAZ have completed consultation with:

- ACT Department of Justice and Community Safety
- AFP Forensics
- Northern Territory Police
- Australian Crime Commission
- Crim Trac
- Department of Defence
- NT Firearms Council

## Attachment A: National Firearms Agreement Category Review

The following tables provide a suggested re-categorisation of all possible firearm types in accordance with the following criteria:

- Firearm type
  - air gun
  - rimfire
  - muzzle loading
  - shotgun
  - centrefire
  - handgun
- Speed of firing - action
  - n/a for muzzle loading firearms
  - single shot
  - break action (single barrel, double barrel, over-under)
  - repeating action (bolt, lever, pump)
  - self loading (semi-auto, full-auto)
- Ease of reloading – magazine
  - n/a for muzzle loading and single shot firearms
  - Integral (including tube)
  - External (including belt fed)
- Capacity
  - 1-2
  - 2-5
  - 6-10
  - 11 or more

*too complicated*

### Air Firearms (excluding air handguns)

Action Type	Magazine Type	Calibre	Current Category	Proposed Category	Proposed Category	Justification for proposal
Single shot (single or double barrel)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
break action (non-repeating)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
bolt action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
lever action	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
pump action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change

		3 to 5	A	A	A	no change
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
semi automatic	Integral	1 to 2	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
fully automatic	Integral	1 to 2	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
		3 to 5	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
		6 to 10	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
		11 and greater	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
		3 to 5	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms
		6 to 10	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic

						firearms
		11 and greater	A	D	D	consistent with other fully automatic firearms

## Rimfire Rifles

Configuration	Magazine type	Capacity	Category	Category	Category	Justification for proposal
Single shot (single or double barrel)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
break action (non-repeating)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
bolt action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
lever action	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
pump action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with



						risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	A	C/D	D	no reason for possession
semi automatic	Integral	1 to 2	C	B	C	existing policy
		3 to 5	C	B	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	C	C	C	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	C	B	C	existing policy
		3 to 5	C	B	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	C	C	C	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	no change
fully automatic	Integral	1 to 2	D	D	D	no change
		3 to 5	D	D	D	no change
		6 to 10	D	D	D	no change
		11 and greater	D	D	D	no change
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	D	D	D	no change
		3 to 5	D	D	D	no change
		6 to 10	D	D	D	no change
		11 and greater	D	D	D	no change

## Centrefire Rifles

						Recommendation for Proposed
Single shot (single or double barrel)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
break action (non- repeating)	n/a	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
bolt action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
	Detachable	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
lever action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	impact of change too high v risk
	Detachable	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
pump action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change
		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	impact of change too high v risk
	Detachable	1 to 2	B	B	B	no change

		3 to 5	B	B	B	no change
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
semi automatic (self-loading)	Integral	1 to 2	D	B	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	B	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable	1 to 2	D	B	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	B	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
fully automatic (self-loading)	Integral	1 to 2	D	B	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	B	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable	1 to 2	D	B	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	B	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy

## Shotguns

Shotgun Type	Magazine Type	Capacity	Current Rating	Proposed Rating	Proposed Change	Justification for Proposed Change
Single shot (single or double barrel)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
break action (non-repeating)	n/a	1 to 2	A	A	A	no change
		3 to 5	A	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	A	C	C	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	A	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
bolt action (repeating)	Integral (Tubular)	1 to 2	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	not covered	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	not covered	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
lever action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	not covered	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	not covered	B	B	consistent with risk
		11 and greater	not covered	D	D	consistent with other high capacity
pump action (repeating)	Integral	1 to 2	C	B	C	existing policy

		3 to 5	C	B	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	C	B	C	existing policy
		3 to 5	C	B	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	C	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
semi automatic	Integral	1 to 2	C	B	B	consistent with risk
		3 to 5	C	B	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	D	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	C	B	C	existing policy
		3 to 5	C	C	C	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	D	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
fully automatic	Integral	1 to 2	D	D	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	D	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	D	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy
	Detachable (including belt fed)	1 to 2	D	D	D	existing policy
		3 to 5	D	D	D	existing policy
		6 to 10	D	D	D	existing policy
		11 and greater	D	D	D	existing policy

## Muzzleloading long arms

Activity	Maximum DPE	Capacity	Current Category	Proposed Category	Proposed Category	Justification (if proposed)
Muzzle loading	nil	1 to 2	B	A	B	existing policy
		3 to 5	B	B	B	consistent with risk
		6 to 10	B	C	B	impact of change too high v risk
		11 and greater	B	D	D	consistent with other high capacity