



# Firearm Amnesties and Central Firearms Register Action Plan

Portfolio Committee  
on Police  
- 24 AUGUST 2021

# PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- Section 1: Introduction
- Section 2: Progress on Firearms Amnesties and Applications
- Section 3: Progress on Central Firearm Register Action Plan
- Section 4: Report on Stolen Firearms at Police Stations



# Section 1: Introduction



# INTRODUCTION

- 1 March 2021 - visit by the Deputy Minister of Police, together with the Deputy National Commissioner: Policing and Divisional Commissioners.
- 15 May 2021 - visit by the Portfolio Committee on Police (PCoP).
- The Central Firearms Register (CFR) Action Plan was subsequently developed to address challenges impacting on the finalisation of firearm licence related applications.
  - R 30 million was allocated, additional to the baseline allocation, for the finalisation of firearm licence activities.
  - R 62 million was allocated for both the development of the e-Submission System and the acquisition of a digital system.
  - The successful implementation of the CFR Action Plan is influenced by 3<sup>rd</sup> party dependencies and actions to manage and contain COVID-19.
    - These factors manifest themselves as challenges that affect performance related to the finalisation of firearm licence applications.
  - The presentation covers progress made from May 2021, to date.

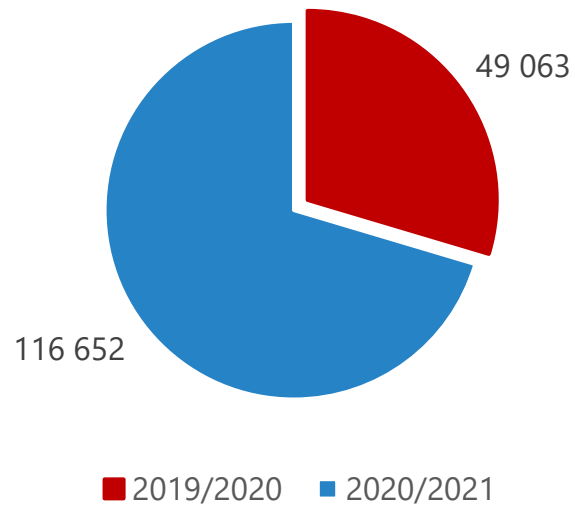


## Section 2: Progress on Amnesties and Applications

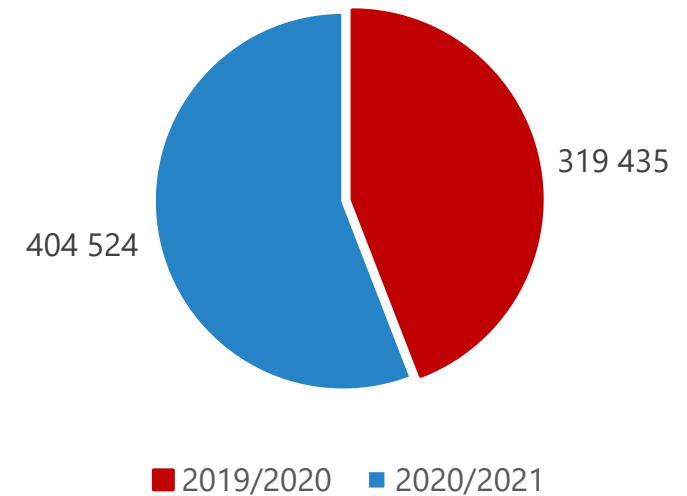


# FIREARMS AND AMMUNITION SURRENDERED FOR 2019/2020 AND 2020/2021 AMNESTY

Surrendered Firearms as at  
31 July 2021 - 165 715



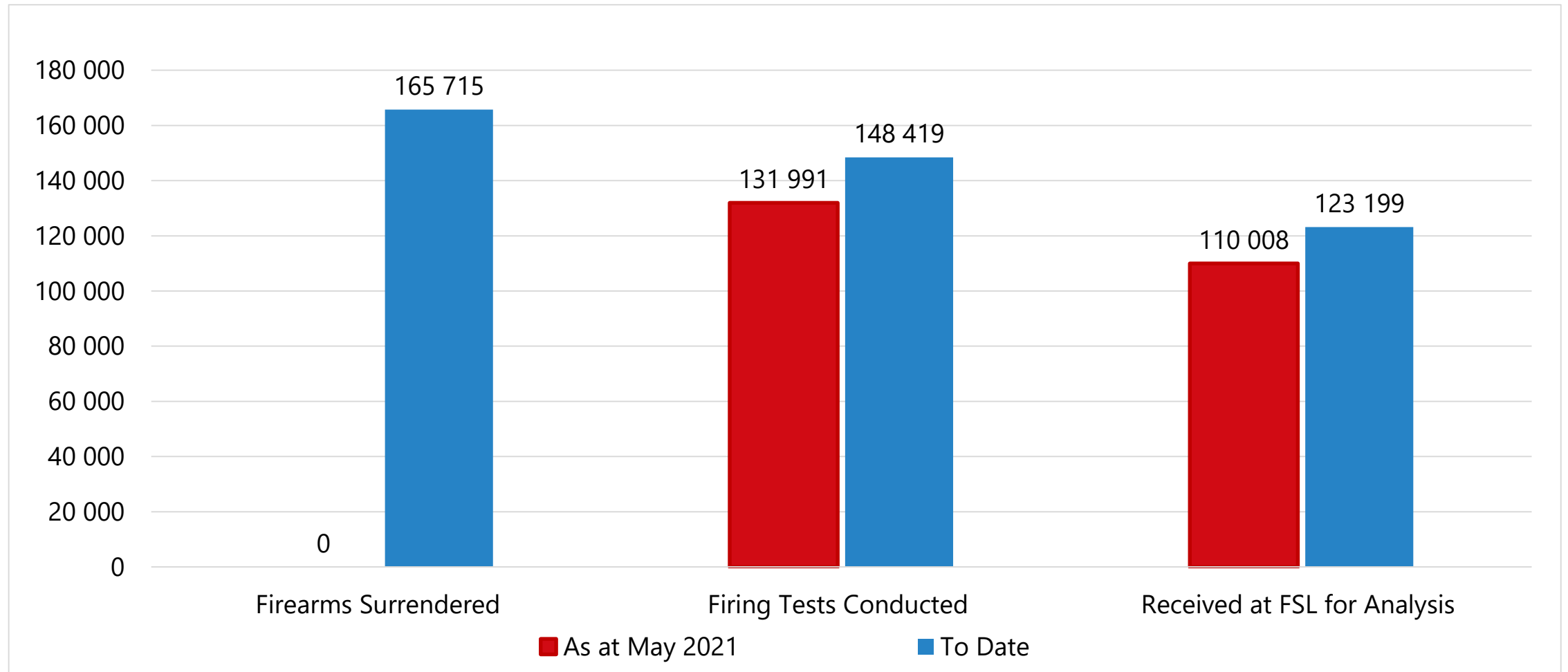
Surrendered Ammunition as at  
31 July 2021 - 723 959



Amnesty Period	Totals on EFRS - May 2021*	Captured on EFRS - To Date*	Outstanding - To Date	Total
2019/20	47 409	91	1563	49 063
2020/21	114 205	1 629	818	116 652
Totals	161 614	1 720	2 381	165 715

\*Sourced from the EFR System on 16 August 2021

# FIRING TEST AND SPECIMENS RECEIVED AT FSL FOR BOTH AMNESTIES



A total of 123 199 test specimens were received nationally, of which 54 507 were finalized and 68 692 are still in process.

# AMNESTY FIREARMS DESTROYED PER PROVINCE

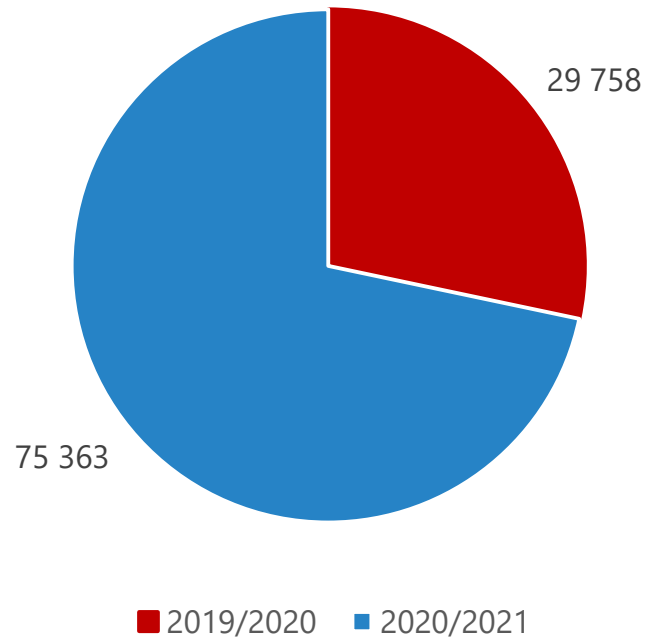
Province	Amnesty 2019/2020	Amnesty 2020/2021
Eastern Cape	271	0
Free State	1 448	2 270
Gauteng	5 963	2 008
KwaZulu-Natal	1 161	0
Limpopo	1 204	1 202
Mpumalanga	1 589	261
North West	705	0
Northern Cape	1 314	0
Western Cape	1 043	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 698</b>	<b>5 741</b>

20 439 Amnesty firearms destroyed were subjected to IBIS testing and were not linked to applications and crime.



# LICENCE APPLICATIONS FOR SURRENDERED FIREARMS

Licence Applications for Surrendered Firearms - 105 121



## Firearm Licence Applications:

Amnesty Period	Totals on EFRS - May 2021	Captured on EFRS - To Date	Outstanding - To Date	Total
2019/2020	28 420	1	1 337	29 758
2020/2021	71 314	1 967	2 082	75 363
Totals	99 734	1 968	3 419	105 121

## Firearm Applications Finalised:

Amnesty Period	Finalised May	Finalised To Date
2019/2020	10 658	14 899
2020/2021	1533	4241

# STATUS OF FIREARM APPLICATIONS ADMINISTERED

Categories	March 2021	April to July 2021		Number of applications in process
	Brought Forward	Received	Finalised	
Competency Certificates	141 486	89 009	42 199	188 296
Firearm Licences	123 544 (including 67 788 Amnesty-related applications)	62 677	47 313	138 908 (including 86 801 Amnesty-related applications)
Renewals - Business	10 169	7 033	2 272	14 930
<b>Total</b>	<b>275 199</b>	<b>158 719</b>	<b>91 784</b>	<b>342 134</b>

*Sourced from the EFR System on 16 August 2021*

# FIREARM APPLICATIONS FINALISED WITHIN AND OUTSIDE 120 WORKING DAYS

Categories	Finalised within 120 days	Finalised outside 120 days	Total Finalised
Competency Certificates	10 755	31 444	42 199
Firearm Licences	18 120	29 193	47 313
Renewals Business	1 085	1 187	2 272
<b>Total</b>	<b>29 960</b>	<b>61 824</b>	<b>91 784</b>

*Sourced from the EFR System on 16 August 2021*

# AGE ANALYSIS OF APPLICATIONS IN PROCESS

Categories	0 -120 Days	121-240 Days	241+ Days	Number of Applications in Process
Competency Certificates	127 311	52 895	8 090	188 296
Firearm Licences	87 033	27 197	24 678	138 908
Renewals Business	8 781	2 545	3 604	14 930
Total	223 125	82 637	36 372	342 134

Renewal of Individual Applications (30 June 2021)	Less than 2 years	More than 2 years
Provinces	176 317	4 028

# REASONS FOR DEVIATION AND INTERVENTION

Reasons for Deviation		Intervention
Absenteeism due to COVID-19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Total CFR strength 244.</li> <li>7 396 days lost due to COVID-19 related.</li> <li>878 days lost due to leave (155 members).</li> <li>8 274 total number of days lost.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementation of Disaster Management Regulations.</li> <li>National Instructions.</li> <li>Monitoring of absenteeism.</li> </ul>
POLFIN-EFRS Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Payment not linked to the applications.</li> <li>Delay in rectifying payment on the POLFIN system.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identification of hotspots:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gauteng; KwaZulu-Natal; Eastern Cape and Western Cape.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Team established to focus on Gauteng.</li> <li>Request for the enhancement of the system to block processing of applications not linked was submitted to TMS.</li> </ul>
Ballistic Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outstanding Test-Firing.</li> <li>Of the total Ballistic reports received only 25% are linked to applications.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Functionality of FSL (Ballistic) allocated to CFR personnel to access reports.</li> <li>Summarised monthly Ballistic Analysis Reports received from FSL.</li> </ul>
CRC Reports (AFIS Reports)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Processing and finalisation of AFIS reports.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approved condonation for "PROFILING" on 20 July 2021.</li> </ul>



## Section 3: Progress on Action Plan for the Central Firearm Register

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## Pillar 1: Enhancement of Capacity and Capability

### Goal: Improved Capacity To Process And Manage Lifecycle of Firearm Applications

#### Key Action

#### Progress

1. Establish teams to finalise all 2019/2020 and 2020/21 Firearm Amnesty activities that includes:
  - Firearms capturing;
  - Firearms test firing;
  - Firearms licence applications

Teams have been established at all nine provinces and the National Team continue to monitor progress. Capturing and Test Firing :

Category	March 2021	July 2021
Firearms Capturing	20 261	2 381
Applications Capturing	6 910	3 419
Test Firing	39 705	17 200

Decentralised functions to rectify preferences at the provincial offices.

2. Increase existing capacity to deal with the increasing backlog by identifying members who have knowledge and understanding in the process

The following provinces have increased capacity (trained members have been identified to assist the hotspot stations):

- KwaZulu-Natal.
- Mpumalanga.
- Gauteng.
- North West.
- Northern Cape.
- Limpopo.
- Western Cape.

The following provinces were unable to capacitate, due to DFOs' workload at various stations, the shortage of personnel and the effect of Covid-19, as well as deployments during the civil unrest:

- Free State.
- Eastern Cape.

Key Action	Progress
3. Centralization of DFO functions at the provincial level	<p>Only the Western Cape centralised the DFO function to the Provincial level</p> <p>The remaining provinces have not centralised, due to shortage of personnel and the effects of COVID-19 as well as deployments during the civil unrest.</p>
4. Establish teams to monitor and verify capturing process	<p>The National Team has visited all provinces for monitoring the administration process on all outstanding firearm related applications from 2021-03-15 to 2021-05-28.</p>
5. Implement overtime hours to expedite the processing of firearm applications	<p>Overtime was implemented at CFR and Provinces from April to July 2021, summarised as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total number of Members – 457.</li> <li>• Total hours worked – 6 436.</li> <li>• Total Cost – R 1 119 462,39.</li> </ul>
6. Investigate the root cause of the inconsistency of the EFRS	<p>SITA Technical team roles and responsibility was provided.</p> <p>The root cause analysis was completed, Monitoring of the network infrastructure and EFRS system performance is ongoing.</p> <p>The system was slow and was off-line, on one occasion, during August 2021.</p>



Key Action	Progress
<p>7. Conduct workshops in the provinces for DFOs and Cashier Services for POLFIN and EFRS linkages</p>	<p>National workshops being conducted by the CFR still on hold. The remaining two provinces (Western Cape and Mpumalanga) were postponed due to the surge in COVID -19 infections.</p> <p>The following provinces conducted workshops:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KwaZulu-Natal conducted 2 workshops with a total of 15 stations visited.</li> <li>• Limpopo trained a total of 19 DFO's and 61 Cashiers.</li> </ul> <p>The following interventions are currently in place in the Provinces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Western Cape: Interim arrangement - a dedicated officer assisting with enquiries and rectifications.</li> <li>• Gauteng: Provincial Visible Policing assists with immediate interactions when needed. Workshops with all Station personnel to ensure compliance and establish skills to effectively complete the process remain in place at Provincial level.</li> </ul>
<p>8. Allocation of related Ballistic functions to CFR PERSONNEL for access and retrieval of ABIS reports</p>	<p>The enquiry function was developed on the Forensic Services Laboratory (FSL) Administration System, Division: Visible Policing Users were trained and registered to utilize the function, for the purpose of retrieving the IBIS report.</p> <p>In addition, system generated reports are also sent to the users monthly.</p> <p>The final confirmation of IBIS finding forms part of the Ballistics analysis process on a comparison microscope and is conducted by a Forensic Analyst.</p> <p>The reports will be made available when positive findings are made.</p>
<p>9. Expedite the processing of IBIS and AFIS reports</p>	<p>54 376 Amnesty requests have been acquired onto the IBIS, to date.</p> <hr/> <p>A total of 21 104 AFIS reports are still in process at the CRC.</p>

## Pillar 2: Enhance Governance

### Goal: Efficient and Effective Process Institutionalised within the CFR Environment at all Levels

Key Action	Progress
1. Review basic condition of services to allow for shift system within the CFR environment	<p>Internal engagements with relevant stakeholders are being convened to discuss the possibility of introducing a shift system within the CFR environment.</p> <p>In addition, a business case is being prepared for presentation at the SSSBC.</p>
2. Conduct an analysis to sustain capacity within the Firearm Environment in relations to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Age;</li><li>- Retention; and</li><li>- Career path.</li></ul>	<p>A SAPS Retention Policy has been approved and is designed to retain (key/essential) job specific skills where appropriate.</p> <p>The policy is presently being consulted – an implementation plan, per Division, will be developed thereafter.</p> <p>The age-analysis indicates that the CFR has an experienced workforce. Only 4 employees will retire in the next three years. Timeous staffing processes will be initiated, in such cases.</p>
3. Capacitate the DFO environment with adequate staff to meet the demands by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Conduct a work study investigation for CFR.</li><li>- Implement Recommendations of the Work-study investigation.</li></ul>	<p>The work study was approved on 2021-06-04. Awaiting approved Project Charter to continue with investigation at provincial and station levels.</p> <p>Charter submitted on 2021-06-04, for consideration and/or approval.</p> <p>Gauteng: Provincial FLASH has identified all vacant/critical posts in the FLASH environment, at provincial level and communicated the vacancies to Provincial HRM.</p> <p>The following posts have been filled within the CFR environment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 4 X Lieutenant Colonel.</li><li>• 4 X Provisioning Administration Clerks.</li></ul> <p>Total posts filled at CFR - 8 (gained 3 members).</p>

Key Action	Progress
4. Conduct business process mapping to determine the service standards and timeframes to finalise applications for firearm licences.	<p>The work study regarding the Organisational, Functional and Staff Establishment of the CFR was approved by the National Commissioner, on 4 June 2021.</p> <p>Awaiting approved Project Charter to continue with investigation at provincial and station levels, including time studies at all levels.</p>
5. Enhance DFO's skills through training	<p>The Designated Firearm Officer Training Manual was reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Remaining provinces could not continue with training, due to COVID-19 Level 4 Regulations.</p> <p>A total of 137 DFOs were trained between April and May:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• April - 57.</li> <li>• May - 40.</li> <li>• June - 40.</li> </ul>
6. Effective implementation of the Ethics and Anti-corruption strategy	<p>An Anti-corruption Task Team comprising of Crime Intelligence, the Anti-Corruption Unit and Integrity Management was established.</p> <p>Vetting of Flash members/officials:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nationally - 131.</li> <li>• CFR - 47 vetted and 40 in process.</li> </ul> <p>Rotation of members to minimize corruption.</p> <p>All members/officials have signed the Code of Conduct.</p> <p>No corruption activity was detected or members charged.</p> <p>No ethics and advocacy programmes conducted, due to COVID-19 restrictions.</p>

### Pillar 3: Storage Facilities and Accommodation

#### Goal: Secure and Suitable Storage, Filing Facilities and Office Accommodation for Personnel

Key Action	Progress
1. Acquire an alternative building for housing of the CFR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A submission has been made to NDPWI for alternative accommodation as a short-term measure while there is also an active project for the repair and renovation of the Telkom Towers IT Building, that has been allocated as state-owned accommodation.</li><li>• The NDPWI is busy with application of space and cost norms (the Division: SCM awaits the outcomes of the activities), tentative date for completion is 2022-03-31.</li><li>• The arrangements to relocate the documents (files) to the Telkom Towers IT Building, to alleviate the weight on Veritas Building are in process. The procurement of the relevant filing shelves, in accordance with National Treasury Transversal Contract, has been initiated, to be finalised by the end of September 2021.</li></ul>
2. Maintain the Veritas Building in accordance with ISO standards and OHSACT in order to ensure value for money and conduct monthly inspections in terms of OHSACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SHE Compliance Representatives were appointed to ensure compliance on a daily basis. SHE committees are convened, as prescribed, to ensure compliance.</li><li>• The fumigation of facilities is conducted on a quarterly basis</li><li>• The NDPWI has been engaged the property owner on building defects, however, only the malfunctioning lift was attended to.</li><li>• A Procurement Instruction will be issued for alternative leased accommodation through an expeditious process, to run concurrently with the planned maintenance at the Telkom Towers IT Building.</li></ul>
3. Digital migration of the filing system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A User Requirements Specification for CFR applications related to firearms licensing records back scanning to the current systems, was obtained.</li><li>• A digitised filing system for records archiving, using an Enterprise Content Management (ECM) solution was reviewed with SITA.</li><li>• On 27 May 2021, SITA was tasked to review the specification for establishment of the contract.</li><li>• On 22 June 2021, SITA consolidated the CFR filing requirement into the SAPS ECM Strategy task.</li><li>• The aligning of CFR records archiving to the existing data, as mandated by Firearms Control Act (Act 60 of 2000) and its Regulations, has been considered within the SAPS ECM solution specification.</li></ul>

## Pillar 4: System Development and Enhancement

### Goal 1: New and Enhanced Systems and Controls

Key Action	Progress
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Procure (New Firearm Control System) e-Solution system that allows for electronic submission and processing of applications</li><li>2. Conduct a piloting of the e-Solution System</li><li>3. Deployment of the E-solution System at all levels</li></ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key activities completed/in process:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Bid/tender processing to award recommendations.</li><li>- Bid Evaluation process activities (completed).</li><li>- Technical evaluation.</li><li>- Due-diligence (including signed report) pricing/B-BBEE evaluation.</li><li>- Evaluation report compilation and authorisation processes activities.</li><li>- Compilation and submission of Evaluation Report.</li><li>- External Audit Review Report: planned 03 to 13 August 2021.</li><li>- Review, finalisation and signing of the Submission Report is scheduled for 16 to 20 August 2021.</li></ul></li></ul>



# Section 4: Report on Stolen Firearms at Police Stations



# BACKGROUND

- Emanating from incidences of attacks on Police members and Police Stations resulting in robbery, theft and loss of firearms and investigations that led to the linking of firearms recovered at crime scenes, to SAPS 13 stores, in particular the recent example linked to the Norwood SAPS 13 Store, measures are being implemented to mitigate the risk of robbery, theft and loss of firearms.
- The NATJOINTS Intelligence Coordinating Committee (ICC) identified a threat against police stations and members, which involved the specific objective of obtaining firearms and ammunition.

# MEASURES PUT IN PLACE TO SECURE FIREARMS AT POLICE STATIONS (1)

- The following measures were implemented to address security of firearms in SAPS Exhibit Stores (SAPS 13):
  - SAPS 13 Building and Security Standards developed and circulated for compliance.
  - SAPS 13 validation and clearance of all firearms implemented.
  - Fast tracking the IBIS test firing and processing to Forensics on all categories of firearms.
  - SAPS 13 Clearance Committees established to inspect and to ensure procedural management of property items until disposal.
  - National Task Team audited amnesty firearms and made recommendations based on all categories.
  - National Instruction 8 of 2017: Property and Exhibit Management developed and circulated for compliance.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> level compliance inspections of SAPS 13 by Commanders.
  - Access control to SAPS 13 stores limited to authorized members.



# MEASURES PUT IN PLACE TO SECURE FIREARMS AT POLICE STATIONS (2)

- Measures implemented to address security of firearms within the SAPS (Official Firearms):
  - National Crime Combating Forum instruction 03 of 2021 was circulated to all Provinces on 18 July 2021 instructing all Commanders and members to implement measures to enhance police safety and prevention of attacks targeting police stations in terms of the Police Safety Strategy and Plan.
  - Divisional Commissioner Visible Policing and Operations issued a directive on 08 August 2021 to ensure Police safety and mitigate the risk of possible attacks on police stations. All provinces are expected to provide monthly reports to report incidents of attack against members and police stations.
  - National Instruction 6 of 2018 on Movable Government property that includes specific requirements for the management of SAPS firearms circulated.

# MEASURES PUT IN PLACE TO SECURE FIREARMS AT POLICE STATIONS (3)

- The SAPS currently makes use of 9 central firearm storage facilities, where firearms identified for disposal are stored prior to destruction.
- All Commanders were instructed to conduct physical firearm and ammunition inspections during on-duty and off-duty parades.
- All Commanders instructed to keep minimum firearms and ammunition in the CSC safes to be issued for operational duties in order to minimize the risk.
- All Commanders were instructed to ensure proper control over issuing of firearms by utilizing the approved SAPS 457 Firearms Register, SAPS 15 Duty Sheet and SAPS 10.



**THANK YOU** |