



**Hon Greg Smith SC MP**  
Attorney General  
Minister for Justice

**Hon Michael Gallacher MLC**  
Minister for Police and  
Emergency Services

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## **JOINT MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **NSW PRESSES FOR NATIONAL ACTION ON ORGANISED CRIME**

NSW would welcome the Commonwealth Government becoming more involved in the fight against organised crime and firearms, Attorney General Greg Smith SC and Police Minister Mike Gallacher said today.

Mr Gallacher is calling for an urgent meeting of the Standing Council for Police and Emergency Management to discuss ways of combatting firearm-related crime across Australia.

And Mr Smith said NSW would be “seeking agreement from all to maximise the effort against organised crime” when Federal and State Attorneys General start a two-day meeting in Canberra this afternoon.

“There should be mutual recognition of each other’s legislation and orders made in one State should be recognised in another,” the Attorney General said.

“These are criminals that do not respect borders and are ruthless in exploiting weaknesses, so it’s up to all of us to ensure there are none.”

Mr Smith said there was a limit to what the States could achieve through co-operation.

“We would like the Commonwealth to be more involved and look at drawing up national laws against outlaw gangs,” he said.

“However, we would be very reluctant to surrender our own powers.”

Mr Gallacher said NSW did not want to wait until the next meeting of State and Federal police ministers, which has been scheduled for August in Sydney.

“I am asking the Federal Government to support the meeting being held at the earliest possible time, rather than waiting another four months,” he said.

Mr Gallacher said the meeting should be provided with a briefing on the illegal gun market and its links to gang activity in Australia by the recently announced Australian Crime Commission National Intelligence Assessment.

The Minister said NSW police had already stopped a major shipment of guns from Germany, with the help of federal authorities.

“It is in the interests of all states and the Federal Government that a national approach is taken to stop the illegal importation of firearms, and to organised crime in general.”