



New South Wales

Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Amendment (Knife Scanning) Bill 2026

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to give effect to recommendations arising from the statutory review of the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002* (*the Act*), Part 4A.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act.

Schedule 1 Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 No 103

Schedule 1 amends the Act, Part 4A, which provides for the use of hand-held scanners in designated areas by police officers, to give effect to the 7 recommendations arising from the statutory review.

Schedule 1[7] gives effect to Recommendation 1 by removing the automatic expiry of the Act, Part 4A. Schedule 1[7] also omits a redundant provision that gave rise to the statutory review.

Schedule 1[3] gives effect to Recommendation 2 by allowing a major entertainment venue to be declared as a designated area. **Schedule 1[1]** defines *major entertainment venue* and *associated area*.

Schedule 1[2] gives effect to Recommendation 3 by amending the definition of *senior police officer* to mean a police officer of or above the rank of Superintendent. Senior police officers may declare areas to be designated areas.

Schedule 1[4] gives effect to Recommendation 4 by providing that a declaration of a designated area may remain in force for up to 24 hours.

Schedule 1[6] gives effect to Recommendation 5 by omitting a requirement that a police officer requiring a person to stop and submit to the use of a hand-held scanner be of the same sex as the person.

Schedule 1[5] gives effect to Recommendation 6 by providing that the power of a police officer to require a person to stop and submit to the use of a hand-held scanner while on board a public transport vehicle applies to an area within 2 public transport stations before and after a public transport station in a designated area.

Schedule 2 Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation 2016

Schedule 2 gives effect to Recommendation 7 by requiring records about the exercise of powers under the Act, Part 4A to include information about the age, gender and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status of each person charged with an offence as a result of the use of a hand-held scanner on the person.



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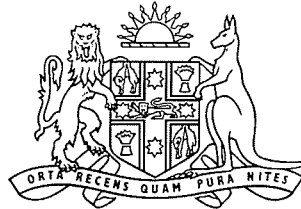
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This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



New South Wales

Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Amendment (Knife Scanning) Bill 2026

No , 2026

A Bill for

An Act to amend the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002* and the *Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation 2016* in relation to the use of hand-held scanners in designated areas.

The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL has this day agreed to this Bill with/without amendment.

Legislative Council

Clerk of the Parliaments

Tabling copy

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—	1
1 Name of Act	2
This Act is the <i>Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Amendment (Knife Scanning) Act 2026</i> .	3
	4
2 Commencement	5
This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.	6

Schedule 1 Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Act 2002 No 103

[1] Section 45D Definitions

Insert in alphabetical order—

associated area, for a major entertainment venue, means an area in the immediate vicinity of the venue, including an area that—

- (a) is used for meeting or queuing outside the venue, or
- (b) is a vehicle parking or vehicle set-down area associated with the venue.

major entertainment venue means the following venues, if the venue has a capacity of more than 1,000 persons and includes an associated area—

- (a) a stadium or arena,
- (b) a theatre,
- (c) premises for which a primary business or activity is the provision of entertainment to members of the public.

[2] Section 45D, definition of “senior police officer”

Omit “Assistant Commissioner”.

Insert instead “Superintendent”.

[3] Section 45F Declaration of designated areas

Insert after section 45F(c)—

- (c1) major entertainment venues,

[4] Section 45I Period during which declaration of designated area is in force

Omit “12 hours”.

Insert instead “24 hours”.

[5] Section 45L Authorised use of hand-held scanner without warrant on board public transport vehicles

Omit section 45L(2)(a) and (b).

Insert instead—

- (a) on board a public transport vehicle while the vehicle is travelling between—
 - (i) the public transport station in the designated area (the *designated area station*), and
 - (ii) the 2 public transport stations in any direction from the designated area station, whether or not the vehicle stops at the 2 stations, or
- (b) if the person leaves the vehicle at one of the 2 stations—in a public place at that station.

[6] Section 45O Safeguards for exercise of powers

Omit section 45O(3).

[7] Sections 45Q and 45R

Omit the sections.

Schedule 2	Amendment of Law Enforcement (Powers and Responsibilities) Regulation 2016	1
		2
Clause 47A	Records relating to exercise of powers under the Act, Part 4A	3
	Omit “person.” from clause 47A(d).	4
	Insert instead—	5
	person,	6
	(e) the demographic characteristics of each person charged with an offence,	7
	including the following, if known—	8
	(i) the person’s age,	9
	(ii) the person’s gender,	10
	(iii) the person’s Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander status.	11