



**NSW Police Force**  
www.police.nsw.gov.au

Mr Garry Mallard OAM  
PO Box 517  
Bega NSW 2550

Our Ref: D/2011/15920

18 May 2011

Dear Mr Mallard,

**RE: ARCHER PRACTICE IN PUBLIC SPACES**

I refer to your undated letter sent to the Hon. Kevin Greene MP, Minister for Sport and Recreation and the subsequent response from Ms Sharpe, Parliamentary Secretary for Police dated 28 January, 2011.

I have been asked to respond to your request for information, from the perspective of the NSW Police Force, regarding the law pertaining to archer practice in public spaces.

I note in your letter that you have made inquiries with local police and that they have been unable to provide you with a definite response. I trust the following will assist you.

Firstly, I concur with the observations of Ms SHARPE and confirm that a long-bow is not a prescribed prohibited weapon. Consequently it does not fall under any of the provisions of the *Weapons Prohibition Act (NSW) 1998*. Your possession and use of the long-bow is not illegal. You will however note that there are criminal sanctions available for its improper use.

I note your observation that you seek to practice archer on either recreational parks and/or sporting fields in your local area. Whether these parks or fields are Crown or Community Land is irrelevant, what is relevant from your perspective is that all activities on such land are the responsibility of Bega Valley Council 'the Council'.

Both the *Crown Lands Act 1989* (Crown Land) and the *Local Government Act 1993* (Community Land), prescribe that the Council must adopt a Management Plan for such parks and fields. The Council's Management Plan will detail what is and what is not allowed to take place on such parks and fields. This however is an inquiry that you must press with the Council.

Perhaps you will need to explore the feasibility of practicing your sport on private property rather than in the public domain.

**Firearms Registry**

Locked Bag No. 1 Murwillumbah NSW 2484

Telephone 1300 362 562 Facsimile 02 6670 8558 Efax 64538 TTY 02 9211 3776 (Hearing, Speech impaired)

APR 43 2011 11:18 AM

If I can be of any further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phill Houlton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

*Phill Houlton*

General Manager

NSW Firearms Registry