



NSW Police Force

# Frequently Asked Questions

This Fact Sheet provides information relating to frequently asked questions arising from the commencement of the *Scrap Metal Industry Act 2016* on 1 March 2017.

FACT SHEET

4

## WHO WILL REGULATE SCRAP METAL INDUSTRY LEGISLATION?

Police will regulate the *Scrap Metal Industry Act 2016*. They will be authorised to enter scrap metal business premises at a reasonable time without a warrant and investigate contraventions of the Act. They will be empowered to: search; take photographs and recordings; seize and copy records; and take other regulatory measures.

## WILL THERE BE FINES FOR BREACHES OF SCRAP METAL INDUSTRY LEGISLATION?

Yes. There will be significant penalties for a variety of infringements including:

- operating an unregistered scrap metal business
- failing to maintain appropriate records
- taking possession of motor vehicles without authority from police that have had identifiers removed, obliterated, defaced or altered
- hindering or obstructing police
- paying cash for scrap metal (except for aluminium cans which are exempt)
- carrying on a business of dealing in scrap metal while a closure order is in force.

## WHAT ARE CLOSURE ORDERS UNDER THE SCRAP METAL INDUSTRY ACT 2016?

Where police are satisfied a scrap metal business is not registered or there have been or there is likely to be serious criminal offences committed at or in connection with the premises, they can:

- enforce an interim closure order for 72 hours
- apply to the courts for a long-term closure order

## WHAT IF I THINK SCRAP METAL THAT IS BEING PRESENTED FOR SALE IS STOLEN OR UNLAWFULLY OBTAINED?

Scrap metal dealers are required to report suspicious transactions to police.

## WILL I BE ALLOWED TO PAY CASH FOR SCRAP METAL THAT I PURCHASE?

No. The Act prohibits paying cash for scrap metal. You must ONLY pay by cheque or electronically transfer funds to an account provided by the seller.

## SECURITY LICENSING & ENFORCEMENT DIRECTORATE

Locked Bag 5099  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Telephone: 1300 362 001

Fax: 1300 362 066

Email: [sled@police.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sled@police.nsw.gov.au)

Website: <http://www.police.nsw.gov.au>

## WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION?

The information provided in this Fact Sheet is for general guidance only. Scrap metal dealers should familiarise themselves with the *Scrap Metal Industry Act 2016* and the *Scrap Metal Industry Regulation 2016* which are available on the NSW Legislation website ([www.legislation.nsw.gov.au](http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au)).

