



Our reference: A26/36399

5 February 2026

Hon Felix Ellis MP  
Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management

Via email: S36

Dear Minister

## **FIREARMS MANAGEMENT AND REFORM IN TASMANIA**

In the wake of the Bondi terrorist incident, we are once again confronted with the devastating consequences that arise from the misuse of firearms. While these events are tragic, they also present an opportunity for meaningful reform that addresses the risks highlighted by such horrific crimes.

Following the Port Arthur massacre, in which 35 lives were lost, the Government acted swiftly and decisively to strengthen Australia's gun laws. The introduction of the National Firearms Agreement (NFA) and the subsequent buy-back program represented a watershed moment in our nation's approach to firearm safety. However, the impact of these reforms has diminished over time. The total number of firearms in circulation nationally now exceeds pre-1996 levels.

This moment provides a renewed opportunity to consider how we meet community expectations regarding the management and oversight of firearms. Many Australians remain unaware of the sheer number and types of firearms that can be legally owned and used in this country.

As Commissioner of Police, I take very seriously my dual responsibility: ensuring the safety of the Tasmanian community and safeguarding every police officer who places themselves in harm's way each day. Firearms present a real and increasing threat to both the public and our officers. The murder of Constable Keith Smith on 16 June 2025 was a confronting reminder that the presence of a firearm can change the outcome of even the most routine policing task.

As Police Minister, you have played a vital role in supporting Tasmania Police through the budget process, strengthening essential safety equipment such as MIPVs and enabling the introduction of new initiatives including Tasers. Police officers across the State are sincerely grateful for this commitment. They are now looking to you once again to demonstrate continued commitment to their safety. You stood with us in the aftermath of the tragic murder of Constable Smith, and we now seek your support as we confront the growing risks posed by firearms in our community.

As you are aware, there are now 157,022 registered firearms in Tasmania, owned by 36,598 licence holders. Almost 9,000 licence holders own six or more firearms. Firearms theft means that even legally registered and stored firearms can fall into the wrong hands, enabling serious criminal activity, including family violence.

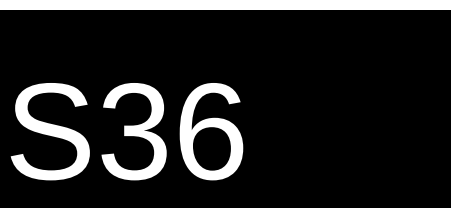
The National Firearms Agreement—endorsed by Tasmania, all other jurisdictions, and the Commonwealth—makes clear that “firearms possession and use is a privilege that is conditional on the overriding need to ensure public safety.” I believe this principle must remain central to our decision making. Public safety must take precedence over the privilege of firearms ownership.

Together with my fellow Australian Commissioners of Police, I stand ready to support reforms that enhance public safety, strengthen police safety, and improve community confidence.

In terms of policy and legislative change, I reiterate my support for the national firearms reform agenda, including a proposed firearms cap.

Thank you for your leadership and for the serious consideration you and your Government are giving to this issue. I look forward to continuing to work with you towards reforms that improve safety for all Tasmanians

Yours sincerely

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**Donna Adams PSM APM**  
COMMISSIONER



to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

Our references: This document - A26/262180

Your references: MIN26/27034, MIN26/27034/10

## REQUEST TO REALLOCATE FUNDING - FIREARMS RELICENSING PEAK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

|                                                                                                                                                              |                      |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| <div> <div>APPROVED</div> <div>NOT APPROVED</div> </div> <div> <div>Signed:</div> <div> <div>S36</div> </div> <div> <div>Date: 10/8/2026</div> </div> </div> | <div>Comments:</div> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|

### Recommendations

That you:

- S27

  - Note that existing resources cannot be redeployed to this activity due to the Department's already depleted workforce, including the high number of workers compensation absences, and State Service employment restrictions, including the redundancy program.
  - Approve a reallocation of \$492,000 per annum across two years, from funds set aside for the buyback scheme, to support the Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework.
  - Note that the FRPMF will generate in excess of \$2.8 million in licence fees that will be returned to the Consolidated Fund.
  - Note that if the reallocation is not approved, Firearms Services will be required to focus on high priority activities that have a direct community safety risk related to compliance and enforcement, with the likelihood of significant service delivery impacts.

### Background

- The *Firearms Act 1996* was introduced in 1997, establishing a new licensing system. Applicants had a choice of three or five-year licences, most choosing the five-year option. This resulted in a very large proportion of licence holders (currently 44% - 15,680) renewing their licences on a subsequent five-year cycle –

requiring extra staffing within Firearms Services (FAS) on and around those Peak Relicensing Years. The number reduces slightly on each cycle, but it is still disproportionate and unmanageable with resourcing that is only adequate for the other four years in the licence cycle.

- While a renewal application generally takes less time to assess and process than a new application, the Act requires that each renewal must be assessed as if it were a new application, with a focus on local and national police checks, relevant medical history, and evidence supporting the licence category genuine reasons.
- The first few peak years (2002, 2007 and 2012) resulted in complaints and criticism from firearms owners and dealers, due to the processing delays that were experienced as a result of the high volume of renewals and inadequate staffing. In 2017, three additional staff were recruited to support the peak year, however delays still occurred due to staff not being engaged quickly enough and other competing factors (WLF Review, technology faults, change of Manager).
- These concerns were one of the main drivers behind the establishment of the 2019 House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy (HoA Select Committee).
- One of the HoA Select Committee recommendations was that 'the Tasmanian Government, through Firearms Services, develops and implements solutions to address the peaks every five years in licence renewal applications and for the solutions to be acted on prior to 2022'.
- For the 2022 peak renewal period, this recommendation was addressed through the recruitment of a project team of five staff and the establishment of the Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework (FRPMF).
- Under this framework, staff are recruited six months out from the start of the peak to allow sufficient lead in time for training and establishment of new processes, and a number of activities are undertaken to manage the increased workload and reduce its impact by spreading it out across a two-year period.
- In normal circumstances, a renewal reminder is sent out to a licence holder two months prior to licence expiry. A key aspect of the FRPMF involves process and system changes to send renewals out at least six months prior to expiry, allowing the additional staff to process the renewals over a flattened peak period and maintain service delivery expectations.
- The 2022 peak renewal period was managed with minimal disruption to service delivery standards, no identified community safety impacts, and generating the additional revenue as expected.
- A chart showing the number of licence renewals since 2002 is appended to this document. The actual number of renewals each year is generally lower than predicted, due to some licence holders opting not to renew, however this has historically been a relatively small number.
- During the peak renewal period, Firearms Services is also required to continue to manage all other licensing and registration matters, including new licence applications, permits to acquire, transfers of registration and dealer transactions, range approvals, storage inspections, reviews relating to existing licence holders,

suspensions, cancellations and exemption requests. These processes can quickly be affected by delay if the peak renewal period is not staffed adequately.

- Other firearms reform activities also impact Firearms Services, such as the current legislative amendment agenda, and the development of the National Firearms Register project.

### Current situation

- There are 14,913 firearms licences due to expire during the 2027 calendar year. This compares to an average of around 5,000 renewals in non-peak years.

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- On 10 June 2026, you approved the progression of the Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework 2026-2028 project at an estimated cost of \$420,000 to \$500,000 per annum for two financial years, commencing 1 July 2026; noting that

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- While DPFEM will implement mitigation strategies wherever possible, it is important to recognise that the additional workload associated with the 2027 firearms relicensing peak cannot be absorbed without consequential impacts on service delivery, regulatory oversight and community safety outcomes.

### Alternative funding source

- In the 2026-27 State Budget, Treasury has set aside \$5 million for Tasmania's participation in the proposed national buyback scheme.

DPFEM - RTI File Disclosure - 2026-27 State Budget, Treasury has set aside \$5 million for Tasmania's participation in the proposed national buyback scheme.

- Approval is sought to reallocate \$492,000 of this funding per annum across two years to facilitate the FRPMF, noting that the buyback scheme will be significantly impacted if the peak renewal period is not resourced sufficiently.
- It is within your authority as the responsible Minister under the *Financial Management Act 2016* to approve the reallocation given expenditure for both programs is within the same output group and will not exceed the total allocation. This approach has been discussed at officer-level with the Department of Treasury and Finance.
- If approved, DPFEM will still flag the FRPMF expenditure within the Budget Information Management System (BIMS) as a risk, noting the intention to address the risk through a reallocation from buyback scheme funding.
- It will also be noted that the FRPMF will generate substantial revenue for government, with approximately 15,000 renewals generating in excess of \$2.8 million in licence fees over the peak period that will be returned to the Consolidated Fund. This is \$2 million over and above the amount currently budgeted within BIMS.

#### **Intended mitigations if no funding is identified**

- The effect of not funding the FRPMF is not that the relicensing work disappears; rather, the work would need to be undertaken by diverting resources from existing service delivery and compliance functions.
- In practical terms, DPFEM is required to choose between:
  - Maintaining current compliance and community safety activities and accepting significant delays in firearms licence processing; or
  - Prioritising licence processing and reducing regulatory, compliance and risk-mitigation activities that support public safety.
- Without additional resourcing, Tasmania Police Firearms Services will be required to focus on regulatory activities that address risk and community safety priorities, ensuring only fit and proper people have access to firearms. In this context, consideration is currently being given to cessation/reduction of the following activities during the peak renewal period:
- Applications for new firearms licences will not be processed, with the exception of interstate licence holders moving to Tasmania with firearms.
- Applications for permits to acquire new firearms by existing licence holders will not be processed, with the exception of applicants requiring firearms for business or employment purposes eg primary production and animal welfare.
- Applications for exemptions will not be processed, again with the exception of applicants requiring firearms for business or employment purposes eg primary production and animal welfare.
- Firearms Services may also be required to extend processing timeframes for other non-priority applications and transactions.
- This will enable Firearms Services to focus on processing the increased number of renewals, ensuring those seeking to renew remain fit and proper people in accordance with the Act. Each application requires an assessment of a person's

ongoing suitability, including criminal history checks, intelligence holdings, family violence considerations, medical matters and other risk indicators. These activities are critical safeguards designed to prevent firearms coming into the possession of persons who may represent an unacceptable risk to the community.

- During the peak renewal period, Firearms Services will also prioritise reviewing new information and changes of circumstances relating to existing licence holders, suspension and cancellation of licences, actioning expired licences, storage inspections and other compliance activities that address risk and safety matters.
- The 2022 peak management framework demonstrated that advance resourcing enables Firearms Services to manage relicensing demand without compromising service delivery, community safety outcomes or workforce wellbeing. The absence of equivalent funding for the 2027 peak will increase operational risk to the Department and create a foreseeable deterioration in both customer service outcomes and firearms regulatory oversight.

### Stakeholder and communications considerations

- The impacts of not staffing the FRPMF for the upcoming peak renewal period is likely to result in increased customer complaints, stakeholder dissatisfaction and ministerial correspondence.
- Similar issues were experienced during earlier relicensing cycles and were amongst the factors that led to consideration by the *House of Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy* in 2019.

### Financial considerations

- As outlined, annual licence renewal volumes are expected to increase from approximately 5,000 applications in a non-peak year to just under 15,000 during the 2027 relicensing cycle. Every renewal application attracts a prescribed licence fee, with the peak renewal year expected to generate more than \$2.8 million in revenue for Government.
- The additional workload is therefore not the result of a discretionary service enhancement or new policy initiative. Rather, it is the consequence of administering a statutory licensing process that generates a substantial increase in revenue for Government.
- While Firearms Services is expected to process approximately three times its normal annual renewal volume during the peak period, the resources currently available to undertake this work remain unchanged. Consequently, the Department would be required to absorb the additional workload generated by that increased revenue without a corresponding increase in capability.
- From an operational perspective, this creates a situation where increased revenue is realised by Government, but the regulatory resources required to undertake the associated assessment, compliance and risk-management activities are not provided. The practical effect is that existing service delivery and community safety activities would need to be reduced in order to process the additional volume of revenue-generating applications.

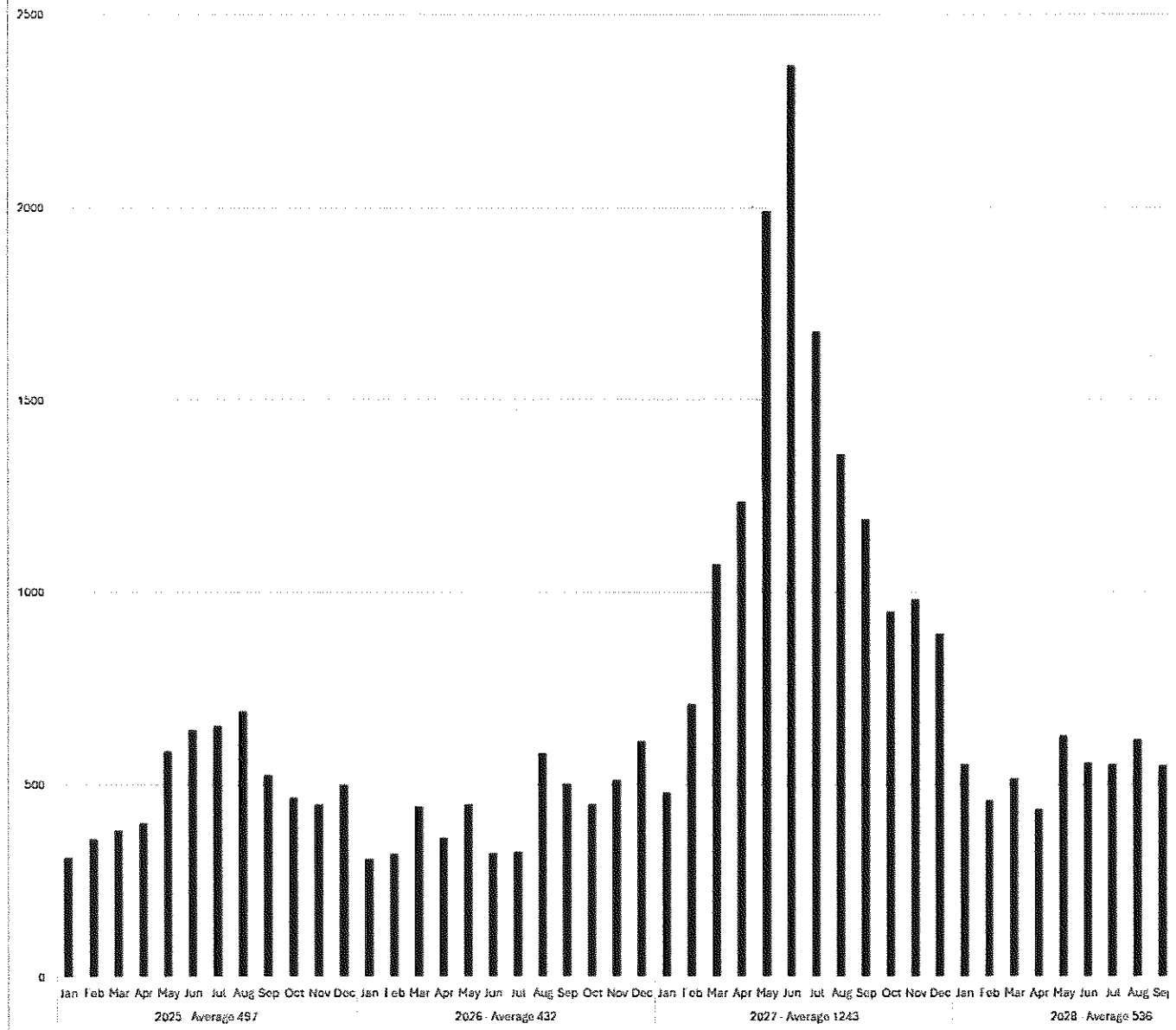
- The funding request seeking approximately \$492,000 per annum for two years represents a comparatively small investment when considered against the forecast revenue of more than \$2.8 million generated during the relicensing cycle and the significant community safety responsibilities associated with administering Tasmania's firearms licensing framework.

### Next steps

- If the request to reallocate the funding is approved, DPFEM will submit a variation to the funding allocation to Treasury for approval.
- If the request is not approved, DPFEM will commence planning to implement the proposed mitigation activities outlined in order for Firearms Services to manage the 2027 peak renewal period without additional staffing.



Donna Adams  
**Commissioner**  
6 August 2026





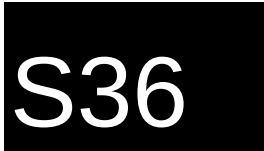
to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

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Our references: This document A26/262415

Attachment 1 – A26/262177 Commissioner' Submission to the *Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026*

## **FIREARMS AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2026 – COMMISSIONER'S SUBMISSION**

|                                                                                                                              |           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>NOTED</b><br>Signed: <br>Date: 14/8/2026 | Comments: |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

### **Purpose**

- To provide you with a copy of my submission to the public consultation relating to the *Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026*.

### **Background**

- The *Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026* has been distributed for public consultation for a six-week period 3 July 2026 to 7 August 2026.

### **Current situation**

- Please find enclosed my submission to the draft Bill, noting my support for further reforms in addition to those amendments that are currently proposed.

### **Stakeholder and communications considerations**

- While the public consultation period does not close until 7 August 2026, I am advised that more than 350 submissions have been received to date.

### **Financial considerations**

- The financial implications arising from the draft Bill have been addressed in separate correspondence.

### **Next steps**

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- That you note the submission.

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Donna Adams  
**Commissioner**  
6 August 2026

## Tasmania Police

Office of the Commissioner  
GPO Box 308 HOBART TAS 7001  
Phone 1800 765 827  
Email S36



Our reference: A26/262177

6 August 2026

Strategy and Support

Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management

GPO Box 308

HOBART TAS 7001

Via email: [submissions.strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au](mailto:submissions.strategy.support@dpfem.tas.gov.au)

### **CONSULTATION SUBMISSION ON THE FIREARMS AMENDMENT (MISCELLANEOUS) BILL 2026**

As Commissioner of Police, I welcome the opportunity to provide a submission on the *Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026* (the Bill).

Tasmania Police is the principal law enforcement agency in this state. The aim, behind everything we do, is that Tasmania is a place that is safe for everyone to live, work and visit. I see this Bill as an important step towards reducing risks and improving safety for our frontline police officers and the broader Tasmanian community.

As you are aware, I have publicly expressed my support for further reforms than what is currently proposed, including the introduction of limits to the number of firearms that a person may own, aligned with national reform discussions and legislation that has been passed in Western Australia and New South Wales. Reducing the total number of firearms in the community, while continuing to permit the lawful use of firearms by people who can demonstrate a genuine reason and need, will enhance officer and community safety.

Tasmania Police has a range of responsibilities under the *Firearms Act 1996* (the Act), including the granting of licences, registration of firearms, conducting licence reviews and suspension or cancellations, and the investigation of criminal offences under the Act. Tasmania Police is deeply impacted by any reform of this legislation.

Tasmania has consistently supported nationally coordinated firearms reforms since the introduction of the *Firearms Act 1996* and continues to participate fully in the development of the National Firearms Register (NFR) and broader National Firearms Agreement (NFA)

reform agenda. The Bill represents an important step in modernising Tasmania's firearms regulatory framework and implementing agreed national reforms.

Tasmania Police supports the Bill noting that the proposed amendments will significantly improve firearms tracing, intelligence sharing, compliance monitoring and public safety outcomes. The reforms are particularly important in the context of National Cabinet decisions made following the Bondi terrorist attack of December 2025 and the ongoing implementation of the NFR.

The Bill addresses the more immediate legislative priorities, including:

- implementation of NFR requirements;
- strengthening controls against firearms theft and trafficking;
- reclassification of straight-pull and button/lever-release firearms;
- enhanced information sharing and verification requirements;
- improved dealer reporting and record-keeping obligations;
- citizenship requirements for firearms licensing; and
- stronger sentencing outcomes for serious firearms offending.

Noting my views on further reforms that I believe ought be considered, the proposed amendments will assist Tasmania Police in our efforts to improve oversight and regulation of firearms in our community.

### **National Firearms Register Reform**

The NFR is the most significant firearms reform project undertaken nationally since the NFA in 1996.

National Cabinet has agreed that the Register will provide near real-time access to firearms licensing, registration and permit information across all Australian jurisdictions. Key capabilities include licence verification, interstate movement notifications, regulatory alerts and improved intelligence sharing.

Many of the proposed amendments directly support those objectives, including:

- creation of licence and permit verification requirements;
- improved dealer transaction reporting;
- electronic dealer record-keeping provisions;
- storage location reporting requirements; and
- information-sharing enhancements.

Tasmania Police strongly supports these reforms as essential prerequisites for successful NFR implementation.

### **Reclassification of Straight-Pull and Button/Lever-Release Firearms**

Tasmania Police supports the proposed reclassification of straight-pull and button/lever-release rifles and shotguns to Category C, however notes that the proposed definition limits the reclassification to centrefire versions only. This limitation is unnecessary and does not

align with community safety considerations. Rimfire rifles should also be included in the definition.

National reform discussions have identified that these firearms can achieve rates of operation that significantly exceed those traditionally associated with conventional bolt-action firearms and effectively circumvent the intent of longstanding restrictions on rapid-fire firearms. It has been widely reported that these types of firearms were used in the December Bondi terrorist attack. It is apparent the rapid reloading operation of these firearms enabled faster targeting of victims in a shorter time period.

New laws introduced by the Commonwealth in January 2026 now restrict importation of all types of these firearms, including rimfire versions. These firearms can no longer be imported into Australia unless the importer satisfies the same tests applicable to the importation of a semi-automatic firearm. For Tasmania that is a category C or D licence – depending on the magazine capacity.

To expand the definition of straight-pull and button/lever-release rifles and shotguns to include rimfire rifles would affect reclassification of an additional 1,141 firearms.

#### *Current Registered Firearms by Rimfire Status – Selected Types*

|                | <b>Straight Pull</b> | <b>Self Ejecting</b> | <b>Total</b> |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| Is Rimfire     | 652                  | 489                  | 1,141        |
| Is Not Rimfire | 1,175                | 38                   | 1,213        |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>1,827</b>         | <b>527</b>           |              |

Source: Tasmania Police Firearms and Weapons Database System, 2 July 2026

The reclassification of all straight-pull and button/lever-release firearms appropriately aligns the licensing framework with contemporary firearm technology and community expectations regarding public safety.

### **Firearm Theft and Trafficking Reforms**

Firearm theft remains a significant source of diversion into illicit firearms markets.

Tasmanian data demonstrates an increasing trend in firearms theft incidents with an increasing number of firearms being stolen. In 2021-22 there was an average of 3.3 firearms stolen per incident and by 2025-26 there was an average of 3.7 firearms stolen per incident.

The below table demonstrates trend data over five years:

|                           | <b>2021-22</b> | <b>2022-23</b> | <b>2023-24</b> | <b>2024-25</b> | <b>2025-26</b> |
|---------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Firearm Theft Incidents   | 37             | 27             | 35             | 42             | 40             |
| Number of Firearms Stolen | 121            | 90             | 123            | 160            | 149            |

Source: Tasmania Police Offence Reporting System 2, 9 July 2026

The strengthened offence provisions contained within the Bill will significantly improve Tasmania Police's ability to target criminal access to firearms, including:

- increased penalties for possession of stolen firearms;

- alternative verdict provisions;
- summary prosecution options;
- a specific firearm theft offence; and
- mandatory custodial sentencing provisions.

### A snapshot of firearm offending and licence suspension or cancellation

Tasmania Police is responsible for investigating all firearms offences and for prosecuting summary firearms matters. Over a five-year period there has been a modest increase of incidents where either a firearm has been used as a weapon in the commission of a crime, or where there has been the unlawful discharge of a firearm (not necessarily in connection with a crime).

|                                         | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 |
|-----------------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Incidents Involving Firearm Use         | 97      | 100     | 83      | 118     | 108     |
| - Firearm Used as Weapon Incidents      | 70      | 69      | 57      | 76      | 79      |
| - Unlawful Firearms Discharge Incidents | 34      | 41      | 34      | 49      | 33      |

Source: Tasmania Police Offence Reporting System 2, 9 July 2026

Five-year trend data demonstrates there has been a steady increase in the number of offenders charged with firearms offences.

|                    | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 |
|--------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Firearms Offenders | 456     | 489     | 511     | 695     | 672     |

Source: Tasmania Police Prosecution and Information Bureau Systems, 9 July 2026

This data captures all firearms offenders and does not delineate which offenders were firearms licence holders as opposed to offenders who did not hold a licence. There is strong argument that the increased firearms dealer and firearms owner reporting responsibilities, along with introducing the enhanced capabilities from the NFR will reduce diversion of lawful firearms to the illicit firearms market thus assist in reducing firearms offending and improve community safety.

It is also useful to consider suspension or cancellation decisions that have been made in relation to firearms licence holders. Tasmania Police may suspend or cancel a firearms licence pursuant to sections 51 and 53 of the Act. Suspension of a licence occurs in the first instance where a licence holder is issued with an order, charged with a relevant crime or offence; or when information is received that indicates some risk posed to themselves or others. Cancellation may follow a suspension in those circumstances, or following conviction for an offence. During the last 5 years there has been a steady increase in the number of suspensions and cancellations. The implementation of the NFR will assist in monitoring compliance with the Act by licensed firearms holders.

|                             | 2021-22 | 2022-23 | 2023-24 | 2024-25 | 2025-26 |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Firearms Licences Cancelled | 65      | 129     | 129     | 144     | 272     |
| Firearms Licences Suspended | 230     | 291     | 277     | 339     | 342     |

Source: Tasmania Police Firearms and Weapons Database System, 10 July 2026 \*Excludes licenses of dealers and minor permits.

## Citizenship Requirements

Tasmania Police supports making Australian citizenship the default qualification for firearms licensing, with the proposed exemptions.

This position aligns with Tasmania's contribution to national reform discussions, which have supported Australian citizenship as a core licensing requirement while recognising appropriate exemptions for New Zealand permanent residents and individuals legitimately employed within primary production industries. I support the balanced approach reflected in the Bill which also allows for discretion where it is reasonable that it should apply.

## Further Reform Recommendations

While Tasmania Police supports the Bill, consideration should be given to additional reforms that have been discussed nationally and are being progressed by some jurisdictions, with the support of the Commonwealth.

### Firearms Ownership Caps

One of the key policy positions arising from the national reform discussions post-Bondi is the introduction of a limit on the number of firearms that a person may own. This aims to address the concentration of large numbers of firearms within a comparatively small proportion of licence holders.

The link between reducing firearms in the community and reduction of harm is well evidenced. The Australian Institute of Criminology reports<sup>2</sup> that between 1991 and 2001 the rate of firearms related deaths in Australia decreased significantly. In 1991 there were 629 firearm related deaths in Australia and by 2001 there were 333 firearm related deaths, this represents a 47% decrease. It is noted the NFA was implemented during this period resulting in the national buyback.

The impact of firearms caps in Tasmania on current licence holders would not be significant but would enhance community safety. Current statistics indicate in Tasmania:

- 75 per cent of licence holders own five or fewer firearms;
- 25 per cent own six or more firearms; and
- 1,541 licence holders own eleven or more firearms.

Tasmania Police acknowledges that firearm ownership caps must include appropriate exemptions for:

- primary producers;
- collectors;
- firearms dealers; and
- legitimate competitive shooting activities.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.aic.gov.au/publications/tandi/tandi269>

It is important that Tasmania remains engaged in national policy development on ownership caps and preserve flexibility to implement nationally agreed settings that will improve community safety for all Tasmanians:

- access to intelligence that provides continuous intelligence-based monitoring of firearms licence holders;
- automatic alerts regarding adverse intelligence holdings;
- notification of interstate firearms prohibition orders; and
- ongoing assessment of public safety risks.

#### Future Restrictions on Emerging Firearm Technologies

National Cabinet has agreed that reform work should continue regarding firearm technologies designed to circumvent existing categorisation frameworks.

Parliament should maintain a mechanism for expedited regulatory response to:

- emerging rapid-fire firearm platforms;
- novel operating systems;
- conversion devices;
- future technological developments not presently contemplated by the Act.

This will ensure the legislation remains responsive to emerging risks. It is noted that the Victorian Government has provided authority to the Commissioner of Police to temporarily reclassify new firearms technologies and high risk emerging firearms.

#### **Conclusion**

The *Firearms Amendment (Miscellaneous) Bill 2026* represents a substantial and necessary enhancement of Tasmania's firearms regulatory framework.

The Bill aligns Tasmania with nationally agreed reform directions, supports implementation of the National Firearms Register, strengthens responses to firearm theft and trafficking, improves information sharing and modernises licensing arrangements.

Tasmania Police supports the Bill, subject to the comments and recommendations outlined in this correspondence.

Yours sincerely

**S36**

**Donna Adams PSM APM**  
COMMISSIONER

to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

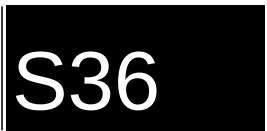


Our references: This document A26/198899

Attachment 1 – A25/183521 – Firearms Licence Application Form - November 2025

Attachment 2 – A26/196246 – Firearms Licence Application Renewal Form – June 2026

## NEW FIREARMS APPLICATION AND RENEWAL FORMS

|                                                                                                                             |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>NOTED</b><br>Signed: <br>Date: 6/8/2026 | Comments: |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

### Purpose

- To advise you of the introduction of updated firearms licence application and firearms licence renewal forms from 1 September 2026.

### Background

- In January 2026, Tasmania Police advised that an updated firearms licence application form would be introduced on 1 March 2026. However, rollout was paused to consider legislative reform following the shootings at Bondi in December 2025.
- During this period, a new firearms licence renewal form was developed, aligned with the revised application form. Both forms are now finalised and ready to be released.

### Current situation

- It has been determined that the feasible date for implementation of the new forms is 1 September 2026. This factors in necessary system design conversations for the National Firearms Register Project and the need to shortly commence sending renewal applications for the 2027 peak year. Finalising the content of both forms will support these processes.
- It will be possible to further update the forms into the future based on feedback and legislative change.

## Stakeholder and communications considerations

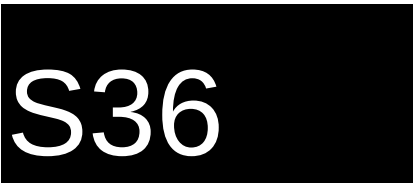
- Key stakeholders will be advised of the release of the new forms leading up to 1 September 2026.
- A draft Implementation Plan has been prepared including suggested responses to anticipated concerns – particularly regarding additional health-related questions included in the new forms.

## Financial considerations

- Printing costs will increase slightly due to the uploaded format and additional questions. However, the new form may be filled out online and printed by the applicant. This is expected to reduce the need for printed versions and counterbalance the overall cost.
- When delivered in 2028 the new digital service delivery platform being developed through the National Firearms Register Project will further reduce the cost of printing of paper forms.

## Next steps

- Tasmania Police will provide any further updates as relevant before the release of the new form.

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Donna Adams  
**Commissioner**  
20 July 2026

# Firearms Licence Application

## Firearms Act 1996

**IMPORTANT:** It is an offence for a person, in making an application or providing information, to either make a statement knowing it to be false or misleading or to omit any matter knowing that without that matter the application or information is false or misleading. Doing so is both an offence pursuant to Section 126 of the *Firearms Act 1996* and a basis to refuse an application for a firearms licence or cancel an existing firearms licence. Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or both.

### Personal details:

|          |                      |                      |                      |                      |                                                                                              |
|----------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | Surname              |                      | <b>2</b>             | Given Names          |                                                                                              |
|          | <input type="text"/> |                      |                      | <input type="text"/> |                                                                                              |
| <b>3</b> | Title                | Age                  | Date of Birth        | <b>4</b>             | Sex                                                                                          |
|          | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |                      | Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |

### 5 Home address

Street number and name

Suburb  State  Postcode  Country

### 6 Postal address (if different from home address)

Street number and name

Suburb  State  Postcode  Country

### 7 Contact details

Mobile  Home phone

Email

### 8 Are you known or have you ever been known by any other names? Yes ☐ No ☐

Other names and reason for changing names

|                         |                           |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Surname and given names | Reasons for changing name |
| <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>      |
| <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>      |
| <input type="text"/>    | <input type="text"/>      |

### 9 Are you an Australian citizen? Yes ☐ No ☐

If NO, provide your immigration status (include visa type and expiry date)



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

Action  
required  
if applicable

Please  
read

**10** Have you ever lived in another Australian State or Territory or overseas?

- |                                             |                                                       |                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania           | <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland         | <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas (specify below) |

**11** Previous address (if you have lived in your present house for less than 3 years)

Street number and name

Suburb

State

Postcode

Country

|                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

**12** Next of kin

Surname

Given names

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Relationship

Street number and name (do not enter post box numbers)

Suburb

State

Postcode

Country

|                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

Mobile

Home phone

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Email



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

## History



**IMPORTANT:** This information is required pursuant to Part 2 Division 5 of the *Firearms Act 1996*. For more information about why this information is required visit [tas.police.tas.gov.au](http://tas.police.tas.gov.au).

If you answer yes to any of the history questions, you must include all information in relation to the matter to support your application.

**13** Have you ever held or applied for a firearms licence in any other Australian state or territory or overseas?

- |                                             |                                                       |                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania           | <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland         | <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas (specify below) |

**14** Have you ever been refused a licence/permit for a firearm? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ – specify below    No ☐ – go to next question


**15** Have you ever had a firearm licence/permit cancelled? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ – specify below    No ☐ – go to next question


**16** In Tasmania or any other State or Territory of Australia (or any other country), have you ever (tick applicable boxes)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. been charged with an offence or crime? (Exclude minor traffic offences)                                                                                                                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. been found guilty or pleaded guilty to any offence or crime?                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (including suspended), community corrections order, home detention order, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                                                          | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. had a Restraint Order, Interim Restraint Order, Family Violence Order, Interim Family Violence Order or Police Family Violence Order made against you protecting another person or persons, or an equivalent order in any other country? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. been subject to a Firearms Prohibition Order in Australia, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                                                                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. had a Child Protection Order or National Personal Protection Injunction (or similar) made against you protecting another person or persons in Australia, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |



If you have answered yes to any of the above questions in Section 16, you must provide all relevant information in the *court appearance details* section on **page 12**.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

## 17 Mental and Physical Health

Have you ever suffered from or required treatment for any of the following (tick any applicable box)

- |                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. a mental health condition?                                                                                                                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. a neurological or neurodevelopmental condition affecting your brain and/or nervous system?                                                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. a significant injury or physical condition?                                                                                                          | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. a significant impairment of eyesight?                                                                                                                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. alcohol or drug related problems?                                                                                                                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
| f. Are you taking any medication or supplements which may affect your ability to safely possess or use firearms or otherwise comply with the Act?       | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Have you ever attempted suicide or self-harm or been treated for suicidal thoughts?                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
| h. If you answered yes to any of the above questions, would it affect your ability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

**NOTE:** If you answered yes to any of the 'Mental and Physical Health' questions, you must include all information in relation to the matter with your application. The information you provide will be used by Firearms Services to assess your ability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act. Further information may be required from a medical practitioner, such as a specialist in the relevant area or your General Practitioner. Firearms Services can provide you with a document to take to a medical practitioner to guide the information they provide.

**!** If you have answered yes to any of the above questions in Section 17, you must provide all relevant information in the *mental and physical health details* section on **page 13**.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

**18 Please indicate the categories and your reason for requiring a firearms licence** (tick appropriate boxes)

| Category | Tick box                 | Type of firearm                                                                      | 1                                   | 2                                   | 3                                   | 4                                   | 5                                   | 6A                                  | 6B                                  | 6C                                  | 7                        |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| A        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Air rifle                                                                            |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|          |                          | Rim-fire rifle (other than self-loading)                                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Shotgun, other than pump action, lever action or self-loading                        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Shotgun and rim-fire rifle combinations                                              |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
| B        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Muzzle-loading firearm                                                               |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|          |                          | Centre-fire rifle (other than self-loading)                                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Shotgun and centre-fire rifle combinations                                           |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
| C        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-loading rim-fire rifle with a magazine capacity of no more than 10 rounds       |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|          |                          | Self-loading shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Pump action shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds                |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|          |                          | Self-loading centre-fire rifle                                                       |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
| D        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-loading shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Pump action, or lever action, shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|          |                          | Self-loading rim-fire rifle with a magazine capacity of more than 10 rounds          |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |
|          |                          | Pistol                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| H        | <input type="checkbox"/> | Air pistol                                                                           |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |

**Genuine Reason Legend**

- |                                           |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Sport or target shooting               | 6A. Business or employment as a security agent or security guard |
| 2. Recreational hunting or vermin control | 6B. Business or employment as a paintball operator               |
| 3. Primary production                     | 6C. Business or employment as a commercial fisher                |
| 4. Animal population control              | 7. Firearms collection                                           |
| 5. Animal welfare                         |                                                                  |



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

## Genuine reason

Please only answer the genuine reason categories which you ticked as applicable in question 18 on page 5.

### 1. Sport or target shooting

- 19 Where your reason for applying is sport or target shooting, of which approved shooting organisation/s are you a member? (specify below)

Shooting organisation name

Membership number

Expiry date (if known)

 /  / 

Shooting organisation name

Membership number (if known)

Expiry date (if known)

 /  / 

### 2. Recreational hunting or vermin control

- 20 Where your reason for applying is recreational hunting or vermin control, what type/s of animal or vermin will you be shooting?



**NOTE:** You are required to submit a 'permission to shoot' document from the property owner or occupier to support your application. The application must include the name of the owner or occupier, address of the property and the specific type of animal or vermin.

- 21 On what land will you be shooting the specified animal or vermin?

Property address

Property owner or occupier

Phone number

Property size (if known)

Property address

Property owner or occupier

Phone number

Property size (if known)



Attach the document giving you permission to shoot on the specified land.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

### 3. Primary production

**NOTE:** A Statutory Declaration is required proving your intention to possess or use a firearm regularly for the purpose of primary production. Where your reason for possessing or using a firearm is primary production and you are applying for a Category C licence, attach evidence proving that your need for this licence cannot be met by a Category A firearm licence or a Category B firearm licence, or by any other means.

**22** Where your reason for applying is primary production, you must provide details of the business.

Name of business

ABN/IACN

Nature of business

Address of business



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

### 4. Animal population control

**23** Where your reason for applying is animal population control, you must provide the details of the business or organisation.

**NOTE:** If you are applying for a firearms licence for animal population control, and have provided an answer for question 23 above, please provide the requested documentation below when submitting your application.

Action required if applicable

Please read

Attach proof of your profession in the business of animal population control.

If you are applying for a firearms licence for animal population control, you must be either:

- a professional shooter, whose principal or only occupation is the business of controlling vertebrate pest animals; or
- a person employed in or by, or authorised by, a prescribed government agency that has functions relating to vertebrate pest animals.

Evidence of your occupation or employment must accompany your application for a firearms licence, see information Sheet 17 for further information.

If you are applying for a Category B or D licence you must provide evidence to the Commissioners satisfaction that there is need for you to possess or use a firearm of the category to which the application relates.

If you are applying for a Category C licence you must also produce evidence that the need is not met by a Category A or B licence or by any other means.

## 5. Animal welfare

24 Where your reason for applying is animal welfare, you must provide the details of the business or organisation.

Name of business

ABN/ACN

Nature of business

Address of business

**NOTE:** Attach a copy of qualifications, proof of employment or authorisation.

An applicant whose genuine reason for possessing or using a firearm is animal welfare must be:

- an officer of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals established in Tasmania; or
- a veterinary surgeon registered under the Veterinary Surgeons Act 1987; or
- an authorised officer under the Biosecurity Act 2019; or
- an inspector or officer under the Animal Welfare Act 1993; or
- an authorised person under the Dog Control Act 2000; or
- an authorised officer under the Nature Conservation Act 2002; or
- a primary producer.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

Action  
required  
if applicable

Please  
read

## 6. Business or employment as a security agent or security guard, paintball operator or commercial fisher

25 Where your reason for applying is employment, complete the following:

## 25a. Security Guard

Security Guard licence number

Expiry date

Employer name

Employer address (Do not enter post box numbers)

Postcode

## 25b. Security Agent

Do you require a firearms licence on behalf of a corporation? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ No ☐

Corporation name

Corporation address in Tasmania (do not enter post box)

Postcode

ACN Number

What is your position in the corporation?

Security Agent licence number

Expiry date

Court issued

**25c. Paintball Operator**

|                                            |             |
|--------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Name of business                           | ABN/ACN     |
| Address of business                        |             |
| Personal Firearms Licence Number (if held) | Expiry date |
|                                            | / /         |

**25d. Commercial Fisher**

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Name of business                  | ABN/ACN     |
| Address of business               |             |
| Commercial Fishing Licence Number | Expiry date |
|                                   | / /         |



Attach copy of security guard or agent licence or other employment proof as required.

**7. Firearms collection**

**26** Where your reason for applying is firearms collection, of which approved collection organisation or society are you a member? (specify below):

Collection organisation/society name

Membership number (if known)

Expiry date

/ /

**27** Provide proof of your current membership of an approved collection society.

**28** What is the purpose for which you intend to collect firearms (allowed themes – significant commemorative, historical, thematic or investment value)?

Please outline the specific firearms you wish to collect within the stated theme.

---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



---



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TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

## 29 Firearms Storage

Do you intend to store firearms at your home address?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If NO, please provide the following information/details:

Storage Address:

## 30 List the full name and date of birth of any person who resides at the address where your firearms will be stored.

Surname and given names:

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

Date of Birth:

|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |

## 31 Identification

Please supply details of your identification totalling the requested 100 points

| Identification                                                                | Score |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| <b>Main items (only one item permitted per applicant)</b>                     |       |                          |
| Passport (original document or certified copy must be sighted)                | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Citizenship Certificate (original document or certified copy must be sighted) | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Birth Certificate (original document or certified copy must be sighted)       | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Other items</b>                                                            |       |                          |
| Licence issued under a law (e.g. drivers licence, current firearm licence)    | 40    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Employment ID – ID card issued by employer (name and address only)            | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Employment ID – ID issued by employer (name only)                             | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Letter from employer (within last two weeks) confirming name and address      | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rates notice                                                                  | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Credit / Debit Cards / Passbooks (only one allowed per institution)           | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Medicare Card                                                                 | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Membership Card – club, union or trade, professional bodies                   | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Membership Card – educational institutions                                    | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |



**NOTE:** Your score must total at least **100 points** in order to satisfy the requirements of identification.

Refer to the *Acceptable Methods of Identification form* at <http://www.police.tas.gov.au/Consumers/Identifying-yourself/acceptable-identification-requirements/> for more information.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

## Applicant declaration

I \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name)  
by signing this application for a firearms licence hereby acknowledge and agree that:

1. To the best of my knowledge all the information in this application is true and correct;
2. I have read the requirements in respect of the safe storage of firearms in the Firearms Act 1996 (Tas) and any regulations currently in force; and
3. I consent to Firearms Services:
  - making all reasonable enquiries necessary; and
  - accessing relevant information about me,
 which may assist the Commissioner, or delegate, to assess my suitability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act.
4. I consent to the provision of information to me or the service of notices on me (when required) by electronic means to the email address provided by me.

Signature



Date

/ /

**WARNING:** You are reminded that the supply of false information may render you liable to prosecution and the cancellation of any licence, permit or registration granted under the Firearms Act 1996.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read

### 32 Court appearance details (only to be completed if you answered yes to any questions in Section 16)



**TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES**



Action  
required  
if applicable



Please  
read

### 33 Mental and physical health details (only to be completed if you answered yes to any questions in Section 17)

[illegible]

**TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES**



Action  
required  
if applicable



Please  
read

## OFFICIAL USE ONLY. TO BE FILLED OUT BY RECEIVING OFFICER

- 34 Has the applicant attached sufficient proof of the genuine reason?  
(tick one box)

Yes ☐ No ☐ Do not proceed past this point

- 35 Has the applicant produced identification totalling the required 100 points (refer to Acceptable Methods of Identification)? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, do not proceed past this point

Lodgement date of application

 /  / 

Service Tasmania Location

Name

Signature

Receipt number

Receipt fee

**Concession details:**

Customer Reference Number

Or

Department of Veteran's Affairs Number

Has the applicant satisfactorily completed an approved firearms safety course?

Yes ☐ No ☐



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read



## CONCESSION

Please note in order to receive a concession you must provide a copy of a current Pension, Veterans Affairs Pension or Health care card in your name.

# Firearms Licence Application – Renewal Firearms Act 1996

&lt;&lt;formattedName&gt;&gt;

&lt;&lt;postAddressLine&gt;&gt;

&lt;&lt;postSuburb&gt;&gt; &lt;&lt;postPostcode&gt;&gt;

You are required to lodge your renewal application prior to the licence expiry date, on <<expiryDate>>

If your licence is not renewed by the expiry date, you must surrender any firearms in your possession together with blue registration certificates to either a firearms dealer for sale or safekeeping, or a police station for safekeeping or destruction. Proof of the delivery of your firearms to either police or a firearms dealer must be forwarded to Firearms Services.

**IMPORTANT:** It is an offence for a person, in making an application or providing information, to either make a statement knowing it to be false or misleading or to omit any matter knowing that without that matter the application or information is false or misleading. Doing so is both an offence pursuant to Section 126 of the *Firearms Act 1996* and a basis to refuse an application for a firearms licence or cancel an existing firearms licence. Penalty: Fine not exceeding 100 penalty units or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years, or both.

## Personal details

|                      |                      |                      |                      |                               |                                                                |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1                    | Surname              |                      | 2                    | Given Names                   |                                                                |
| <input type="text"/> |                      |                      |                      | <input type="text"/>          |                                                                |
| 3                    | Title                | Age                  | Date of Birth        | 4                             | Sex                                                            |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | Male <input type="checkbox"/> | Female <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/> |

## 5 Home address

Street number and name

Suburb State Postcode Country

|                      |                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

## 6 Postal address (if different from home address)

Street number and name

Suburb State Postcode Country

|                      |                      |                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|

## 7 Contact details

Mobile Home phone

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
|----------------------|----------------------|

Email



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read



- 8 Are you known or have you ever been known by any other names? Yes ☐ No ☐

Other names and reason for changing names

Surname and given names

Reasons for changing name

- 9 Are you an Australian citizen? Yes ☐ No ☐

If NO, provide your immigration status (include visa type and expiry date)



- 10 Have you ever lived in another Australian State or Territory or overseas?

- |                                             |                                                       |                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania           | <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland         | <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas (specify below) |

- 11 Previous address (if you have lived in your present house for less than 3 years)

Street number and name

Suburb

State

Postcode

Country

- 12 Next of kin

Surname

Given names

Relationship

Street number and name (do not enter post box numbers)

Suburb

State

Postcode

Country

Mobile

Home phone

Email

Action required if applicable

Please read

## B Firearms Storage

Do you intend to store firearms at your home address?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If NO, please provide the following information/details:

Storage Address

14 List the full name and date of birth of any person who resides at the address where your firearms will be stored.

Surname and given names

Date of Birth

|                      |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |
| <input type="text"/> | <input type="text"/> |



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

## History

**IMPORTANT:** This information is required pursuant to Part 2 Division 5 of the Firearms Act 1996. For more information about why this information is required visit [fas.police.tas.gov.au](http://fas.police.tas.gov.au).

If you answer yes to any of the history questions, you must include all information in relation to the matter to support your application.

15 Have you ever held or applied for a firearms licence in any other Australian state or territory or overseas?

- |                                             |                                                       |                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tasmania           | <input type="checkbox"/> New South Wales              | <input type="checkbox"/> Victoria                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Queensland         | <input type="checkbox"/> South Australia              | <input type="checkbox"/> Western Australia        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Northern Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Australian Capital Territory | <input type="checkbox"/> Overseas (specify below) |

Action required if applicable

16 Have you ever been refused a licence/permit for a firearm? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ – specify below No ☐ – go to next question


Please read

17 Have you ever had a firearm licence/permit cancelled? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ – specify below No ☐ – go to next question

**18** In Tasmania or any other State or Territory of Australia (or any other country), have you ever (tick applicable boxes)

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. been charged with an offence or crime? (Exclude minor traffic offences)                                                                                                                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. been found guilty or pleaded guilty to any offence or crime?                                                                                                                                                                             | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. been sentenced to a term of imprisonment (including suspended), community corrections order, home detention order, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                                                          | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. had a Restraint Order, Interim Restraint Order, Family Violence Order, Interim Family Violence Order or Police Family Violence Order made against you protecting another person or persons, or an equivalent order in any other country? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. been subject to a Firearms Prohibition Order in Australia, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                                                                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| f. had a Child Protection Order or National Personal Protection Injunction (or similar) made against you protecting another person or persons in Australia, or an equivalent order in any other country?                                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

**19** Mental and Physical Health

Have you ever suffered from or required treatment for any of the following (tick any applicable box)

- |                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. a mental health condition?                                                                                                                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. a neurological or neurodevelopmental condition affecting your brain and/or nervous system?                                                           | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. a significant injury or physical condition?                                                                                                          | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. a significant impairment of eyesight?                                                                                                                | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. alcohol or drug related problems?                                                                                                                    | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
| f. Are you taking any medication or supplements which may affect your ability to safely possess or use firearms or otherwise comply with the Act?       | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| g. Have you ever attempted suicide or self-harm or been treated for suicidal thoughts?                                                                  | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                                                                                                                                                         |                              |                             |
| h. If you answered yes to any of the above questions, would it affect your ability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act? | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> |

**NOTE:** If you answered yes to any of the 'Mental and Physical Health' questions, you must include all information in relation to the matter with your application. The information you provide will be used by Firearms Services to assess your ability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act. Further information may be required from a medical practitioner, such as a specialist in the relevant area or your General Practitioner. Firearms Services can provide you with a document to take to a medical practitioner to guide the information they provide.



Action required if applicable



Please read

**!** If you answered **Yes** to any of the above questions in the History or Mental and Physical Health section, you must provide all relevant information.



## 20 Genuine Reason

Your licence is endorsed for <<categories>>

Do you declare that the genuine reason for possessing firearms continues to exist?

Yes ☐ No ☐

If you have selected **NO**, please advise any categories or reasons which should be added or removed from your firearms licence:

| Category                                   | Tick box                 | Type of firearm                                                                      | 1                                   | 2                                   | 3                                   | 4                                   | 5                                   | 6A                                  | 6B                                  | 6C                                  | 7                        |  |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| A                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Air rifle                                                                            |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
|                                            |                          | Rim-fire rifle (other than self-loading)                                             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Shotgun, other than pump action, lever action or self-loading                        |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
| Shotgun and rim-fire rifle combinations    |                          |                                                                                      |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
| B                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Muzzle-loading firearm                                                               |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
|                                            |                          | Centre-fire rifle (other than self-loading)                                          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Lever action shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
| Shotgun and centre-fire rifle combinations |                          |                                                                                      |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
| C                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-loading rim-fire rifle with a magazine capacity of no more than 10 rounds       |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
|                                            |                          | Self-loading shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds               | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Pump action shotgun with a magazine capacity of no more than 5 rounds                |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
| D                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Self-loading centre-fire rifle                                                       |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
|                                            |                          | Self-loading shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds                  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Pump action, or lever action, shotgun with a magazine capacity of more than 5 rounds | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Self-loading rim-fire rifle with a magazine capacity of more than 10 rounds          |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |
| H                                          | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pistol                                                                               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |  |
|                                            |                          | Air pistol                                                                           |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |                          |  |

### Genuine Reason Legend

- |                                           |                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Sport or target shooting               | 6A. Business or employment as a security agent or security guard |
| 2. Recreational hunting or vermin control | 6B. Business or employment as a paintball operator               |
| 3. Primary production                     | 6C. Business or employment as a commercial fisher                |
| 4. Animal population control              | 7. Firearms collection                                           |
| 5. Animal welfare                         |                                                                  |



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

Action required if applicable

Please read

## 21 Proof

You must attach current proof of your genuine reason.

☐

The types of proof required are detailed in information sheets available at <https://www.police.tas.gov.au/forms-reference-in/n/>

**!** Re-licence applications **will not be processed** until any required documents are received.

## 22 Identification

Please supply details of your identification totalling the requested 100 points

| Identification                                                                | Score |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--------------------------|
| <b>Main items (only one item permitted per applicant)</b>                     |       |                          |
| Passport (original document or certified copy must be sighted)                | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Citizenship Certificate (original document or certified copy must be sighted) | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Birth Certificate (original document or certified copy must be sighted)       | 70    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| <b>Other items</b>                                                            |       |                          |
| Licence issued under a law (e.g. drivers licence, current firearm licence)    | 40    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Employment ID – ID card issued by employer (name and address only)            | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Employment ID – ID issued by employer (name only)                             | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Letter from employer (within last two weeks) confirming name and address      | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Rates notice                                                                  | 35    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Credit / Debit Cards / Passbooks (only one allowed per institution)           | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Medicare Card                                                                 | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Membership Card – club, union or trade, professional bodies                   | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Membership Card – educational institutions                                    | 25    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**NOTE:** Your score must total at least **100 points** in order to satisfy the requirements of identification. Refer to the *Acceptable Methods of Identification form* at [tas.police.tas.gov.au/obtaining-a-licence/acceptable-identification-methods/](http://tas.police.tas.gov.au/obtaining-a-licence/acceptable-identification-methods/) for more information.



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES

### Applicant declaration

I \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name)  
by signing this application for a firearms licence hereby acknowledge and agree that:

- To the best of my knowledge all the information in this application is true and correct;
- I have read the requirements in respect of the safe storage of firearms in the Firearms Act 1996 (Tas) and any regulations currently in force; and
- I consent to Firearms Services:
  - making all reasonable enquiries necessary; and
  - accessing relevant information about me, which may assist the Commissioner, or delegate, to assess my suitability to safely possess or use firearms, or otherwise comply with the Act.
- I consent to the provision of information to me or the service of notices on me (when required) by electronic means to the email address provided by me.

Signature

Date

/ /

**WARNING:** You are reminded that the supply of false information may render you liable to prosecution and the cancellation of any licence, permit or registration granted under the Firearms Act 1996.

Action required if applicable

Please read

## OFFICIAL USE ONLY. TO BE FILLED OUT BY RECEIVING OFFICER

- 23 Has the applicant attached sufficient proof of the genuine reason?  
(tick one box)

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, do not proceed past this point

- 24 Has the applicant produced identification totalling the required 100 points (refer to Acceptable Methods of Identification)? (tick one box)

Yes ☐ No ☐ If no, do not proceed past this point

Lodgement date of application

 /  / 

Service Tasmania Location

Name

Signature

Receipt number

Receipt fee

**Concession details:**

Customer Reference Number

Or

Department of Veteran's Affairs Number

Has the applicant satisfactorily completed an approved firearms safety course?

Yes ☐ No ☐



TASMANIA POLICE FIREARMS SERVICES



Action required if applicable



Please read



## CONCESSION

Please note in order to receive a concession you must provide a copy of a current Pension, Veterans Affairs Pension or Health care card in your name.



to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

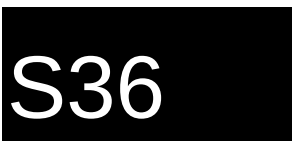
## Annexure A – Firearms Dashboard

Our references: This document A26/113063

Your reference: MIN

## FIREARMS DASHBOARD

Critical date: N/A

|                                                                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</b>                                                    | Comments: |
| Signed:                                                                           |           |
|  |           |
| Date: 11/5/2026                                                                   |           |

### Recommendation

- That you approve the DPFEM Firearms Dashboard to be made accessible to the public on the Tasmania Police website.

### Background

- The Department has worked on developing a Firearms Dashboard that can display key data regarding licences, seizures, searches, stolen and recovered firearms.
- The Dashboard is shown at Annexure A and is only currently accessible internally to DPFEM.

### Current situation

- Recently, Helen Burnet MP asked your office for data relating to firearms, including:
  - The number of firearms licence holders in Tasmania and
  - The number of firearms seized by police.
- This information, along with other data, is available through the dashboard, and the dashboard also allows queries to be undertaken across different time periods.
- It is proposed to make this Dashboard publicly available, which aligns with the Government's commitment to transparency.

- This will also reduce workload on the Department through the ability to direct people to a publicly accessible data source.

### **Stakeholder and communications considerations**

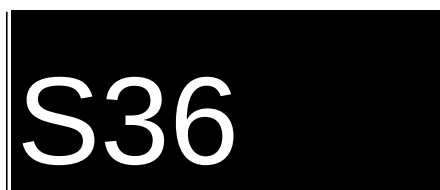
- It is proposed that the launch of the Dashboard could coincide with a media release from the Minister.

### **Financial considerations**

- There is no cost to publishing the Firearms Dashboard.

### **Next steps**

- Approve the public release of the Firearms Dashboard.



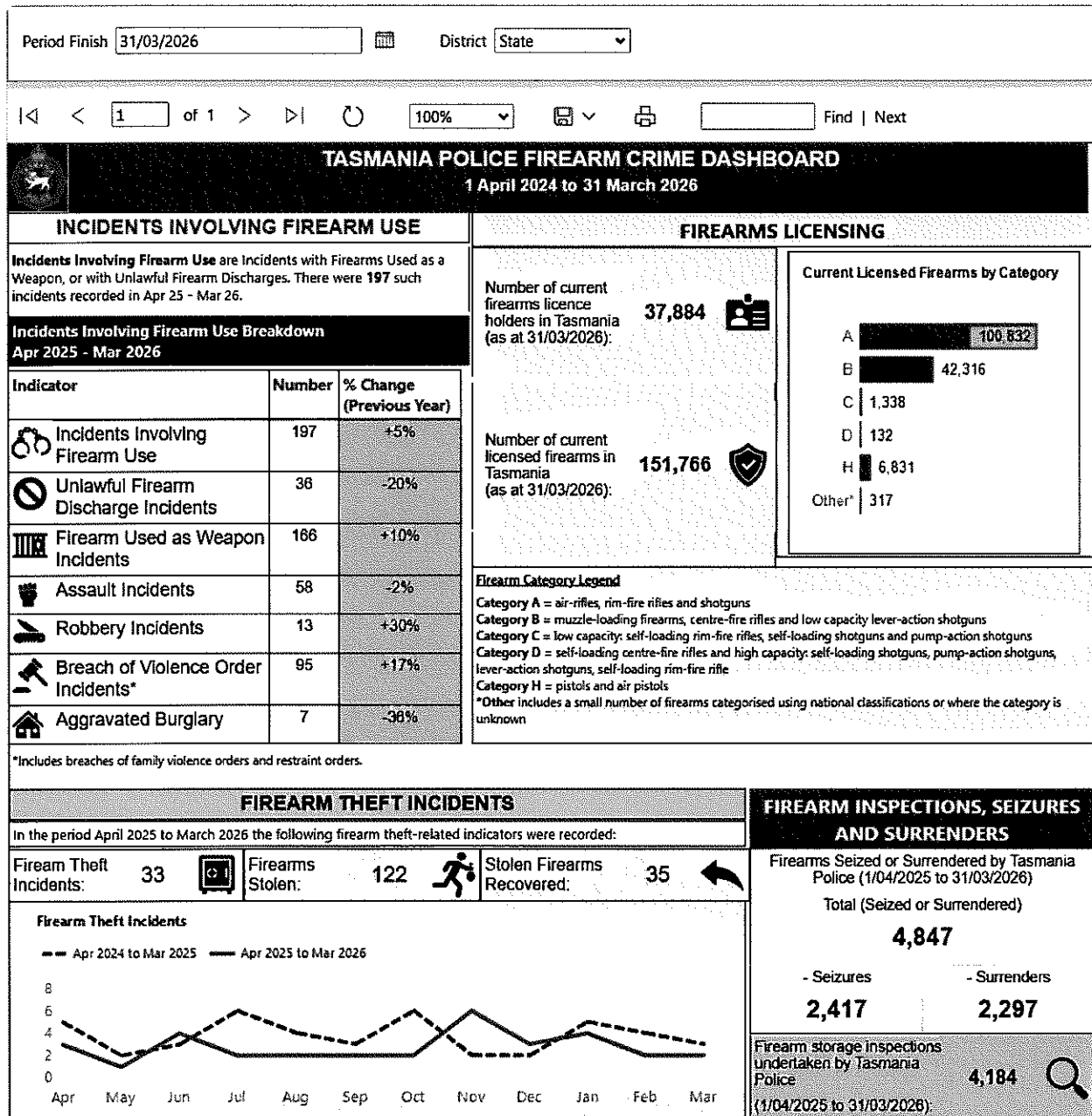
Donna Adams

**Secretary**

30 April 2026

to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management

## Annexure A – Firearms Dashboard





to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

Our references: This document A26/64185

## ESTIMATED COST OF THE FIREARMS BUYBACK SCHEME FOR TASMANIA

|                                                                              |                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <p><b>APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</b></p> <p>Signed:</p><br><br><br><p>Date:</p> | <p>Comments:</p> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

### Recommendation

That you

- Note and approve the estimated costs for the Tasmanian Buyback Scheme to be included in the 2026-27 Tasmanian Budget.
- Note the estimated costs associated with an Australian Government Buyback Scheme implementation for Tasmania, including the 50:50 allocation of funding.

### Background

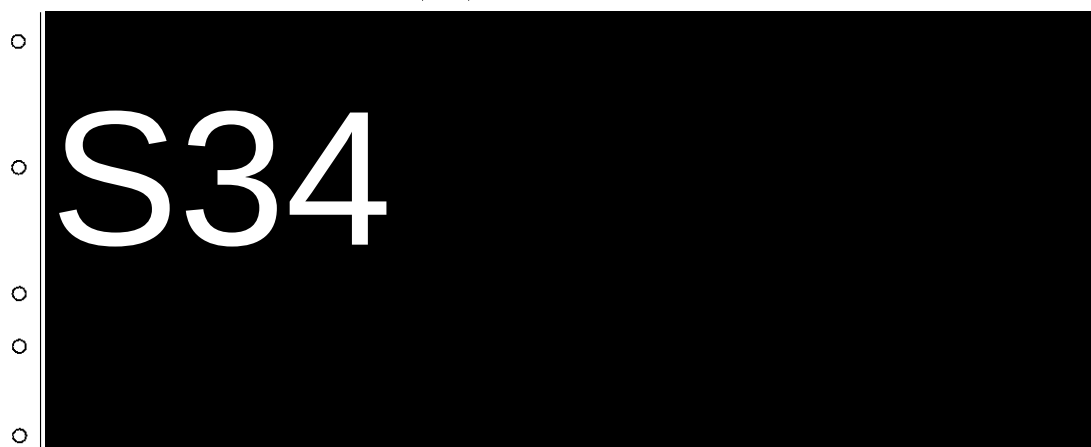
#### Tasmanian Government Buyback Scheme

- On 27 February 2026, the Tasmanian Government announced the Tasmanian Firearms Reforms, including a Buyback Scheme.
- The announcement included:
  - Introduce stronger penalties for theft and possession of stolen firearms; Additional sharing of intelligence information and associated background checks;
  - Accelerating work on standing up the National Firearms Register;
  - Establishing Australian citizenship as the default eligibility requirement for firearms licensing, with provisions for limited exemptions in defined circumstances, including for primary producers and citizens from prescribed countries such as New Zealand;
  - Reclassification of straight pull and button/lever release (self-ejecting) centre-fire and shotgun firearms to the more restrictive Category C licence;

- Compensate firearm dealers for these reclassified firearms currently in stock;
- Nation-leading buyback to occur on reclassified firearms, with 1.5 times the value incentive payment to encourage surrender;
- Voluntary buyback at market value for any other legal firearm a licence holder wants to hand in; and
- There will be no caps imposed on individual firearms owners.

### Australian Government Buyback Scheme

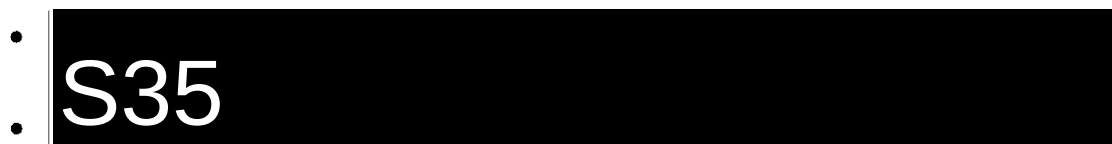
- The Australian Government has proposed a Buyback Scheme that is based on:



- Both of these policy positions have been analysed and an estimated cost assigned on the basis of the number of licensees, genuine reasons and number of firearms.

### Current situation

- DPFEM has provided an estimate to the Department of Treasury and Finance to assist with initial conversations at Budget Committee concerning allocation of funding in the 2026-27 Budget.
- In the early 2026-27 budget allocation advice from the Department of Treasury and Finance, DPFEM was advised that: Firearm Reform and Gun Buyback Scheme - an interim funding allocation has been provided noting the full scope of scheme and Australian Government involvement is not yet known.



- Given some of the unknowns associated with the announced voluntary buyback (Tasmanian policy), estimations of firearms in this category have been necessary.
- Annexure A provides details on the projected costs of the Buyback Scheme for Tasmania. S34
- Annexure B provides details on the projected costs of the Buyback Scheme for the Australian Government model

## Other considerations

- The timing of a buyback implementation is likely to coincide with a peak period in firearms relicensing.
- A large proportion of licence holders (approximately 39 % or 144,458) renew their licences on a five-year cycle that falls in 2027. This will require substantial extra staffing within Firearms Services from mid-2026 to 1 July 2028, with the cost estimated at \$490,000 (MIN25/41166/1). This is not funded.

## Next steps

- If this Minute is approved and the reforms progress, discussions will be required with the Department of Treasury and Finance and the Treasurer's Office on the allocation of funding in 2026-27 and forward estimates budgets.

A large black rectangular box containing the white text "S36" in a bold, sans-serif font.

Donna Adams

**Secretary**

1 April 2026

Annexure A - Projected costs of the Buyback Scheme for Tasmania

S27

S27

Annexure B – Estimated costs of Australian Government Buyback Scheme

S27

S27



to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

Our references: This document A26/109499

Attachment 1 – A26/109502 Minister to Treasury – Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework 2026-2028 – Request for Additional Funding

## **FIREARMS RELICENSING PEAK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2026-2028 –**

**S27**

Critical date: April 2026

(Approval required to enable recruitment and training activities to commence prior to the 2027 firearms licence renewal peak).

|                                                                                        |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| <p><b>APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</b></p> <p>Signed: <b>S36</b></p> <p>Date: 10/6/2026</p> | <p>Comments:</p> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|

## **Recommendation**

That you:

- approve the progression of the Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework 2026-2028 project at an estimated cost of \$420,000 to \$500,000 per annum for two financial years, commencing 1 July 2026;

•

•

**S27**

## **Background**

- Under the *Firearms Act 1996*, Tasmania experiences a recurring peak in firearms licence renewal applications every five years. During peak years, renewal volumes increase from an average of approximately 3,500 per annum to around 15,000, placing significant pressure on Firearms Services and the wider policing workforce.
- Previous peak years, particularly in 2017, resulted in processing delays, errors, stakeholder dissatisfaction, and reputational impacts, leading to a House of

Assembly Select Committee on Firearms Legislation and Policy. The Committee recommended that government implement proactive measures to manage relicensing peaks.

- In response, the Firearms Relicensing Peak Management Framework (FRPMF) was developed and successfully implemented ahead of the 2022 peak. The framework relied on early intervention, temporary project resourcing, and spreading renewal activity over a two-year period.

### Current situation

- A further relicensing peak is forecast for 2027. Without targeted project funding, Firearms Services will be unable to maintain expected service delivery and public safety standards during this period.
- Without additional funding, the project poses risks to community safety, service integrity, workforce sustainability and government reputation.
- Based on experience from the 2022 framework and current capability constraints, project funding of approximately \$420,000 to \$500,000 per annum for two financial years is required from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028 to deliver the framework effectively.
- The project will ensure licence renewals are processed ahead of expiry, while allowing Firearms Services to continue core compliance and enforcement activities.

### Stakeholder and communications considerations

- The project is operational in nature and internal to government. No external consultation or public announcement is proposed unless required following funding approval.
- Media interest is not anticipated, provided renewal processing standards are maintained.

### Financial considerations

- 

**S35**

- The project is expected to generate substantial revenue for government through licence renewal fees, with approximately 15,000 renewals generating in excess of \$2.8 million over the peak period. The proposed funding would support delivery capacity and protect revenue integrity.

- 

**S27**

## Next steps

- The Department will manage the expenditure as a financial risk for the next two financial years, report to the Department of Treasury and Finance accordingly and

**S27**

- Recruitment and training activities will commence as soon as possible to ensure workforce capability is in place ahead of the 2027 firearms relicensing peak.
- Firearms Services will continue detailed planning and implementation activities aligned to the FRPMF.

**S36**

Donna Adams PSM APM

**Commissioner**

20 April 2026

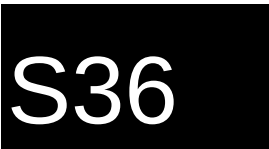


to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

Our references: This document A26/28787

## APPROVAL TO REVIEW AND REMAKE THE FIREARMS REGULATIONS

Critical date: The current Regulations expire on 19 October 2026

|                                                                                   |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>APPROVED / NOT APPROVED</b>                                                    | Comments: |
| Signed:                                                                           |           |
|  |           |
| Date: 17/2/2026                                                                   |           |

### Recommendation

That you:

- Approve the Department of Police, Fire and Emergency Management (DPFEM) to review and draft a remake of the *Firearms Regulations 2016* which are due to expire 19 October 2026.

### Background

- The *Firearms Act 1996* is assigned to the Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management under the Administrative Arrangements Order 2025.
- The *Firearms Regulations 2016* (the Regulations) are subordinate legislation to the *Firearms Act 1996*, and the Regulations are therefore subject to the expiry provisions under s.11(2) of the *Subordinate Legislation Act 1992*.
- The Regulations will expire on 19 October 2026 and are required to be remade before this date.
- The Regulations currently prescribe:
  - Firearms, prohibited pistols, devices prescribed not to be firearms (e.g. captive bolt gun), ammunition and stun guns;
  - Storage of firearms and ammunition;
  - The Government agencies for the purpose of section 41 (b) (animal population control);

- Form of licence (45 (h)), period of licences, loss and replacement of licences and permits, firearm collections and heirloom firearms (47 (1) (b) and 47 (2));
  - Safety requirements for conveying prohibited firearms, safety requirements for conveying other firearms;
  - Particulars to be contained by dealers in their records (89 (2)(f));
  - Methods of dealing with surrendered firearms (109 (3)); and
  - Fees.
- At this stage it is not proposed to amend the Regulations and to proceed with a straight remake. This is on the basis that there is a pipeline of Bills (National Firearms Reform, Antique Firearms, National Reform announced post the Bondi Terrorist Incident) proposed for the *Firearms Act 1996* and any amendment to regulations can be managed through these Bills, which allows time for proper consultation.
  - There are no proposed amendments to the remake of the Regulations.

### Stakeholder consultation

- DPFEM has conducted internal consultation regarding the remake of the Regulations.

### Next steps

- Your approval is sought for DPFEM to instruct the Office of Parliamentary Counsel to remake the Regulations.
- Following the remake of the Regulations, further documentation will be submitted, through your office, for submission to the Subordinate Legislation Committee and tabling within each house of Parliament.



S36

Donna Adams

**Secretary**

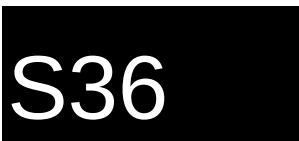
4 February 2026



to the **Minister for Police, Fire and Emergency Management**

Our references: This document A26/180212- Firearms Services Business Status Report – June 2026.  
Attachment 1 – A25/391205 – Firearms Services licence processing update – Nov 25.  
Attachment 2 – A26/180807 - Firearms Licence Renewal Chart Illustrates 2027 Peak  
Your reference: MIN26/32885

## FIREARMS SERVICES BUSINESS STATUS REPORT - JUNE 2026

|                                                                                                                             |           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>NOTED</b><br>Signed: <br>Date: 9/7/2026 | Comments: |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|

### Purpose

- To provide an update on firearms licence and permit processing timeframes.

### Background

- Significant national events have influenced demand and workload pressures for Firearms Services.
- The Firearms Services Review Team caseload has increased from more than 800 matters in 2025 to 981 matters currently.
- There has also been a rise in enquiries, new licence applications, and Permit to Acquire requests. This includes pre-emptive applications in response to anticipated regulatory changes. Firearms Services typically receives around 1,600 new licence applications per year; however, 814 applications were received by the end of May 2026, with total applications projected to exceed 1,900 for 2026.
- Additional demand has emerged from existing licence holders seeking additional licences or new "genuine reason" applications, such as firearms collection for those who already have more than five firearms. Firearms dealer licence activity has also increased by an additional eight in 2026 alone. TasTAFE has increased firearms safety course availability for July and August to support the higher volume of new licence applications and enable timelier finalisation of applications, subject to successful course completion.

- In February 2026, Firearms Services reached full staffing for the first time in approximately 18 months. Overtime and temporary support from other departmental staff has since alleviated the pressures associated with staffing.
- To manage workloads, applications are prioritised based on risk to community safety. Higher priority is given to existing licence holder's suitability assessments (fit and proper) and matters involving potential risk. Lower priority is assigned to new licence applications and permit to acquire, which unfortunately continues to result in some delays in those categories.

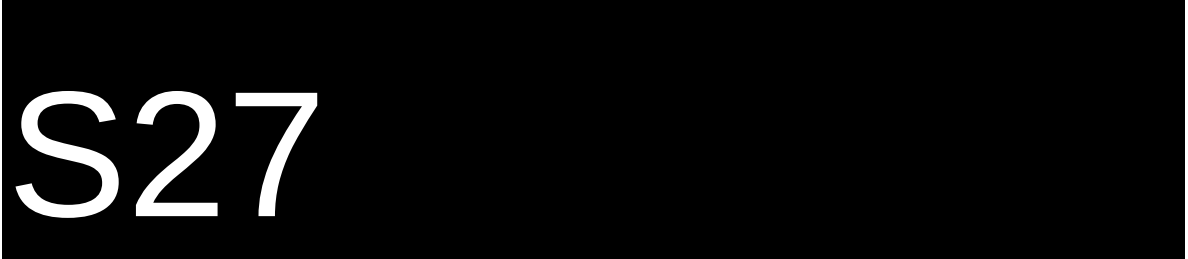
## Current situation

The status of key services as of 12 June 2026:

### *Status of Applications*

- New Firearms Licence Applications
  - Historically, a person submitting a fully completed new application would expect to receive notification of approval to enrol in TasTAFE training after six weeks. As of 12 June 2026, this timeframe is currently at eight weeks.
  - As of 12 June 2026, there was 302 firearms licence applications outstanding, reduced from 780 in September 2025.
- Firearms Licence Renewal Applications
  - Historically, a person submitting a routine renewal application would expect to wait four weeks for their new licence card. Currently these applications are being processed three weeks ahead of expiry.
- Application for a Minor's Permit
  - Historically, a person applying for a Minors Permit would expect to wait 15 weeks for the permit to be granted. As of 12 June 2026, this has been reduced to six weeks, and 25 applications are awaiting processing.
- Application for exemption to allow for return to target shooting club
  - Historically, a person applying for an exemption to participate in target shooting would expect to wait five weeks for the exemption to be granted. As of 12 June 2026, Firearms Services are meeting the five-week turnaround.
  - On 12 June, there were 45 exemptions waiting to be processed.
- Permit to Acquire Applications
  - Historically, a person submitting a Permit to Acquire a Firearms would expect to wait the statutorily applied minimum timeframe of 14 days for the permit to be granted for their second or subsequent firearm. As of 12 June 2026, processing occurs in 18 days.

### *Future impacts of 2027 firearms relicensing peak*

- As outlined in the November 2025 report, 2027 will be a peak relicensing year with approximately 14,458 licences to be renewed during this period.
- Firearms Services' objective is to mirror the 2022 peak relicensing model, which used additional staffing, extended processing over two years, and targeted workflow and communications measures to avoid delays and reduce complaints. Replicating this approach for 2027 will require dedicated resourcing from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2028.
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- Recruitment for the additional positions required has recently commenced, with the aim to onboard new staff as soon as possible, noting the pressing timeframes.

### Financial considerations

- Between 31 October 2025 and 2 May 2026, the Department expended \$50,892 in overtime hours to reduce the number of outstanding new firearms licence applications from 780 to 325.

### Next steps

- Firearms Services is implementing process improvements to reduce existing processing timeframes in preparation for the 2027 peak relicensing period, with resourcing prioritised toward higher risk matters to maintain community safety.

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Donna Adams  
**Commissioner**  
 23 June 2026

## FIREARMS AMENDMENT (STRENGTHENING FIREARMS SECURITY) BILL 2026

### QUESTIONS ARISING FROM MEMBERS DURING AGENCY BRIEFINGS OR FOLLOWING AGENCY BRIEFINGS

#### QUESTION 1:

Clause 47 inserting new Section 121A (4) inserts a requirement for a person who lends a firearm to another person to (a) tell a police officer where the firearm is located, as far as the person is aware.

Is the use of the term 'as far as the person is aware' too broad allowing any person to state 'as far as is aware' and then escape any application of the penalty provision? Would it be better to change that to 'reasonably believes' and then if a person states a place that is false and is subject to a charge the reasonableness of their belief can be objectively tested?

#### AGENCY ANSWER:

'As far as the person is aware' has been included so that the person cannot be found guilty of an offence if they tell the police officer where the firearm is located and the firearm isn't there. The person lending the firearm has an obligation –

- under proposed new section 121A(2) to ensure that the borrower has the means and intention to comply with the storage requirements under the Act; and
- to notify the Commissioner, under proposed new section 46(bb) if the firearm is to be stored in a new location.

However, there is no requirement for the person lending the firearm to know where the firearm is 'at all times'. This is because the firearm may be in use on a particular farm, place of competition shooting event, or place of other lawful use, and it would be unfair that the person would be guilty of an offence, under proposed new section 121A(4), if they don't know where the firearm is at all times.

#### QUESTION 2:

Clause 59 inserting new section 164A inserts savings and transitional provisions (grandfathering). At the end of paragraph (2)(a)(ii) the word 'and' appears before the commencement of paragraph (b) – is that a drafting error?

#### AGENCY ANSWER:

No this is not an error, the use of the words 'and' is deliberate to conjoin that both paragraph (a) and paragraph (b) must be satisfied, it is paragraph (b) that ensures that the savings provision (the grandfathering clause) will lapse if the registrant does not continue to be the registrant of 'the relevant firearm', or if the firearms licence holder fails to continue to hold without interruption the licence of the former licence category.

**QUESTION 3:**

Clause 59 inserting new section 164A inserts savings and transitional provisions (grandfathering). At the end of paragraph (2)(b)(ii) the word 'and' appears before the commencement of paragraph (iii) – is that a drafting error?

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

No, this is not an error. A person needs to meet all the requirements of proposed new section 164A(2)(b) – “otherwise authorised” is to cover the fact that it is not intended to deem a person to hold a licence in respect of a firearm if the person doesn't have a permit for the firearm – or that the firearm licence is suspended. This ensures that if a licence holder holds a licence before the commencement day, it doesn't override the other obligations they may have under the Act in respect of the firearm.

**QUESTION 4:**

Clause 59 inserting new section 164A inserts savings and transitional provisions (grandfathering). Does this mean that the holder of a Category A licence, or the holder of a category B licence who held that licence before the transition can effectively become a Category C licence holder after the transition.

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

No, that is not correct. The section inserts at (1) a definition of a relevant firearm, specifically identifying a straight pull action firearm, or a button or lever release firearm (which are defined in the act), and then at (2)(a)(i) and (2)(a)(ii) uses 'relevant firearm', then at (2)(b) also uses 'relevant firearm'.

The effect of this means that the savings provision only applies to that firearm. The owner can have the firearm maintained or repaired; they can sell the firearm to a firearm dealer. The licence holder cannot sell and obtain another firearm of the same type, nor can they acquire a new firearm of the same type, nor can they acquire another firearm otherwise listed as a category C firearm, unless they are actually the holder of a Category C licence.

It is intended that, notwithstanding the lapsing of the licence or registration under (2)(b)(i) or (2)(b)(ii) that the savings provision will only last for the life of that individual firearm and such firearms will eventually transition out of the Category A/B licence holding community.

A licence holder who tries to acquire a new relevant firearm after the amendment commences will not satisfy (2)(a)(i) for the proposed new firearm, even though they may satisfy (2)(a)(ii) for having held a firearms licence of the appropriate category before the amendment commenced.

**QUESTION 6:**

Clause 59 inserting new section 164A inserts savings and transitional provisions (grandfathering). Does this mean that the holder of a Category A licence, or the holder of a category B licence who held that licence before the transition and then continues to hold a

firearm that is newly re-categorised does not have to comply with the more stringent Category C storage requirement.

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

Firearms storage requirements are attached to the category of firearm, and also the number of firearms held. Section 85 of the Act sets the requirement for the holder of a Category A, Category B, Category C or Category D firearms licence to comply with prescribed storage requirements.

Regulations 9A, 9B, 9C set out the prescribed storage requirements, regulation 9A sets out the particular storage requirement for a category of firearm. That means that a licence holder wanting to retain a newly reclassified Category C firearm (a straight pull action or button / lever release firearm) that was lawfully obtained and registered prior to the transition will have to upgrade their storage to meet the Category C firearm storage requirement. Where a licence holder already meets the higher Category C storage requirement they would not be required to make changes.

**QUESTION 6:**

Grandfathering – if someone owns an otherwise reclassified firearm and holds it under the grandfathering provisions, if after the Act comes into effect they purchase the same firearm is that second firearm subject to the new provisions with the reclassification, storage etc?

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

With grandfathering a person will not be able to purchase another firearm of the same type after the Act (and changes) commence. Grandfathering only applies to the individual firearm lawfully obtained and registered prior to the changes. See answer to question 4.

**QUESTION 7:**

Part 3 of the Bill amends the *Sentencing Act 1997*. At Clause 62 inserting Section 16C into the Act, what is the effect of paragraph (6)(a) which refers to section 10(2)(b)(v) of the *Sentencing Act*?

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

This is a reference to the effect of a finding guilt without recording a conviction. This ensures that if a court has a finding of guilt and determines to not impose the recording of a conviction, then the custodial sentence at proposed 16C(2) cannot be applied in respect of that finding of guilt.

**QUESTION 8:**

Do the grandfathering clauses also relate to antique firearms?

**AGENCY ANSWER:**

No. The (savings) grandfathering clauses do not relate to antique firearms. The clauses only relate to the following:

- Straight pull action firearms or button or lever release firearms, if lawfully owned before the transition.
- Non-Australian citizens who lawfully held a firearms licence before the transition and seek to renew a licence after the transition.
- Ensuring change of the term pistol to handgun does not invalidate any licences, permits, or approvals that were issued for a 'pistol' simply because the term has changed to 'handgun' for national consistency.

### QUESTION 9

Clauses 17&18 refer to S29 amended to include citizenship requirements and for permanent residents whose genuine reason for holding the licence is specified in section 28(1)(d)(ii) - but I couldn't find this in either the original Act or in the Bill – can you please clarify?

#### AGENCY ANSWER:

Amendments to Section 28 are contained in Clause 16 (Page 23) of the Bill. This clause expands Section 28 (1) to add additional sub paragraphs (c) and (d) to the Act. The effect of these sub paragraphs is to add the requirement that an applicant for a firearms licence must be and Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen, or a permanent resident of Australia and for whom the genuine reason is one of the work/employment reasons. Sub paragraph (d)(E) inserts an option to add another genuine reason to the list by regulation. This option is not an option to create a new previously not defined genuine reason, rather it provides flexibility provision to add another existing genuine reason to this the not requiring citizenship by regulation if considered desirable at a later juncture.

### QUESTION 10:

Re antique firearms - the bill refers to antique firearms that are 'not capable of discharging ammunition' – how is this determined, statement by owner or some other proof?

#### AGENCY ANSWER:

The definition of an antique firearm does not exclude 'capable of firing ammunition', the fact is all firearms were designed to fire ammunition. With respect to ammunition the definition of an antique is that it is not designed to discharge and is not capable of discharging ammunition that

- consists of a cartridge case fitted with a primer, whether or not it contains a projectile or propelling charge; or
- is loaded at the breech end of the barrel of the firearm.

This means that firearms that can load modern ammunition, or load at the breach end are not antique firearms regardless of how old they are. Such firearms will need to be registered against a firearms licence as they cannot be registered against an antique permit. There will be a period of 'onboarding' current antique holdings where there will be a process of confirming that the

firearm sought to be registered is an antique and future transactions of antique firearms will occur through firearms dealers to ensure the register remains accurate.

