

# Firearms Pānui



## Meri Kirihimete, wishing you a safe and happy holiday

I want to wish you a Meri Kirihimete and a safe and happy holiday. A small reminder if you are taking firearms along with you during the holidays, please remember there are new rules around storage and transport for firearms and ammunition.

### Taking firearms with you?

Firearms storage must meet the conditions set out in the [Secure Storage and Transportation Guide for Firearms and Ammunition](#). Ammunition must be stored securely, separate to the firearms.

Please [see our website](#) for short, helpful video demonstrations, or for more details.



**Mike McIlraith**

Director Partnerships – Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority

## News and updates

## Consultation open on proposed firearms licensing fees

New Zealand Police is inviting public submissions on the proposals for fees to contribute to an arms regulatory system that keeps us all safe.

Licence fees were last set in 1999 and, other than GST adjustments, haven't increased since then. For more than 20 years the cost of firearms licensing has been increasingly subsidised by the taxpayer as costs have risen. Some services of direct commercial and private benefit, such as applications for import permits, are delivered for free.

This review is about exploring different levels of Crown funding and fees for those who use the services of licensing, permitting, and approvals. We want to make it more equitable for all. No decisions have been made yet and those that submit feedback will help to inform decisions.

Consultation opened on 8 December 2022 and closes 16 February 2023.

We are seeking feedback to help inform future decisions on fees for the arms regulatory system. You can have your say on the proposed fees [here](#).

## Regulations for shooting clubs and ranges are now in force

The regulations for shooting clubs and shooting ranges came into effect today (15 December 2022). This means that applications shooting club approval and shooting range certification can now be formally submitted to the Clubs and Range Team. The final application forms, processes and guidance are available on the [Clubs and Ranges webpage](#) under Manage & Apply on Te Tari Pūreke website.

A new Shooting Club Guide is also available on the Clubs and Ranges webpage, along with an updated New Zealand Police Shooting Range Manual, which replaces the exposure draft released in June 2022. The publications provide guidance on the application process and compliance requirements.

The [Secure Storage and Transportation Guide for Firearms and Ammunition](#) has also been updated to include a new section specifically for shooting clubs and shooting ranges.

The amended Arms Act 1983 requires clubs and range operators to make an application to have their clubs approved and shooting ranges certified by 24 June 2023. Information to help shooting clubs and range operators understand what is required to comply is available on the Clubs and Ranges webpage.

Earlier this year, Police held a six-week public consultation on a proposed regulatory approach for shooting clubs and shooting ranges. Police analysed the 1,038 submissions received and conducted workshops with established advisory groups.

Police listened to the feedback and addressed the key themes in the final regulations, including changing proposed age restrictions, reducing fees, reducing the burden of compliance, removing the requirement for committee members to hold a firearms licence, and removing the requirement to record details of when individual duty officers are on duty.

Shooting range operators are encouraged to engage with a NZ Police trained and recognised shooting range inspector now to understand what may need to be addressed on their range to successfully apply for range certification. Contact details for shooting range inspectors are available on the Clubs and Ranges webpage. Your assistance in helping share this message to the wider firearms community is greatly appreciated.

### Digital uptake of MyFirearms

We have been tracking the number of people who are using MyFirearms, since it launched on the afternoon of 30 November.

As of Sunday 11 December, we have received 199 submitted applications (which include change of address or contact details, Firearms licence or endorsement applications or dealer licence applications).

Approximately 36% of applications received now come via MyFirearms and we expect this to continue to grow. We are really pleased with the initial uptake of the.

### Website updates

Thank you for everyone who has provided feedback on our new [website](#). We will continue to make tweaks to the content or structure based on your feedback and to make things easier for our applicants.

A couple of updates of note:

- This week we have added a new [video guide](#) and information for those applicants who are applying for endorsement(s) in MyFirearms.
- We have also made some changes to the Home Page of the website and added the Firearms Licence Checker button on the home screen, to make it easier to find.



## Community engagements

### Webinar with The Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners

Last week Acting Inspector Matt Knowsley and I had the opportunity to run a webinar for general practitioners with Dr Bryan Betty, Dr Cathy Stephenson and Dr Jeremy Webber. The webinar included key information for general practitioners and provided some example case studies for discussion.

We had over 100 people attend and a range of questions come through. It was a great example of collaboration with members of our community who play a role in firearms safety.

You can view the webinar [here](#).



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