

Firearms Pānui



Welcome to the Firearms Pānui

Kia ora koutou

I am happy to be sharing with you the second Firearms Pānui.

Thank you for the positive responses to our first Pānui. I look forward to continuing to provide a channel where you can keep up to date with news relevant to the firearms community.

One of the key updates that we have for you in this edition, is consultation on proposals for the Firearms Registry is now open. I would like to encourage you to provide feedback. There are details on how to do this below.

You will also find our usual updates and we also have a new section, Community Engagements, which highlights some of the activity happening out in our communities.

Ngā mihi

Mike McIlraith

Director Partnerships

Arms Safety and Control

Updates

Registry Consultation

Consultation has begun on proposed regulations to support the new legislation for the Firearms Registry.

We want to ensure the regulations are fit for purpose, and provide stakeholders, in particular firearms licence holders and dealers, the opportunity to understand and shape the proposed

regulations.

The scope of the consultation includes:

- the specified arms items and the details on those items to be recorded in the Firearms Registry.
- the obligations of licence holders and those in possession of specified arms items to provide information to Police for inclusion in the Firearms Registry.
- associated provisions that support these changes, including a final date by which licence holders must have registered all their specified arms items.

Consultation does not include the establishment of the Firearms Registry, access to the Registry by other Agencies, or offences related to the Registry, all of which are already set out in the Act.

The consultation will run from the 31 August 2022 and closes on 12 October 2022.

The new regulations will be gazetted by the beginning of May 2023. Further communications will be released at this time.

Feedback

We invite your feedback on proposals <https://www.police.govt.nz/consultation-firearms-registry>

We also encourage you to share the proposal through your networks so that others have an opportunity to consider it and provide feedback.

Submissions will be analysed and final proposals will be developed for consideration by Cabinet.

Firearms safety video guides being used for training by Hunting & Fishing

Last month we released a range of [guidance videos](#) on the secure storage and transport of firearms and ammunition.

We are pleased to share Hunting and Fishing have adopted some of these videos for internal staff training purposes and the security information will be referenced in their national catalogue.

This is a great example of leadership in our firearms community.

Firearms safety code

Our existing Firearms Safety Code has been around since 2013. We have been on a modernisation journey and will soon be releasing an update to the Firearms Safety Code.

We are grateful to our community members, such as the Firearms Community Advisory Forum, who have contributed their time to this mahi.

We will let you know when the updated code is available.

Licence checker

A reminder that we have a [Firearms Licence Checker](#) available on our website.

The licence checker tool allows you to check whether someone has a valid firearms licence.

The Firearms Licence Checker may be useful when selling firearms or ammunition. Businesses that have customers who use firearms licence cards as proof of identification can also validate the ID using this tool.

You can test this tool using your own licence.

Validating licences when selling firearms or ammunition is a key contributor to keeping our communities safe.

Community Engagements

Online forms

We will soon be introducing MyFirearms, an online portal for applicants to apply and pay for licences and some endorsements, or notify us of changes.

To ensure applicants get the best possible experience we are testing the forms to ensure they are easy to use and working as they should.

Earlier this month, we tested the online forms with members of the Firearms Community. Participants were given "real life" scenario's and asked to complete, submit and pay for their online application and/or endorsement. They also tested how to advise us of a change of address and health practitioner which will also be available in the MyFirearms portal.

We appreciated the participants sharing their knowledge and providing insightful feedback for us to make further enhancements. This was a valuable and informative experience that we plan to do more of in the future.

Iwi Engagement

The Partnerships team continue to travel the motu (country) to meet with iwi and hapu groups.

Early in September they were able to visit Wharekahika (Hicks Bay) to meet with Matakaoa Community Trust.

Wharekahika is a three hour drive from Gisborne. The Partnerships team is dedicated to meeting with iwi and hapu groups throughout Aotearoa to ensure their voice is heard, and we are working in partnership as we move into our new Regulator role.

The Matakaoa community have a strong focus on prevention looking at opportunities within their secondary schools on the coast, targeting young people ensuring they're getting the required safety skills at a young age.

They also want to be able to deliver training for themselves as most government agencies are too far away and don't have the relationships to connect to whānau and hapu.

Their want is to ensure it's not only firearms safety that is delivered but other important factors such as being good kaitiaki (guardians).

"We want all our whanau to be able to provide kai for their whanau but we also need them to look after the Whenua they're hunting on" (Arlu Brooking).



Inspector Whiti Timutimu, Kerry Kururangi (Arms Vetter), Superintendent Mike McIlraith.

New Clubs and Ranges Team induction

In August, our new Clubs and Ranges team members went through their induction.

We had a number of organisations support our induction and presenters from:

- Pistol NZ

- NZ Deerstalkers Association
- National Rifle Association
- Target Shooting NZ
- Field Shooting NZ
- NZ Defence
- Worksafe NZ
- NZ Clay Target Association

We had positive feedback from one of our presenters:

"I presented to the Clubs and Ranges team yesterday. It seems to be a good team - they have a large job ahead of them. It is pleasing to see the approach of giving them time with the firearms community prior to their deployment, so that they could learn about the areas they will be working with. Thank you for the opportunity."

Also, a special thank you to Deerstalkers for letting us use your Manawatu Hall.



New Clubs and Ranges team members at their induction in Manawatu.