



## MINUTES : Firearms Community Advisory Forum

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| <b>SUBJECT</b>   | Firearms Community Advisory Forum   |
| <b>DATE</b>      | Thursday 14 March 2019  |
| <b>TIME</b>      | 0930 - 1230   |
| <b>VENUE</b>     | PNHQ, 180 Molesworth Street, Wellington   |
| <b>ATTENDEES</b> | CATHERINE PETREY, GEOFF DUNN, DEBBIE WAKKER, NICOLE MCKEE, ANDREW EDGCOMBE, MIKE MCILRAITH, , ADAM SMITH, , PETER FURLEY, TIM WATSON, EWAN KELSALL, PETER NOBLE, PENN FORREST, KIRSTY MARSHALL, BRITNEY YOUNG |
| <b>APOLOGIES</b> | PAUL CLARK, HELEN MORGAN, JARED WRIGHT, JOHN HERBERT, TREVOR PULLEN, RAY VINE; JOE GREEN, SANDRA LOW  |

### Agenda item 1: Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed Tony Ruffell to the meeting.

### Agenda item 2: Confirm previous minutes and update action points

Previous minutes confirmed with updates.

| <b>ACTION POINTS FROM DECEMBER MEETING</b>   | <b>ASSIGNED TO</b> | <b>STATUS</b>  |
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| POLICE TO DRAFT A DASHBOARD ON NUMBERS GOING THROUGH NEW FIREARMS SAFETY PROGRAMME (TRAINING COMPONENT AND THEORY TEST) AND CIRCULATE A DRAFT TO OBTAIN IDEAS ON WHAT OTHER STATISTICS SHOULD BE INCLUDED. | POLICE             | DASHBOARD COMPLETED AND CIRCULATED   |
| SHARE PROGRESS WITH THE ROLLING OUT OF PRACTICAL TRAINING WITH RELEVANT FCAF MEMBERS.  | POLICE             | COMPLETED. PROGRAMME UPDATE IS PART OF MAIN AGENDA. AGREED TO PRODUCE A FIRST YEAR FACT SHEET ON THE FIREARMS SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMME. |
| FCAF MEMBER TO PROVIDE LISTS OF FIREARM ORGANISATIONS AND CLUBS TO POLICE.   | FCAF               | CLOSE. NO RETURNS RECEIVED FROM FCAF MEMBERS.  |
| POLICE TO CONFIRM IF IMPORT PERMIT INFORMATION CAN BE DISTRIBUTED WIDER.   | POLICE             | COMPLETED. WEBSITE INFORMATION RELEASED.   |
| POLICE AGREED TO INCLUDE IN THE EMAIL HEADING OF FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS WITH FCAF WHETHER THEY CAN BE DISTRIBUTED MORE WIDELY OR ARE FOR FCAF   | POLICE             | COMPLETED  |

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| ONLY.   |        |  |
| CUSTOMS AND POLICE TO DISCUSS PRESENCE AT THE SHOT EXPO OFFLINE. POLICE TO LOOK AT OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE GREATER USE OF THEIR PRESENCE AT THE EXPO AND TO CONSIDER MAKING AVAILABLE 'ONLINE TESTS' ON THE DAY OF THE EXPOS. | POLICE | COMPLETED. A/SUPT MIKE MCILRAITH ATTENDED SIKA SHOW. DECISION ON POLICE ATTENDING SHOT EXPO WILL BE CONSIDERED ON AN ANNUAL BASIS. ONLINE TESTS WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE. |
| THE SUB-COMMITTEE TO APPROACH THE PROPERTY INVESTORS ASSOCIATION  | FCAF   | IN PROGRESS. FCAF MEMBERS TO ACTION.   |
| LOOK AT POSSIBLE INSURANCE INDUSTRY ISSUES AND BODY CORP RULES. FCAF MEMBER (TO BE DETERMINED).   | FCAF   | IN PROGRESS. FCAF MEMBERS TO ACTION.   |
| POLICE TO PRODUCE PROCESS CHARTS FOR 'A' CAT IMPORT PERMITS, AND CLARIFY ADVICE ON THE POLICE WEBSITE, WITH THIS BEING SHARED WITH FCAF FIRST.  | POLICE | COMPLETED. WEBSITE UPDATED IN TABLE FORM.  |
| POLICE TO CLARIFY 'E' CAT LICENCE PROCESS FOR AUSTRALIAN OR OTHER INTERNATIONAL VISITORS IN NZ FOR SHOOTING COMPETITIONS AND PUT THIS ON THE WEBSITE.   | POLICE | COMPLETED. PROCESS AGREED FOR DEALING WITH APPROPRIATE SHOOTING ORGANISATIONS ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.   |

Points raised during discussion on the Action Points.

*Arms (Electronic transactions) Amendment Regulations:* Members observed that they had not been forwarded a copy of the electronic transactions regulations which were published just before the Christmas break. It was noted this was a matter of proximity of the holidays.

A question was raised about the requirement that a person holding a Gun show must be a dealer. This matter was not related to *Arms (Electronic transactions) Amendment Regulations* nor a new requirement see Section 7A of the Arms Act which states that a person with a dealer's licence may apply from time to time to hold a gun show.

*Firearms safety programme:* Since the 1<sup>st</sup> of March the theoretical and practical testing is now offered together. This reduces the likelihood of having to travel on two occasions particularly as it has not been possible to book specific tiemi to do the theoretical test delivered through VTNZ. An update will be provided at the 25 July FCAF meeting.

*Firearm possession in rental accommodation.* The challenges for renters has been noted – FCAF sub-committee is seeking to initiate conversation with Property Investors. FCAF members to establish the sub-committee and report back to FCAF at next meeting.

*Update of Arms Code:* advised that three hard copies of the 2013 Arms Code are now available at all libraries across the country. Further update delayed as priority on advancing the arms service delivery operating model. Police were also reminded that an Arms Code Subcommittee had been established and await input into developing the new code.

### **Agenda item 3: Importation of Large Calibre Firearms**

A member sought advice on Police issuing import permits for large calibre firearms. FCAF was advised that additional information may be required at the time application is made for an import permit as to the intended use. The following points were noted:

- There are particular safety concerns around the use of these guns.
- There are very few application to import very large calibre firearms.
- The legislation does require Police to approve an application for an import and this is all managed centrally.

#### **Agenda item 4: Transport of Dangerous Good within New Zealand**

This item was spoken to for general awareness raising and advised that some couriers were no longer willing to transport firearms.

#### **Agenda item 5: Progress report on Police's internal consultation of the Arms Service Delivery Model.**

An update was provided but as there are particular employment processes that needed to be followed no detail was able to be shared

#### **Agenda item 6: Arms Code Update**

FCAF were advised that three hard copies of the 2013 Arms code have been forwarded to 72 public libraries. Work is progressing on an audio book for those with reading difficulties.

With regard to concern about military language in the Arms Code. Language is limited to the different states of firearms readiness – drafted as 'load' (rounds in a magazine), action (rounds chambered), and instant (safety catch removed) and unload (all ammunition removed from the firearm. FCAF members had been consulted and did not agree with the new terminology, their thoughts on preferred terminology and Police will do more work in this area. Police were also reminded that an Arms Code Subcommittee had been established and await input into developing the new code.

#### **Agenda item 7: Secure Storage**

Police shared the results of a random sample of 267 (40%) stolen firearm reports received by Police in the period 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2018. In that period there were 672 events recorded. In 133 (20%) cases sufficient information was available to ascertain compliancy and non-compliance with security requirements. Of these 62% were non-compliant with the conditions or the security requirements and 32% were stolen when left unattended in vehicles – the majority of which were unlocked some even with keys inside the car..

It was agreed that FCAF member should work together to emphasise the importance of security as stolen firearms are significant source of firearms entering the criminal hands. Some FCAF members stated that other causes contributed to the flow of firearms into criminal hands. Police accepted that there were other ways criminals got access to firearms but stated that recent analysis of data showed that firearms licence holder security issues provided a significant sources of firearms to criminals.

#### **Agenda Item 8: Checking information before media comment.**

FCAF members were reminded that Mike McIlraith and the Policy team are available and willing to respond to queries from members if there is a concern or clarification is needed. Police were reminded that FCAF members are available and also willing to assist Police as subject matter experts should it be needed.

Committee discussed the various safety messages that had been publicised in advance of the Roar and duck shooting season.

### **Agenda Item 9: Legislation update**

*Potential Arms Act amendments* Police advised of the items that Police had been asked to progress and included:

- design of Firearms Prohibition Orders which is likely to be advanced through a public discussion document; and
- review of offences and penalties; there was a generalised discussion on the need to tweak aspects of the Arms Act and agreed that the next meeting would be a whole day workshop that would look at possible amendments to the Arms Act.

*Statutory Board:* Discussion about having FCAF as a formalised statutory body. Police advised that a report had been prepared for the Ministers and an update would be provided when feedback received.

Regulations: - Work has been progressing on developing a discussion paper for reviewing the Arms Act fees. Cabinet must approve any discussion document.

Approach taken is first identifying the cost to Police of delivering each service and then what the cost of each licence and endorsement fee would be if it were to recover those costs if (i) no new fees were charged for those services for which currently there is no fee; and (ii) what a full set of fees would be if all services had a fee set. New fees would be attached to issue of import permits, permits to procure. Another option to consider is setting a separate fee for undertaking the training requirement for obtaining a firearms licence.

At present 85% of the revenue comes from the firearms licence. Fees are averaged so high demand users pay the same as low users. The consultation document will ask questions about averaging versus a mix of base fee plus variable fees for certain services.

It was agreed to provide updates on cost recovery work every two months.

### **Item 11 OIA and other Data**

A general reminder was given about the proactive release of OIAs and FCAF members were asked to let their members know there is now a specific firearms page on Police's website which provides updates of information.

### **General Business**

*Brokering Act* – Came into force 1 February but fully takes effect information could be put in organisation's websites.

*Import permits* – positive feedback from the centralisation of issue of import permits.

*Online transactions* – general comment of looking forward to opportunity for transacting on line particularly for import permits and licence application.

*Police and public have poor understanding of firearm types* – Discussion on benefit of FCAF and other community members providing advice to Police when required.

*Agenda* – Request that agenda and action points be circulated at least two weeks before the next meeting

*Refresher safety training* – Generalise discussion about hunting or shooting safety rules, security and training. Next meeting will be a whole day and will cover security and firearms regulation.

**Meeting ended 12:30**

**Next meetings**

Proposed FCAF meeting dates 2019:

- 25 July 2019 – Full day
- 12 December 2019

These were confirmed with FCAF.

Meeting Concluded 1230hrs.

**FIREARMS COMMUNITY ADVISORY FORUM – ACTION POINTS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

| <b>ACTION POINTS MARCH 2019 MEETING</b>  | <b>ASSIGNED TO</b> | <b>STATUS</b> |
|--|--------------------|---------------|
| POLICE TO DRAFT A DASHBOARD ON NUMBERS GOING THROUGH NEW FIREARMS SAFETY PROGRAMME (TRAINING COMPONENT AND THEORY TEST) AND CIRCULATE A DRAFT TO OBTAIN IDEAS ON WHAT OTHER STATISTICS SHOULD BE INCLUDED. | POLICE             | COMPLETED     |
| FIREARMS SAFETY TRAINING – POLICE TO PROVIDE SUMMARY SHEET OF THE FIGURES FOR THE FIREARM SAFETY TRAINING TO SHARE WITH FCAF   | POLICE             |               |
| FIREARMS SAFETY MESSAGES – MEMBERS TO PROVIDE SUCCINCT MESSAGES WHICH COULD BE MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH RETAIL OUTLETS.  | ALL                |               |
| CIRCULATE ATT AND OTHER BROKERING INFORMATION  | PETER NOBLE        | COMPLETED     |
| THE SUB-COMMITTEE TO APPROACH THE PROPERTY INVESTORS ASSOCIATION   | FCAF               | IN PROGRESS   |
| LOOK AT POSSIBLE INSURANCE INDUSTRY ISSUES AND BODY CORP RULES. FCAF MEMBER (TO BE DETERMINED).  | FCAF               |               |
| A BI-MONTHLY UPDATE ON PROGRESS ON FEE REGULATIONS   | POLICE             | DELAYED       |
| POLICE TO PUBLICLY COMMUNICATE THE COMBINATION OF THEORY AND PRACTICAL TESTS   | POLICE             | COMPLETED     |
| POLICE TO SHARE THE DRAFT ARMS CODE WITH FCAF ONCE FURTHER WORK IS DONE  | POLICE             | IN ACTION     |
| POLICE TO ENSURE AGENDA AND ACTION POINTS ARE SENT OUT IN ADVANCE PREFERABLY TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE  | POLICE             |               |