

Modification of 0.22 calibre 'prohibited' firearms with non-detachable magazines

- Te Tari Pūreke – Firearms Safety Authority has made a policy change for high-capacity non-detachable prohibited magazines affecting **rimfire 0.22 calibre rifles (lever, bolt or pump action)**.
- From now, licence holders who have registered these firearms may be given the option to modify prohibited tubular magazines – those holding more than 10 rounds – allowing these firearms to be retained as a non-prohibited firearm.
- Licence holders will need to register the firearm, then have the firearm modified by a gunsmith enabling them to undertake this work.
- The gunsmith using the declaration form provided to them by the licence holder will make the magazine compliant. Te Tari Pūreke will then validate the declaration.
- 0.22 rimfire rifles that licence holders have had modified prior to this policy change can also be considered. The licence holder will need to provide the same declaration form and use a qualified gunsmith to confirm the previous work modifying the tubular magazine is compliant.
- All costs associated with modification are the licence holder's responsibility.

What's the issue?

- Law changes after the 2019 terror attacks placed limits on magazine capacity. These changes meant 0.22 calibre firearms (lever, bolt, and pump actions) with non-detachable tubular magazines of more than 10 rounds became 'prohibited' at this time.
- A number of licence holders have recently tried to register 0.22 calibre rimfire rifles with prohibited high-capacity magazines.
- These 0.22 cal firearms would not be prohibited but for the magazine capacity.
- To assist these licence holders becoming legally compliant, Te Tari Pūreke is introducing a new modification pathway.

What you need to know

What firearms is this policy change affecting?

Rimfire 0.22 calibre rifles (lever, bolt or pump action) with non-detachable tubular magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds only.

What is changing at this time?

To assist these licence holders becoming legally compliant, Te Tari Pūreke is introducing a modification pathway. Licence holders will under certain circumstances be able to have modified their prohibited tubular magazines – those holding more than 10 rounds – allowing these firearms to be retained as a non-prohibited firearm.

Is modification the only option?

No. Licence holders have some other choices.

They can also:

- Surrender the firearm to the Police or a firearms dealer for destruction
- Seek an Heirloom/Memento endorsement and permit (having met the criteria)
- Seek a Collectors endorsement and permit (having met the criteria).

Are already modified 0.22 firearms covered by this policy change?

Yes. Licence holders who have previously modified their lever, bolt or pump action 0.22 rifle prior to this policy change will also be able to have these modifications considered. The licence holder will need to get a declaration from a qualified gunsmith that the previous work modifying the tubular magazine is now compliant.

What must a licence holder do if choosing modification?

Licence holders must first register the firearm.

They will then be contacted by Te Tari Pūreke Compliance Team.

The licence holder choosing to modify will then need to arrange for the firearm to be modified by a gunsmith.

Do licence holders need to register?

Yes. The only pathway to remedy the non-compliant firearm is through registration in the Firearms Registry.

It remains unlawful for a licence holder to be in possession of these firearms outside of the

prescribed process, and they are subject to criminal and/or regulatory processes.

What specific modifications are gunsmiths required to make?

Modifications can include removing the magazine inner tube; removing the magazine completely; or modifying the magazine to accept only 10 rounds or less.

Does the gunsmith then make a declaration?

Yes, the gunsmith will complete a declaration that the magazine is compliant. The Compliance Team will receive the declaration back form from the licence holder and update the AIS firearm record.

What does the declaration do?

The Declaration completed by the gunsmith confirms that either the firearm had already been modified and it details the work previously undertaken; or it will describe the work now undertaken by this gunsmith making the firearm's magazine non-prohibited.

Where can gunsmiths get a declaration form?

Only from the licence holder. Our Te Tari Pūreke Compliance Team will work with the licence holder on what options they have. If the licence holder is eligible and chooses modification, they will be provided with the declaration form to be used by their chosen gunsmith.

Will any of the costs be met by Te Tari Pūreke?

No. Licence holder's are responsible for the costs of making their firearms compliant.



How to register your firearm (to enable modification)

- You can record your 0.22 rifle details in the Firearms Registry online or over the phone. You will not be charged a fee. Visit [How to register or update your information](#), which sets out the steps to follow.