

Dealer Pānui

The latest information for firearms dealers

Te Tari Pūreke Partnerships | Dealer Pānui JUNE 2025

Kia ora,

In this pānui you can find:

- **Bulletin** - updates and information for licensed dealers
- **Quick fire** - common topics we are hearing from our licensed dealers community
- **Keep up to date on the latest numbers**

Mike McIlraith

Kaihautū Kōtui | Director Partnerships

Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority

Bulletin

June 2025 Obligations | Ammunition Sales

This is a reminder that licensed dealers are now required to record sales of ammunition in the Registry, using the Dealer Transactions form.

This requirement is referred to in the Arms Regulations 1992 Section 42(3).

[Arms Regulations 1992 \(SR 1992/346\) \(as at 28 June 2024\) – New Zealand Legislation](#)

Helping you meet your legal obligation

The Dealer Transactions form was updated on 24 June 2025 so that dealers and ammunition sellers can record ammunition sales in the Registry, using the Dealer Transactions form and meet their legal obligations.

This is a record of sale, not a registration of ammunition.

Recording ammunition sales digitally requires licensed dealers and ammunition sellers to validate the buyer's firearms licence, one of the first steps of the Dealer Transactions form. This ensures the ammunition is being sold legally and helps give the seller confidence they are selling ammunition to a current and legitimate firearms licence holder.

The record of sale may initiate an activating circumstance notification to licence holders who purchase ammunition after 24 June, if they haven't already had an activating circumstance

What dealers need to do

- Keep recording dealer transactions, using the [Dealer Transactions form](#), at the point of sale or immediately after. This form will now include ammunition information.
- Submit an online [Dealer Transactions form](#) when ammunition is sold or immediately afterwards. The form requires dealers to provide information about the purchaser and ammunition calibre or gauge and number of rounds. This is the total number of rounds of ammunition sold, not the number of boxes.
- Let customers know that purchasing ammunition from a firearms dealer or ammunition seller became an activating circumstance after 24 June 2025. Licence holders who already held a licence on 24 June 2023 (when Firearms Registry regulations took effect), and who have not yet registered their firearms into the Firearms Registry, will need to register all the firearms and arms items in their possession within 30 days of purchasing ammunition. Licence holders who got a firearms licence (first time licence holders and 'renewals') on or after 24 June 2023 are already required to provide information for the Registry, and keep that information up-to-date [Arms Regulations 1992 Section 41 \(1\)\(e\) Arms Regulations 1992 \(SR 1992/346\) \(as at 28 June 2024\)– New Zealand Legislation](#).
- Have ongoing access to the online Dealer Transactions form, so dealers and employees can record the sale of ammunition at the point of sale, or immediately afterwards.
- Ensure any sales of ammunition that took place on 24 June 2024 are recorded in the Dealer Transactions form.

Licensed dealers are now no longer required to provide to the Police the particulars of all arms items in their possession on or after 24 June 2025. The government has agreed to defer this obligation to 2027.

Arms Regulations 1992 Section 41(4) [Arms Regulations 1992 \(SR 1992/346\) \(as at 28 June 2024\) – New Zealand Legislation](#). New regulations will be available in due course to reflect this change.

Helpful Information

- Read the [information sheet](#) for licensed dealers which has more details about your obligations and some helpful FAQs.
- Watch and share the [Dealer Transactions form video](#) for dealers if you haven't already done so and share it with your employees. This video explains how the form works, and how to ensure you fulfil your legal obligations.
- Visit www.firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz for more information around your obligations as a licensed dealer.

We are committed to working with you to support the safe and responsible use of firearms in New Zealand.

Te Tari Pūreke responds to .22 prohibited magazine issue

Te Tari Pūreke – Firearms Safety Authority has made a policy change allowing high-capacity non-detachable prohibited magazines affecting rimfire 0.22 calibre rifles (lever, bolt or pump action) to be modified under certain circumstances.

This means licence holders may have a new pathway for making these firearms legally compliant so they can be retained by the licence holder.

What is the issue being addressed?

As most firearms dealers know, in April 2019, in the immediate aftermath of the Christchurch terror attacks, changes were made to reduce the number of semi-automatic firearms and large capacity magazines in our communities.

Large capacity magazines had been exploited in Christchurch mosques attacks and had also been identified as a common feature of many mass casualty shootings in other countries.

These changes meant 0.22 calibre firearms (lever, bolt, and pump actions) with non-detachable tubular magazines of a capacity of more than 10 rounds became 'prohibited' firearms at this time. These 0.22 calibre firearms wouldn't be prohibited but for the capacity of the tubular magazine.

Recently, Te Tari Pūreke has noted a number of licence holders trying to register their now prohibited 0.22 calibre firearms – those with large tubular magazines.

What is changing?

To assist these licence holders with 0.22 calibre firearms with large tubular magazines become legally compliant, Te Tari Pūreke has included a new modification pathway.

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

Licence holders must first register the firearm. They will then be contacted by Te Tari Pūreke Compliance Team and solutions will be discussed. The licence holder choosing to modify will then need to arrange for their firearm to be modified by a gunsmith.

Licence holders who have previously modified their 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 and permanent.

Is modification the only option?

Licence holders have some other choices, along with the new modification option. They can also:

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

Registering their firearm is the only pathway for modification.

Want to know more?

You can find more information on our website:

[What items must be registered | Firearms Safety Authority New Zealand](#)

[Te Tari Pūreke responds to .22 prohibited magazine issue | Firearms Safety Authority New Zealand](#)

Permit to Import updates

We've recently made improvements to information and forms to streamline the permit to import process. The PDF application forms for importing have been updated to clearly outline the required information upfront.

The [permits to import webpages](#) have been updated so it's easier to find and understand what importers need to do when applying for a permit to import, and [after receiving imported items](#). There's also a new email address for completing a notification of import: importpermits@police.govt.nz

On average it can take up to 6 weeks for a permit to be issued. We have a team of 8 Permit officers processing approximately 3,250 permits and consents per year. Our data has shown that **a third** of permits issued are **not used**.

How can Dealers help improve permit response times?

- Avoid applying for permits "just in case".
- Use updated application forms.
- Use your Permit early to avoid expiry and having to make another application.
- Complete your Notification of import promptly using the excel template emailed to you.

You can also download the template from this webpage: [After you import items New Zealand](#), available under the sub heading **If you're importing on your dealer licence**.

Keep an eye out for new online guidance on how to provide a firearm sample coming in before the end of June. This is to meet requirements from our carrier, improve firearms safety for our district staff and introduce a set schedule for the examinations.

Quick fire

This section is to share information on some of the common topics we are hearing from our licensed dealer community. If you have anything you'd like covered in future editions you can send these to

firearmspartnerships@police.govt.nz

Validating a firearms licence when it is under renewal

Last month we provided information about what to do when a firearms licence is under renewal. Below is an update to that information.

If a licence holder submits their application for renewal before the current expiry date of their licence, their licence will remain current until a decision is made ([Arms Act 1983, section 25A – Application for new firearms licence made by holder of current licence | New Zealand Legislation](#)). During this period, firearms licence checker can be used to validate the firearms licence.

Once their licence renewal has been approved, the licence holder will be notified. A new licence card will be ordered and this will have a new version number allocated. During this period while the licence holder waits to receive their physical licence card, firearms licence checker will not work with their old card details (i.e. the version number).

If a licence holder is trying to purchase an arms item, they can call our team on 0800 844 431 to get their new version number. The licence holder should do this at the time of purchase.

Keep up to date on the latest numbers

We want to ensure we are continuing to provide you up to date information about the Firearms Registry and licensing performance. So, we have added a new section with the latest numbers.

- Active firearms licences summary by type - Individual, Visitor and Dealer
- Firearms licensing completion summary - Individual, Visitor and Dealer. This section now has the total number of licences completed in the given month, rather than a percentage, and broken down into different licence types.
- Firearms Registry update - including total firearms, parts and licence holders registered

On our website we also proactively release firearms regulatory information to help people better understand features of the licence holder community, and aspects of the performance of New Zealand's firearms regulatory framework. [Firearms data and public information | Firearms Safety Authority](#)

1 May 2025

1 June 2025

Active firearms licences summary | 1 May 2025

Individual	229,058
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Visitor	165
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Dealer*	430
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Total	229,653
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*A person who holds a dealer licence must also hold an individual licence

firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz

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Firearms Safety Authority

Active firearms licences summary | 1 June 2025

Individual	228,539
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Visitor	96
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Dealer*	425
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Total	229,059
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*A person who holds a dealer licence must also hold an individual licence

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Firearms Safety Authority

Firearms licensing completion summary | 1 May 2025

	Mar 2025	Apr 2025
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Individual	2197	2064
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Visitor	236	188
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Dealer	32	24
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Firearms licensing completion summary | 1 June 2025

	Apr 2025	May 2025
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Individual	2,064	2,658
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Visitor	188	109
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Dealer	24	36
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Firearms Registry Update | 1 May 2025

Total Firearms Registered	404,537
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Total Firearms Parts Registered	13860
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Total Licence Holders Registered	84808
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Total Licence Holders registered refers to all current and expired individual or visitor firearms licence holders with a registered firearm or firearms part

firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz

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Firearms Safety Authority

Firearms Registry Update | 1 June 2025

Total Firearms Registered	427,820
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Total Firearms Parts Registered	14,226
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Total Licence Holders Registered	89,828
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Total Licence Holders registered refers to all current and expired individual or visitor firearms licence holders with a registered firearm or firearms part

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You are subscribed because you are interested in information for licensed dealers.