

Meeting minutes
24 July 2025
Arms Engagement Group (AEG)
9:30am – 12:30pm

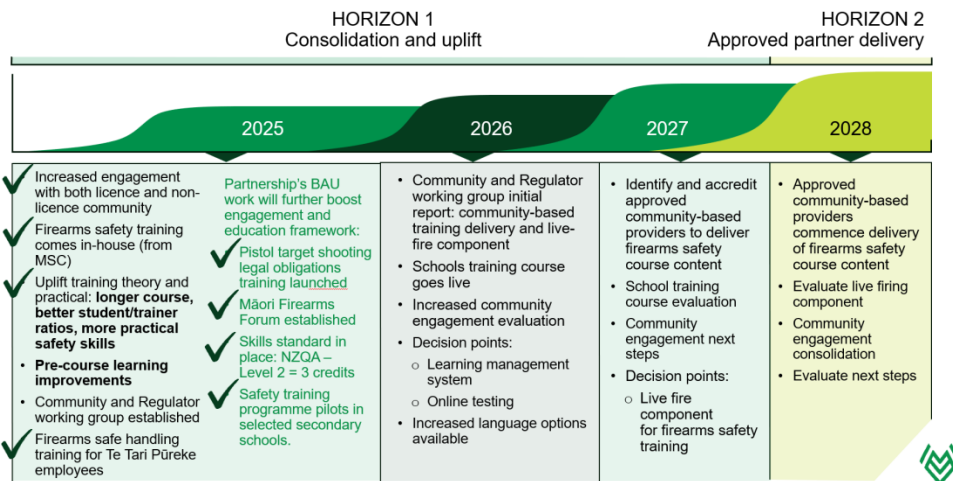
Meeting details	24 July 2025 9:30am – 12:30pm
In attendance	Te Tari Pūreke Mike McIlraith – <i>Director Partnerships</i> Ewan Kelsall – <i>Partnership Manager (chair)</i> Matt Lambert – <i>Partnership Manager – Iwi</i> Nopera Hauwaho – <i>Senior Partnerships Advisor – Iwi</i> Mike Tarttelin – <i>Clubs & Ranges Manager</i> Catherine Petrey – <i>Strategic Advisor Firearms</i> John Herbert – <i>Senior Partnerships Advisor</i> Kathryn Street – <i>Principal Advisor Strategic Communications</i> Lachlan Marshall – <i>Firearms Safety Manager</i> Amanda Jongeneel – <i>Community Integration Manager</i> New Zealand Police Jenna Marsh – <i>New Zealand Police</i> AEG members Maureen Gillon – <i>Royal New Zealand College of GPs</i> Edwina Hughes – <i>Peace Movement Aotearoa</i> Jarrold Gilbert – <i>Independent Research Solutions (1/2hr only)</i> Kiri Mataitos – <i>Health Quality & Safety Commission Te Tāhū Hauora, Family Violence Death Review</i> Dr Justin Barry-Walsh – <i>The Royal Australian and NZ College of Psychiatrists</i> Ministry of Justice Scott Ryland – <i>MOJ</i>
Apologies	Pauline Gulliver – <i>HQSC</i> Monique Mann – <i>Victoria University of Wellington</i> Jarrold Gilbert – <i>except first ½ hour</i> Nik Green – <i>Gun Control NZ – On compassionate leave</i>

Item 1	Welcome, apologies, introduction of new members, processes, and meeting rules (Te Tari Pūreke)
Discussion	The chair welcomed attendees and opened the meeting with a karakia. Apologies were noted.
Item 2	Confirm previous minutes and action points (Te Tari Pūreke)
Discussion	The group noted that the minutes from 13 March 2025 were confirmed via email as a true and accurate record. The Group discussed the actions from previous meetings (see Actions table on pages (9-10). Arms Engagement Group comments
Actions	No action items.
Item 3	Partnerships & Communities updates (Te Tari Pūreke)
Discussion	Transport and storage guide The Secure firearms storage and transportation guide has been updated and the new version is available on the Te Tari Pureke website. The Guide now has certainty around the steel construction of safes and clearer advice for display of firearms (this includes disabled firearms). It also includes key storage advice, noting the keys to the firearms and ammunition must be kept separate from each other, as well as advice for airguns. It is important storage is a practical process and not impractical, so firearm users are more likely to safely secure their firearms and ammunition. Sessions have been run with internal staff to ensure they are aware of the changes to processes and that there is a consistent message around the country. There will be a public launch for the Firearms community to promote the changes to the guide; the date is yet to be confirmed. Arms Engagement Group comments Discussion around a communicating to a wider audience than just licensed holders in a household. Storage and transport stickers Stickers to remind licence holders of the requirements for the safe storage and transportation of firearms and ammunition have been developed. The idea is for these to be placed in locations to help licence holders remember their obligations – these can be stuck in convenient places such as in or on gun safes, ammunition secure storage boxes or firearms transport cases or bags.

	These will be available to Te Tari Pūreke staff initially to hand out during interactions with licence holders. Airline travel when a firearms licence is under renewal Air New Zealand have now updated their processes for check in of a firearm. They now allow the use of the Firearms Licence Checker when a licence is under renewal to confirm licence status. The licence holder will still need to have their physical licence card with them. It is the responsibility of the NZ firearms holder to use the Firearms Licence Checker during the check in process. The licence holder can enter their details into the Firearms Licence Checker “Step 2: Seller details”. The Customer Service Agent at Air New Zealand will confirm the licence holders name and number are the same on both the physical licence and the Firearms Licence Checker. They will then need to sight the statement “Seller has been validated”. Please note: Only digital confirmation will be accepted. Travelling with firearms and ammunition is at the airline’s discretion. Each airline has specific rules for the carriage of firearms and ammunition and has the final say on whether firearms are permitted on board. Travellers must check each country they are travelling to/from, to ensure they can travel on an ‘expired’ licence card. Arms Engagement Group comments No comments Auctions guidance document This new document provides guidance on how to run an auction that is compliant with the Arms Act 1983 with a focus on public safety. This includes information on how to meet security requirements, dealer record keeping obligations, firearms registry obligations and the information that must be provided to Te Tari Pūreke to receive consent to run the auction. Feedback has been received and the final document will be published shortly. Arms Engagement Group comments No comments New webpages Some new webpages have been published on our website: Hunting access and unlawful hunting activities – This page has information for hunters and landowners. Hunters must always have permission to hunt, regardless
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	of who owns or occupies the land – no permission, no access. Any hunting activity that occurs without landowner permission is illegal. Travelling overseas with firearms – This page provides licence holders with information about their obligations and other considerations when travelling overseas with firearms. This includes exporting their firearms, ensuring they have followed all processes and obtained all permits and approvals for travelling on airlines and entering other countries, and have a permit to import to bring firearms back to New Zealand. Meeting with Wairarapa Rural Police Te Tari Pūreke and the Rural Police Manager recently met with landowners in the Wairarapa who have been negatively impacted by unlawful hunting. It was an eye opening experience and has enabled internal work to be done to make information more readily available including prosecution advice. Arms Engagement Group comments No comments Visitor collateral Website content and collateral to help visitors understand and complete the process for licenses and import permits are being updated: • Before you apply for a visitor's firearms licence – this page is being amended to only reflect information relevant to overseas visitors. • Apply for a visitor's firearms licence – This page is being updated to include specific information to assist complete the application form. • Bringing arms items when you visit New Zealand – corrected and updated information regarding firearms that can be imported. Visitor Licence Factsheet – a factsheet has been created for visitors to download and refer to when making application for a licence. This resource is also available to target shooting organisations to include on competition entry websites. Arms Engagement Group comments No comments Shooters with disabilities We have started looking at how current legislation and our approach impact shooters living with a disability. Discussions have been held with a para athlete about para sporting. We have started reviewing how we approach various aspects of the licencing journey to understand the barriers disabled people encounter, and policy impacts. This is an ongoing piece of work at the moment and comments are welcome.
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	Arms Engagement Group comments No comments
Actions	
Item 4	June 2025 obligations: ammunition sales
Discussion	Arms Regulations came into effect on 24 June 2025 Arms Regulations 1992 Reg 41(1)(e) Arms Regulations 1992 (SR 1992/346) (as at 29 June 2025) – New Zealand Legislation. Licensed dealers and ammunition sellers are required to record ammunition sales in the Registry, using the Dealer Transactions form, as part of their legal obligations. This Regulation came into effect on and from 24 June 2025. This requirement is referred to in the Arms Regulations 1992 Reg 42(3). Arms Regulations 1992 (SR 1992/346) (as at 29 June 2025) – New Zealand Legislation. 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. Refer to Reg 41(4) Arms Regulations 1992 (SR 1992/346) (as at 29 June 2025) – New Zealand Legislation. Helping our firearms community meet their obligations On 25 June, we emailed licence holders, ammunition sellers and dealers to remind them of their obligations, with links to updated web information. This information included: • updated 'how to use the Dealer Transactions form' YouTube video for dealers • new Dealer Transactions form video for ammunition sellers on YouTube • Information Sheets for ammunition sellers, dealers and clubs and ranges. The Dealer Transactions form was updated during the evening of 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. 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. Our local team is available to help from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday on the freephone number 0800 844 431.

	Arms Engagement Group comments No comments
Actions	No action items.
Item 5	Firearms safety, education, and engagement
Discussion	We're making progress on our plans Discussed previously, lots of work has been going on in the firearms safety team. Expanded courses start next month. The School's Pilot is going well and a video has been created with a great response. It is hopeful this will be expanded in 2026. All the feedback received has been very position and the NCEA credits are a great initiative.  HORIZON 1 Consolidation and uplift HORIZON 2 Approved partner delivery 2025 ✓ Increased engagement with both licence and non-licence community ✓ Firearms safety training comes in-house (from MSC) ✓ Uplift training theory and practical: longer course, better student/trainer ratios, more practical safety skills • Pre-course learning improvements • Community and Regulator working group established ✓ Firearms safe handling training for Te Tari Pūreke employees 2026 ✓ Partnership's BAU work will further boost engagement and education framework: ✓ Pistol target shooting legal obligations training launched ✓ Māori Firearms Forum established ✓ Skills standard in place: NZQA – Level 2 = 3 credits ✓ Safety training programme pilots in selected secondary schools. 2027 • Community and Regulator working group initial report: community-based training delivery and live-fire component • Schools training course goes live • Increased community engagement evaluation • Decision points: ○ Learning management system ○ Online testing • Increased language options available 2028 • Identify and accredit approved community-based providers to deliver firearms safety course content • School training course evaluation • Community engagement next steps • Decision points: ○ Live fire component for firearms safety training • Approved community-based providers commence delivery of firearms safety course content • Evaluate live firing component • Community engagement consolidation • Evaluate next steps Arms Engagement Group comments No comments
Actions	No action items.
Item 6	Clubs & Ranges
Discussion	It has been a very busy time recently. The Team have completed the pistol range/club inspections with a 100% done across the country; there has been great feedback. A lot of development and maintenance work is going on at pistol ranges across the country. Most ranges won't see us again till 2027 and with many sitting just at requirement level it is hoped they continue with their maintenance and improvements.

	Pistol Club returns are due from 1 July and consultation has been done to ensure communications are correct. The NZ Police shooting manual refresh is underway and has been put out for consultation. There has been a lot of work to do supporting the new legislation, changes to forms and notifications etc. but the website has been prioritised so it will be accurate when it is launched. An email was sent out to all clubs and ranges updating them of the changes but this created a raft of enquiries. Further communications went out on 30 June to all clubs and ranges. Currently certified clubs and ranges have no changes. The processed applications allow us to inspect previously certified ranges that didn't have an inspection; this applies to around 600 and will last for 5 years from inspection. Policy change In April 2019, in the immediate aftermath of the Christchurch terror attacks, a buy back and law 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. 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. Licence holders <u>must</u> first register the firearm. They will then be contacted by Te Tari Pūreke Compliance Team and solutions will be discussed. 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.
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	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 Arms Engagement Group comments No comments
Actions	No action items.
Item 7	Ministry of Justice policy update (Ministry of Justice)
Discussion	The Ministry of Justice noted: • Clubs and ranges: We have proactively released the cabinet material and it is available online. • Registry Review: The Proactive release – Phase 3 of the firearm reforms: Registry Review Terms of Reference is available online: https://www.justice.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Publications/Proactive-release-Registry-review-TOR_FINAL.pdf • Rewrite of Act: The last few months have been spent on policy development, including proposals to make the Arms Act easier to navigate and understand. The Minister has now made policy decisions which are progressing through Cabinet. Once a Bill has been introduced, the content of the proposals will be announced. The submissions analysis from the public consultation on the Arms Act will also be released in the coming months. Arms Engagement Group comments The group discussed timelines of the rewrite. The current plan is for Cabinet consideration in August. During the Select Committee process, there will be an opportunity for the public to share their views on the proposals, which will then be considered by the Select Committee.
Actions	No action items.
Item 8	NZ Police policy update (NZ Police)
Discussion	New Zealand Police: • Clubs and Ranges: We are supporting FSA with reviewing updated forms and responding to stakeholder queries. • Registry review: We are supporting the FSA with briefing material and responding to feedback as required. • Rewrite of Act: we are working with MOJ on what the impacts of proposals will be so there is a lot of work going on at the moment to support the FSA.

	Arms Engagement Group comments The Group discussed the findings of the Registry Review. In response to a question from the Group, Police clarified that no significant changes were proposed to the way the Registry operates. Recommendations are more focused on communications about the purpose of the Registry and regular reporting on relevant data and information.
Actions	No action items.
Item 9	General business (Te Tari Pūreke)
Discussion	Arms Engagement Group comments Discussion around the survey for frequency and lengths of meetings. These to stay the same. Thoughts around additional groups that may need to be involved. The group suggested an ad hoc meeting with FCAF when the bill is introduced.
Actions	No action items.
Meeting close	
The Chair thanked for everyone attending and closed the meeting with a karakia.	

Agenda/ Action item	Action	Person responsible	Due date	Status
Meeting: 10/10/2024				
	Provide ongoing reporting to AEG about notifications Te Tari Pūreke receives from health practitioners.	Kendra H.		CLOSED. A regular report is being put together to share at AEG meetings.
Meeting 13/03/2025				
	Subscribe members to the Dealer Pānui.	Kendra H.		COMPLETE. If members would like to be added to the mailing list they can email the AEG Chair.
Ex CP	Proactively released information (revocations and			COMPLETE Proactively released information link: https://www.firearmssafetyauthority.govt.nz/ne

Agenda/ Action item	Action	Person responsible	Due date	Status
	reasons) to be shared with AEG.			ws-and-publications/firearms-data-and-public-information
	Ministry of Justice to ask MAAG about a joint meeting with AEG (MOJ has noted this during the AEG meeting).	Ministry of Justice		
	Set up a meeting with AEG and FCAF.	Douglas B. Kendra H.		OPEN. This was raised with AEG at the meeting on 13/03. AEG members received a survey about the AEG meetings. Once this is sorted then the joint meeting will be considered.
	Circulate Ground Rules for AEG to the members.	Douglas B.		CLOSED. Circulated with previous meeting minutes.
Meeting 24/07/2025				
	No new action items			