

13 March 2025

IR-01-25-5560

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Tēnā koe

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 12 February 2025. You asked for:

*I may have missed it, however is it possible to receive information on the roles, responsibilities and accountability of TTP/FSA in terms of Police, Ministry of Justice, the Minister of Police and the Associate Minister of Justice please.*

*Who is TTP/FSA actually accountable to?*

*A number of us are not certain on this.*

***Ministry of Justice and Associate Minister of Justice (Firearms) roles and responsibilities***

The Ministry of Justice is responsible for the policy and administrative function for the Arms Act 1983 and Regulations 1992. This includes the operation of the legislation, oversight for the laws relating to the firearms system and for making recommendations to the Government on improvements required. Responsibility for the Act and Regulations was reassigned from the New Zealand Police (Police) to the Ministry in January 2024.

The Arms Act and Regulations are currently being reviewed by the Ministry of Justice. For more information on the review please refer to: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/firearms-reform/>.

The Ministry of Justice, reports to the Associate Minister of Justice (Firearms), Hon Nicole McKee. The Associate Minister of Justice (Firearms) is responsible for policy relating to the Arms Act and Regulations.

***New Zealand Police and Minister of Police roles and responsibilities***

Police is responsible for the operational delivery of the Arms Act and Regulations. Police does this through:

- Te Tari Pūreke – Firearms Safety Authority. The Firearms Safety Authority is a branded business unit hosted within Police. It is responsible for regulating lawful firearms possession and use, and for monitoring compliance with the law. The Firearms Safety Authority manages the firearms registry and works with licence holders and potential licence holders, dealers, and shooting clubs and ranges to support legal activities including imports, sales, purchases, transfers, transport, storage, use, export, and destruction of firearms and firearms items.

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- Other Police teams, including frontline constabulary and the National Organised Crime Group. These teams are responsible for seizing unlawful firearms and other weapons, carrying out crime prevention and intelligence activities, criminal investigations, and enforcing the law. Frontline police officers are responsible for addressing illegal firearms use and enforcement and assist the Firearms Safety Authority with the serving of suspension and revocation notices, if necessary.

Police provides policy advice to the Ministry of Justice on the impacts of proposed changes to the Arms Act and Regulations. Police also provides policy advice on firearms matters to the Minister of Police to support effective decision-making. This advice is informed by the experience of and feedback from the Firearms Safety Authority and other groups within Police responsible for firearms related work.

Police reports to the Minister of Police, Hon Mark Mitchell. The Firearms Safety Authority does not report directly to the Minister of Police. Like other Police business units, the Firearms Safety Authority reports through appropriate Police management structures.

The Minister of Police's responsibilities include oversight of the general conduct, functions, and duties of the Police, and the effective, efficient, and economical management of the Police, which includes the Firearms Safety Authority. In addition, although the Minister of Police is no longer responsible for the Arms Act or Regulations, he has retained some specific responsibilities under the Arms Act. Once the Arms (Shooting Clubs, Shooting Ranges, and Other Matters) Amendment Bill comes into force later this year this responsibility will transfer to the responsible Minister (currently the Associate Minister of Justice).

I trust that the above information addresses your request.

Nāku noa, nā .



Angela Brazier  
**Executive Director**  
**Firearms Safety Authority**