

14 May 2025

s.9(2)(a) OIA

Tēnā koe s.9(2)(a) OIA

Thank you for your Official Information Act 1982 (OIA) request dated 5 May 2025. You asked:

*Are employees of the Firearms Safety Authority asked if they own firearms when offered a role with the Authority?*

*What is the percentage of employees at the Authority that own firearms?*

Te Tari Pūreke – Firearms Safety Authority follows the standard vetting process relating to potential employment of applicants, and questions relating to firearm ownership is not a required question and is therefore not asked.

However, we know anecdotally that some staff are firearms licence holders (unrelated to their work with Te Tari Pūreke). Additionally, there are some roles which do have a specific need for staff to maintain a firearms licence to be able to fulfil aspects of these roles. For example, the newly created Firearms Safety Team (FST) will deliver firearms related education and training across New Zealand. To ensure FST staff remain current regarding all aspects of firearms use, they are required to maintain their firearms licence.

There has never been a need to determine what percentage of our staff are firearms licence holders, consequently the second part of your request is refused under section 18(g) of the OIA as the information is not held by Police and I have no grounds for believing that the information is held by another agency.

You have the right to ask the Ombudsman to review this decision if you are not satisfied with the response to your request. Information about how to make a complaint is available at: [www.ombudsman.parliament.nz](http://www.ombudsman.parliament.nz).

Nāku noa, nā



Mike McIlraith  
Kaihautū Kōtūi | Director Partnerships & Communities  
Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority