OUTDOOR SAFETY

FIREARMS SAFETY PROGRAMME

QUARTERLY REPORT | Q2

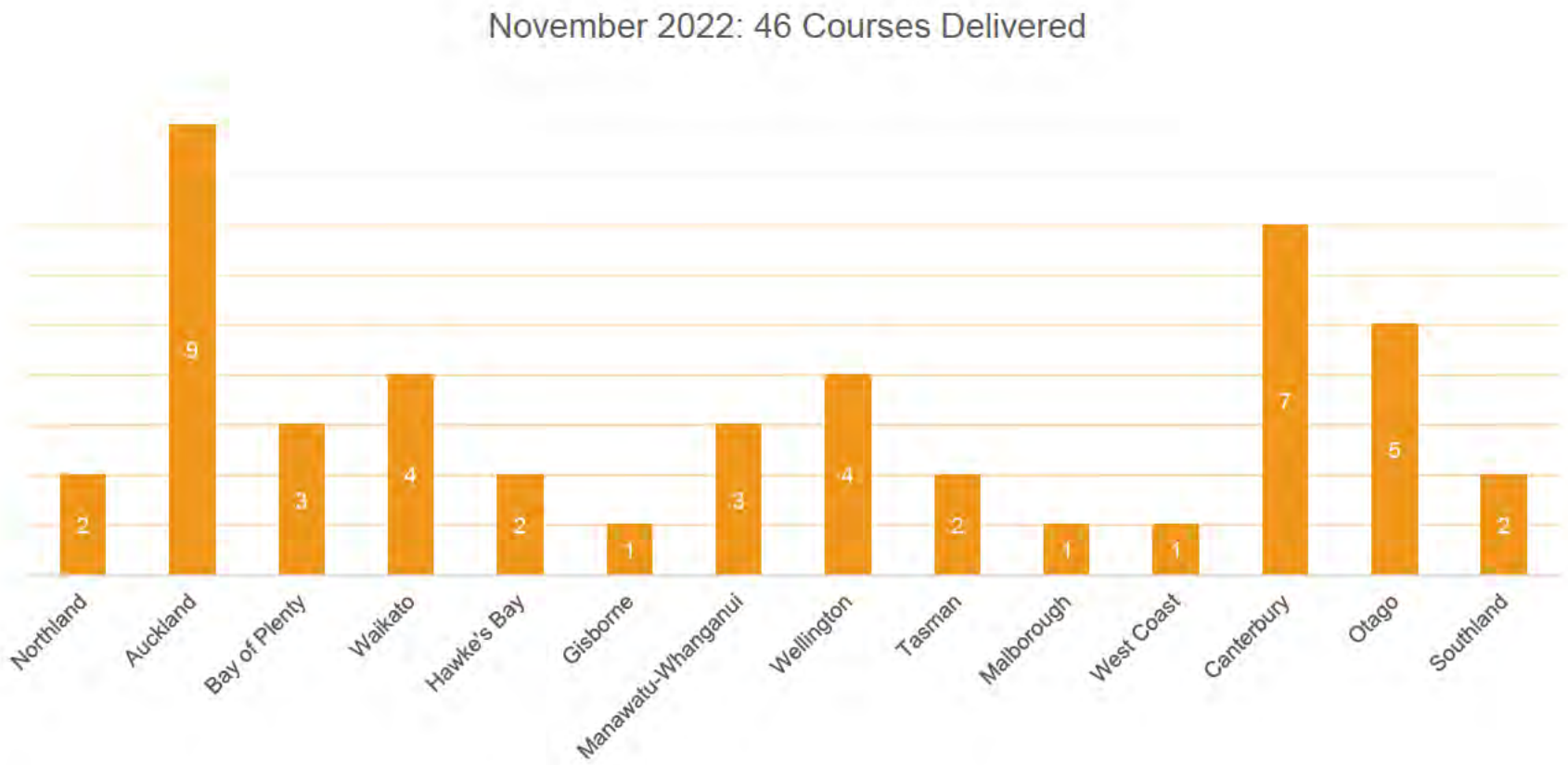
OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2022

Q2
October – December 2022

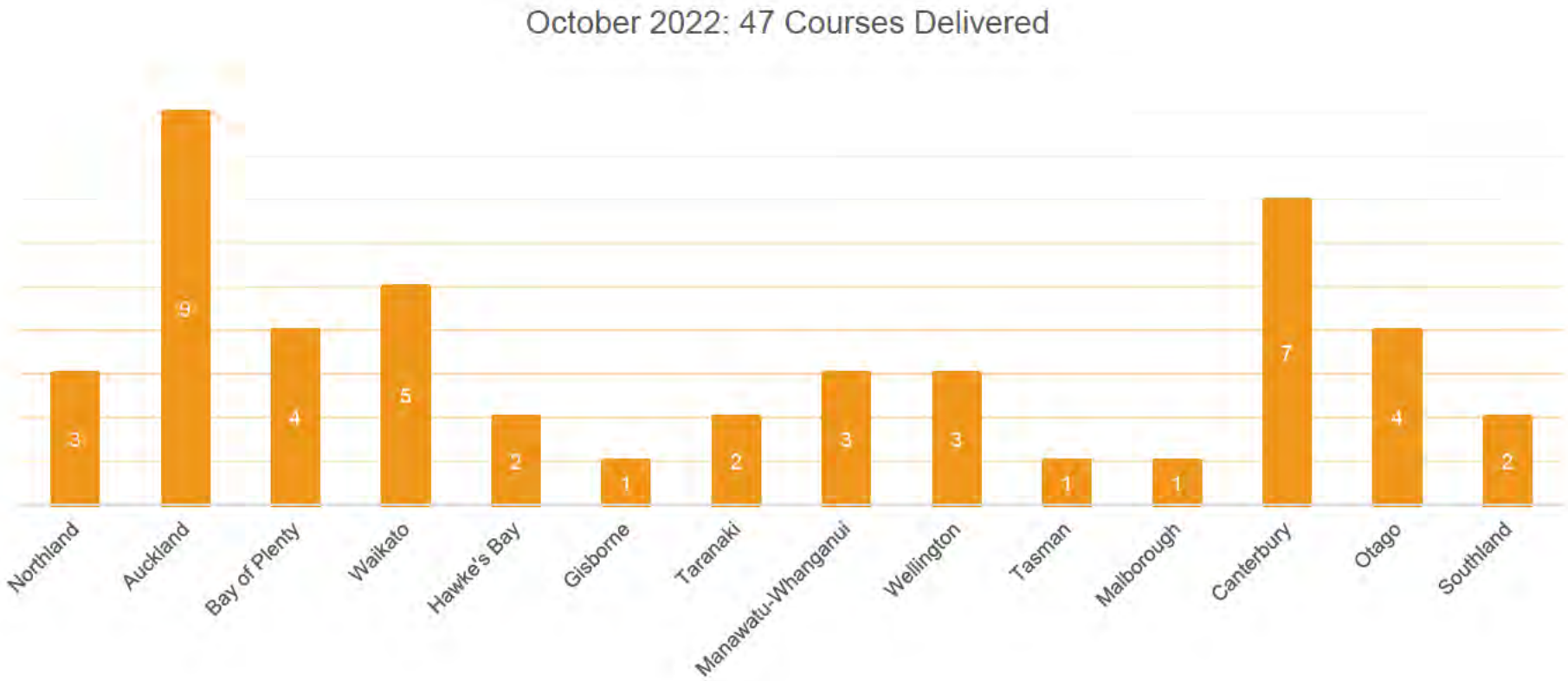
- Courses held – 129
- Total Attendees - 1279
- Attendees who achieved a pass in both the theory and the practical – 1244
- Our total courses delivered over Q1 and Q2 is 263, leaving us 270 courses available to deliver over Q3 and Q4.

December Results | 36 courses

November Results | 46 courses



October Results | 47 courses



Updates

UPCOMING COURSES

For the next quarter we have 100 courses currently planned, with another 30 awaiting venue/instructor confirmation, or that will be scheduled due to demand.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

No information to report.

EQUIPMENT OR INSTRUCTOR ISSUES

Some of the new Howa's have quite stiff bolts due to the deactivation process and average gunsmithing.

COURSES MODERATED

Comment from s 9(2)(a) OIA , Hunting Partnerships Manager: Across the six courses that I sat in on last year there was a lot of great examples to share and some good conversations around presenting the course. Of note is the difficulty of engaging with English as a Second Language students. However, the eagerness to learn and the engagement with the instruction are constants.

Updates

COURSE BOOKING SYSTEM

We have updated Booking Rooster with all the new links to Te Tari Pūreke.

FA INSTRUCTORS UPDATE

We have one new instructor on the team – s 9(2)(a) OIA [redacted] in Auckland.

Our programme of peer moderation visits are about to get underway, with an initial 20 instructors.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Our first Professional Development Day was run in Wellington on Saturday 19th November. There were good conversations around course presentation skills, as well as the new Arms Code and Storage Guidelines. Additionally, there was a great presentation on understanding the effects of heuristics in backcountry scenarios.

Upcoming Dates:
Auckland – Sat 4th March
Christchurch – Sat 20th May

VENUE ISSUES

No information to report.

Participant Feedback

From an Arms Administrator who sat the course to further their knowledge:

I thoroughly enjoyed the course and thought the content and delivery was great. A lot of knowledge, and really reiterating how to be safe with firearms. It was great to be a part of it, and to learn what people do. Thank you for letting me go along and learn alongside those who want their licence!

From an Arms Officer who sat the course with his son to see what had changed since he sat his licence:

So I sat in on the Safety Course and it has certainly changed since I did mine about 12 years ago.
The instructor was a great facilitator and spoke with each person in a way they understood. The content was good to see. When I sat mine it was a talk, then the test. It is good to see a there is a practical component around handling firearms now.
The big take away for me was when the instructor had expressed at the end of the course that after doing it, you are not an expert. He stressed the importance of going out with people to learn how to hunt and to use the firearm safely and correctly.
Another thing the instructor talked about was when purchasing a rifle, get the sales person to show you everything about the rifle.
I have suggested to my team leader about getting everyone to do the course or have someone come it to take all the staff through. Glad I went.
Thanks very much for the opportunity

From January our new course feedback form will be live, with participants encouraged to fill it in before departing the course.

OUTDOOR SAFETY
NZ MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL

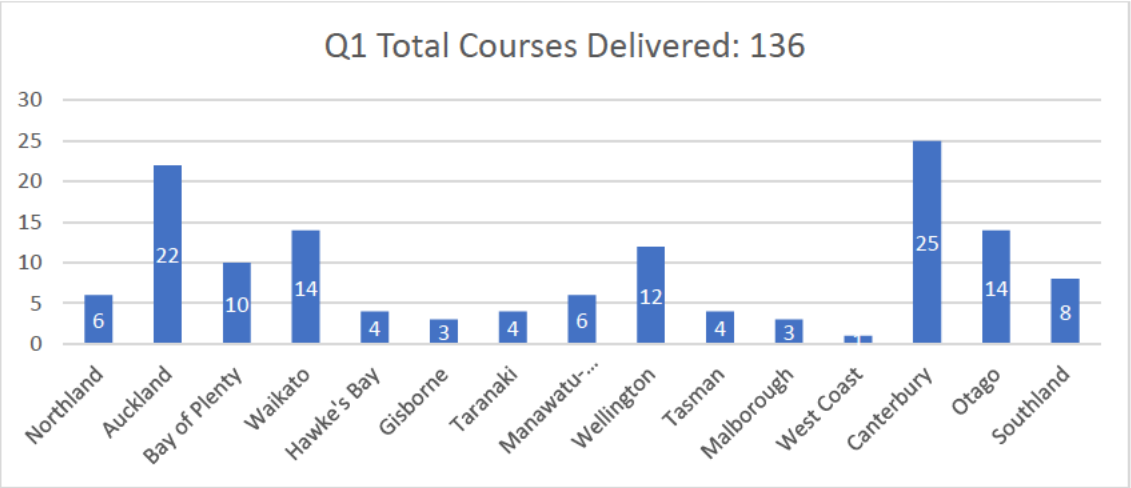
Te Tari Pūreke
Firearms Safety Authority

Email: firearms@mountainsafety.org.nz

Social: @nzmountainsafetycouncil

Report submitted to Richard Keeys, Trevor Pullen, and Mike McIlraith by email 17/01/2023

Mountain Safety Council Firearms Safety Programme
Quarterly Report
Q1 July - September 2022



We had a total of 897 attendees pass the course.

There was a total of 1940 places available.

Through Q1 a total of 136 courses were delivered. If we extrapolate that number over four full quarters this would lead to 544 total courses. With an annual limit of 533 courses this indicates that at some point through the year (December and January) we plan to offer fewer courses so as to not exceed the annual limit.

Upcoming Courses

For the next quarter we have 112 courses planned: 43 in October/38 in November/31 in December. Additional courses are being scheduled and more courses will be added in response to demand.

Health and Safety

No information to report.

Equipment or Instructor Issues

No information to report.

Venue Issues

No information to report.

Course Booking System Issues

We have been working with Booking Rooster to improve our reporting to better keep track of previous test attempts.

FA Instructors Update

We are bringing two new instructors into the team – s 9(2)(a) OIA in Shannon, and s 9(2)(a) OIA in Timaru, in anticipation of current FA Instructors moving or retiring.

Report submitted to Richard Keeys, Trevor Pullen, and Mike McIlraith by email 14/10/2022

Professional Development

We have three Professional Development days coming up for our Firearm Instructors.

- Wellington – 19th November 2022
- Auckland – 4th March 2023
- Christchurch – 20th May 2023

Courses Moderated

Two courses (Nelson and New Plymouth) were moderated by Richard Keeys, Firearms Safety Supervisor Arms Safety and Control, and it was great to see one of our instructors achieving the comment "Overall, a very well-run session. One of the best moderated to date."

Participant Feedback

- I'd like to say how good I thought our instructor was. All his stories and advice made a big impact on my awareness of firearm safety.

- "Also just a bit of feedback with the course, it was really good. I'm actually really glad the course has come into getting it (originally thought it was just a hassel and regretted not getting license earlier when didn't have to do course), but the man that ran it did it fabulously, he captured everyone, he had some good stories and I really enjoyed it and walked out thinking it's actually really good and informative."

- The instructor was excellent. Very experienced, knowledgeable and made the training both useful and interesting.

Report submitted to Richard Keeys, Trevor Pullen, and Mike McIlraith by email 14/10/2022

OUTDOOR SAFETY
NZ MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL

FIREARMS SAFETY PROGRAMME

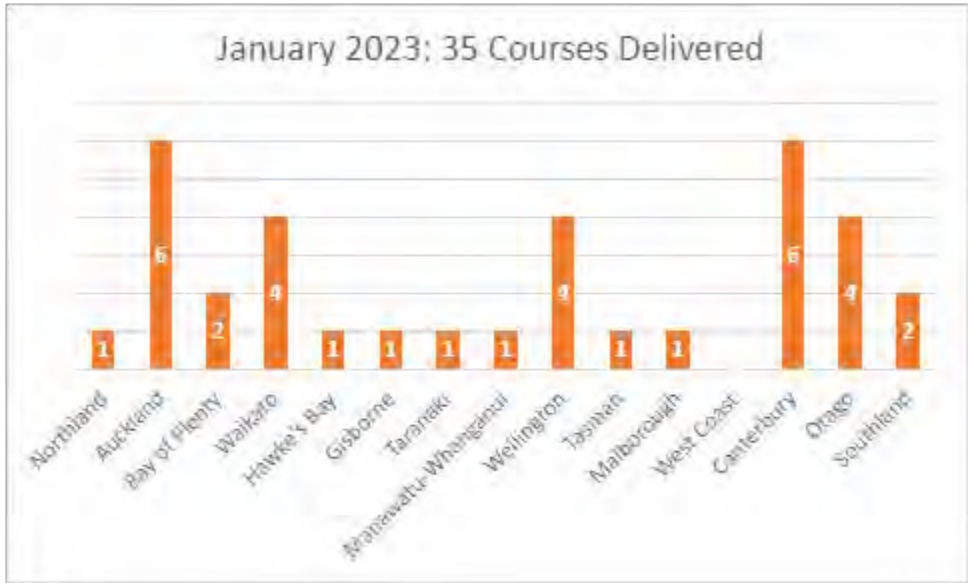
QUARTERLY REPORT | Q3

JANUARY - MARCH 2023

Q3 January – March 2023

- Courses held – 134
- Total Attendees: 1263
- Attendees who achieved a pass in both the theory and the practical: 1225
- Our total courses over Q1, Q2, and Q3 is 397, leaving us 136 courses available to deliver over Q4. We are experiencing a high demand for courses currently and will deliver all 533 courses provided for in the contract.

Q3 Courses Delivered



Course Booking System

We are currently testing the new feature that will show our instructors if an applicant is attending for resit of the theory or practical component of the course only. We also have implemented a class list to be emailed to the instructors before the course, doing away with applicants having to print their confirmation letter as so many homes no longer have a printer. We are in the early stages of producing a series of emails to attendees with the first focus on getting them connected with the study material available.

Equipment or Instructor Issues

- The North Island replacement rifles are due to be delivered shortly.
- Instructors have been asked to remove any old signage/items with the Police logo from their kit.
- We have had a few more requests for left-handed weapons.

Visit to the Kāpiti Digital Centre

We visited with s 9(2)(a) OIA, s 9(2)(a) OIA, and s 9(2)(a) OIA to put names to faces and discuss ways to streamline our procedures and troubleshoot a couple of issues. It was a worthwhile visit.

Courses Moderated

Our peer moderation visits have been well-received by our instructors, with comments such as "Peer moderation is great, it give the opportunity for exchange of ideas and methods and great learning in a real context and environment" and 'Thank you {INSTRUCTOR} for allowing me to be a part of your session, a real pleasure to observe a professional in action". The biggest challenge we have with the peer moderation is that our instructors are tight on time and don't often have the availability to spend a day travelling to observe a course balanced with their own course deliveries.

FA Instructors Update

We are farewelling two instructors – one to a fulltime job, and one who is moving overseas. We are currently advertising on SEEK for roles in Hamilton, Wellington, and Greymouth. We are in the onboarding process for one applicant in Taihape.

Health and safety

No information to report.

Course Delivery Videos

We are in the final stages of producing a series of videos for our instructors that show best-practise for delivering the course. While every instructor is encouraged to teach in their own style, in a manner that suits the people on the course, having clips for them to refer to that show the expert level we require of our instructors sets a clear expectation of the quality delivery that is expected.

Professional Development

Our second Professional Development Day was run in Auckland on Saturday 20th of March. It was a very productive day with good learning around presenting styles and techniques, and good discussions around course delivery and current operating procedures.
Our final Professional Development Day is in Christchurch on Sat 20th May.

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Why did you give the course the rating you did?

Focussed on safety aspects.
Great teacher
EXCELLENT INSTRUCTOR - GREAT STORIES AND EXAMPLES
Because the instructor was very diligent and patient, he was very passionate about firearm safety
Clear and to thepiint
Instructor gave clear and concise presentation
{Instructor} did things by numbers he was clear and concise with his wording also gave reference to experience and was accommodating to the slower learners.
{Instructor} was incredible.
Tutor was highly approachable and made it very easy to relax
Really clear explanations, relatable and fun while still delivering a clear message
Thankful for him travelling to sort us out. Good and clear with information. And helps when necessary.
Knowledgeable instructor, plenty of practical hands on time
{Instructor} didn't a great job. Clear and concise.
{Instructor}was very good at communicating and explaining at every stage of the course
{Instructor}the instructor was clear. Did not over complicate and was reassuring
Very well presented and informative
The instructor was brilliant
The instructor was knowledgeable and gave clear and helpful tips for firearm usage and storage.
Excellent trainer
Very good but quick
I gave this firearms safety course a 5 * rating because I found the instructor not only helpful in both the introduction, theory and practical side of firearms safety but also he was very to the point and explained everything and nothing was unsaid
Lots of info, delivered well. Knowledge instructor.
The instructor was knowledgeable and gave clear and helpful tips for firearm usage and storage.
Very good {Instructor}was awesome to learn from
Was easy to talk to was understanding and helpful
The instructor was very patient and very informative, was a great class and learnt a lot.
Instructor was well composed. Everything was relivant and nothing couldnt be answered

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Why did you like most about the course?

Clear explanations of actions needed by instructor. Discussed different techniques and encouraged safe options.
PRACTICAL HANDELING OF UNFAMILIAR FIREARMS
The instructor and his positive and passionate attitude
Easy to understand
good discussions, overall approach of theory, test then practical then second chance to do theory to consolidate learning or theory if required.
The hands on as it didn't make the classroom atmosphere boring
Relaxed supportive environment clear and concise. Very inclusive and professional.
Tutor was a good dude
It was practical and fun
Filling in gaps of knowledge.
Relaxed atmosphere and great instructor. This can easily be a dreadful experience with the wrong instructor.
Practice of the skills
Informative. Was happy to answer questions.
The low pressure environment
The instructors enthusiasm
Having hunted in other countries I found the course appropriate and certainly helpful to all newcomers to the sport
The practical application showing us how to use and examine the different types of firearm that would be encountering.
{Instructor} was a normal person. Kept things simple and i learned a few more things than i thought i may have.
Hands on but wanted more time
The practical part of the lesson. Instructor was very knowledgeable but also felt strongly about the safety within the program witch was good to see
The humility and friendliness was very welcoming which made it easy to ask questions
Good hands on demonstration.
The practical application showing us how to use and examine the different types of firearm that would be encountering.
Learnt a lot from {Instructor}
The practical part of the lesson. Instructor was very knowledgeable but also felt strongly about the safety within the program witch was good to see

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Do you have any suggestions to help us improve the course?

Nothing
Some more questions in the test
The overall approach is already very good. Perhaps a bit more discussion around firearm storage and related safety.
Functioning decomissioned systems would help a lot as some of them were old rickety and broken. A magazine load lesson with dummy rounds wouldn't go astray as a lot of learners are present
Left handed weapons to ensure it is fair and equiptable for everyone.
Nope happy as
No
No. Works well.
No. I think it was great.
More firearms sample we can learn to use
Nah, it was all g
Live firing would br awesome :)
Have clearer test questions. Have more practical handling with different types of arms (since they are all deactivated)
Left handed firearms
Encourage massively for people to study before hand as many have been told its a open book test and a easy experience, which is not all wrong but preparation Is crucial and should be highly advised
Reduce the number of ambiguous questions
Not at present. Thank you
No was good covered all areas well
No, it was done very well and helped prepare myself and the other students to use firearms safely
Nope {Instructor} explained everything
Nope doing a really good Job
I think having another trainer/instructor would make it easier on the staff and get things going so that people arent sitting around for long periods of time. Overall great course and really really lovely instructor.
None
Nope. Instructor was a good guy and had a very direct no bs approach which was refreshing and appreciated

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Firearms Safety Authority

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Report submitted to Richard Keeys, Trevor Pullen, and Mike McIlraith by email.

OUTDOOR SAFETY
NZ MOUNTAIN SAFETY COUNCIL

FIREARMS SAFETY PROGRAMME

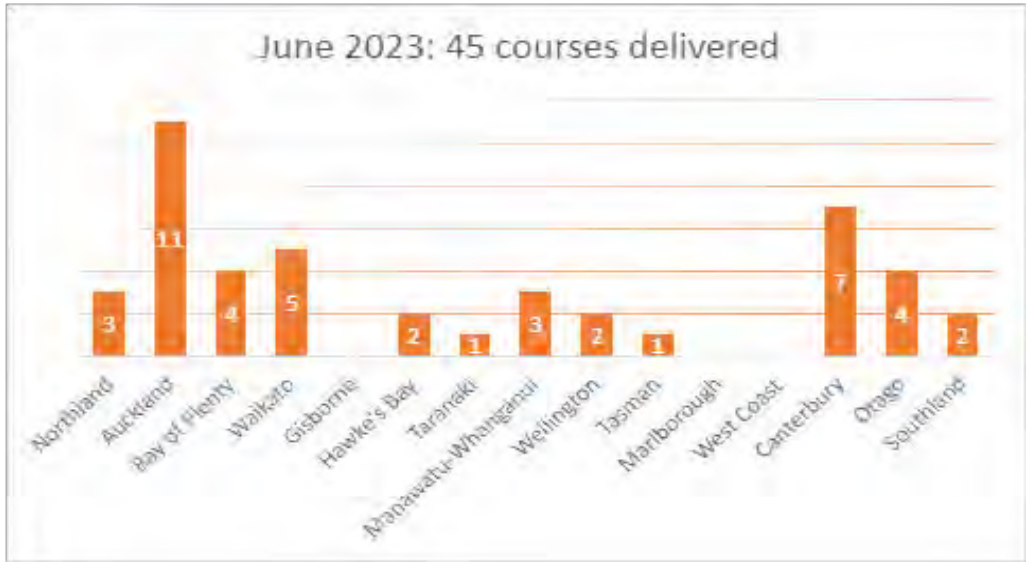
QUARTERLY REPORT Q4

APRIL – JUNE 2023

Q4 April – June 2023

- Courses held – 136
- Total Attendees: 1670
- Attendees who achieved a pass: 1598
- Collateral from Te Tari Pūreke being handed to attendees.
- New question sheets are being used.
- FA Instructors met online with Te Tari Pūreke to discuss the new registry.
- Professional Development complete.

Q3 Courses Delivered



This brings us to 533 courses delivered this year.

Course Booking System

We have implemented the change that notifies our instructors if an attendee is just needing to resit the theory or practical component of a class. This information is emailed to the instructor the night before with their class list so they can plan their activities in advance and know who is arriving for the session.

Equipment or Instructor Issues

- The North Island replacement rifles are due to be delivered shortly.
- There has been lots of comments that the handouts are far too similar, and that people aren't engaging with them.
- We have had a few more requests for left-handed weapons.

Firearms Registry

Thanks to Mike and Amanda for running two sessions for the instructors that wanted more information on the registry.

Courses Moderated

We completed 15 Peer Moderation visits which led to some great discussions about current best-practice, and to much sharing of ideas.

FA Instructors Update

We have filled the positions in Greymouth and Wellington. We are currently working on a back-up instructor for Gisborne and looking to recruit in Taupō.

Health and safety

No information to report.

Course Delivery Videos

We are in the final stages of producing a series of videos for our instructors that show best-practise for delivering the course. While every instructor is encouraged to teach in their own style, in a manner that suits the people on the course, having clips for them to refer to that show the expert level we require of our instructors sets a clear expectation of the quality delivery that is expected.

Professional Development

Our final Professional Development Day was in Christchurch on Sat 20th May. Our busiest session yet, it was full of robust discussion and lots of new tips and techniques shared, along with clarification of teaching points and information about the new registry.

Feedback from [redacted]: Arms Vetter – Canterbury District

Mt safety firearms course review
I attended the Mt safety course on Saturday the 01/07/2023
The course was very professionally delivered by [redacted].
As a Vetter who interviews new license applicants weekly, I am often impressed with the level of knowledge coming through in the interviews, I now understand why their knowledge is so high, the course covered a vast amount of topics in the 3.5 hours available, the content was delivered expertly, with practical examples to reinforce learning.
The hands-on part of the course was very well handled, been controlled enough to enforce good safety habits while also allowing attendees to practise loading and unloading at their own pace.
The instructor was very patient with the less experienced attendees, able to spot any uncertainty.
The instructor demonstrated a very high level of understanding of firearms regulations, including recent changes.
The theoretical test was very fair but suitably challenging, forcing the attendee to think hard about firearm safety, much to my frustration, I got one of the thirty answers wrong.
I would recommend this course to anyone from all levels of experience and think that license renewal applicants would benefit greatly from attending this course.
The only points / recommendations I have are as follows:
-Potentially a little more information on the importance of hiding keys to firearm security.
-The instructors should be given more time, 5-6 hours with a break in between. The instructor did an extraordinary job getting all information across in 3.5 hours, however I believe the option to slow down and extend on the practical phase would be of great benefit to the attendees and instructor.
In conclusion, the course is very well delivered and I highly recommend it.

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Why did you give the course the rating you did?

Instructor was great with a wealth of knowledge and was very helpful.

Great instructor with good experience

Fantastic course, learnt a lot and the instructor very helpful and clear

The instructor was very thorough and also helped us constantly keep in mind the first rule (amongst others)

Great instructor who communicated well and explained himself perfectly

Very thorough. Clear and easy to understand

Heaps of really good info

Quality of the trainer, nature of information learned and overall experience.

Very factual learnt a lot

Awesome, easy to understand, excellent tutor

Good for me as beginners very knowledgeable tutor

Great instructor, with comprehensive understanding of firearms and hunting.

The content was good and aligned with the learning material well

The teacher was good value, respectful, onto it and also had a sense of humour. The course was well structured and nothing was confusing or unprofessional. All round it was good with nothing bad to say.

Well delivered by instructor and good engagement with course takers.

The instructor was great and very patient, explained everything clearly but efficiently, and just delivered a very good amount of knowledge and experience

Down to earth experienced tutor/assessor. Not condescending. Informative. Encouraging. Acknowledged different attitudes to how things are done while being clear on what should be done.

Instructor was friendly, very knowledgeable and easy going. Didn't make the process intimidating, eased the nerves.

when i first arrived the instructor was so kind to greet me with new Zealand Sign Language saying his name! i was surprised and very pleased since he took the time to learn how to do this, and not only that gave my interpreters a call beforehand etc

Course Instructor was engaging, with great mix of information and personal stories.

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Why did you like most about the course?

The instructor was down to earth and made me feel comfortable in a learning environment
Ability to learn at our pace
The hands on experience
Learnt information I did not know
Given by someone with very real experience
The practical side and being able to handle a firearm with confidence
Easy explanations and reiteration of reading material
Instructor was extremely helpful and ready to answer any questions, with a lot of resources to help him
Learning a couple of new things and some more of the safety side
Provided good level of fear about responsibilities of safe gun handling, that you can never be too safe and that even for highly experienced shooters - things can go wrong, but what to do to avoid simple errors, and how to keep others safe.
Animated delivery, kept everybody engaged. It didnt feel like I was there for 3.5 hours
The information, structure and execution of the lesson was well balanced and resourced.
Learning a couple of new things and some more of the safety side
The knowledge I walked away with
Easy explanations to understand, patient tutor, very informative, non judgemental
Tutor stories
Practical learning and learning about personal experiences
The knowledge and experieces shared by the presenter.
Leaning how to properly handle weapons and using the safety rules in a practical sense
See the diferent types of guns how they work
Lots of practical safety work
The practical training on states of readiness was very good
Got a better understanding of what needs to be done
Practical reinforcement of load action instant and unload
Good practice opportunities and reinforcement. Great instructor.
Hands on gun safety
Learning in depth about rifles, preparedness and why we have regulations.

Participant Feedback

Our new feedback survey is live, with attendees asked to rate the course out of 5 and then fill in the questions at the end of the session. This is just a small sample of the comments.

Do you have any suggestions to help us improve the course?

No it was awesome
I would like it to be a little longer, and you can get more experience with other firearms you may not be so familiar with.
None, very well run and effective
Good as it was
Have the course on a firing range for people that has never handled firearms before
Possibly an assistant tutor to manage numbers especially with large attendance.
Just kept it as professional as this and more folks will be safer in the hunting of game
Including a practical live firing of a firearm at a shooting range to ensure competence of person applying for licence. It seems strange to allow a person to obtain a licence without ever having fired live ammunition under supervision.
Check the new firearms code/materials are updated in local police stations
After the scratch & win section there should be some scenarios that require written answers, would like to see a short session on IAs (stoppage drills) and ultimately a range session to refresh on the safety rules, TOETS, and several live firing serial
do away with it. get the copper who interviews you to administer a verbal safety quiz.
Not really. Job well done by course coordinator and NZ mountain safety council
Bigger area or caping poeple at 10 limits per class.
Video interviews of people who have been effected by not following the 7 steps.
Would be good to have an optional rifle range day
No I think it's good the way it is. especially giving the guys another opportunity at the end if they didn't do to well with test or don't understand the way the questions are being asked overall I thought it was really good
The test questions are not well written, so deciphering the meaning made the questions harder to answer.
Couple of the test questions are ambiguous
Maybe more information on misfires and blockages.
Possibly run separate courses for those requiring interpreters. It takes a lot of everyone elses time waiting for them to sort themselves out and its distracting having loads of them talking all the time while the instructor is speaking.
Some more questions in the test
Left handed weapons to ensure it is fair and equiptable for everyone.

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Report submitted to Richard Keeys, Ewan Kelsall, and Mike McIlraith by email.

Appendix 1 Firearms Safety Course data (March 2021 to February 2025)

Date	Location	District	Fails	Pass	Total
		2021			
Mar-21	Wairarapa	Wellington	0	14	14
Jun-21	Murupara	BOP	0	10	10
	Huntly	Waikato	0	16	16
Jul-21	Napier	Eastern	0	17	17
Sep-21	Ruatoki	BOP	0	19	19
Oct-21	Taumarunui	Central	0	16	16
		2022			
Jan-22	Stewart Island	Southern	0	8	8
Apr-22	Puketapu	Hawkes Bay	0	12	12
May-22	Omaio	BOP	0	16	16
	Ruakituri	Eastern	0	21	21
Jun-22	Chatham Island	Wellington	0	15	15
Jul-22	Murupara	BOP	0	13	13
Aug-22	Helensville	Waitemata	0	18	18
	Masterton	Wellington	0	18	18
Sep-22	Rotorua	BOP	0	5	5
Oct-22	Omaio	BOP	0	12	12
	Shannon	Central	0	13	13
	Gt Barrier Island	Auckland	0	26	26
Nov-22	Te Kao	Northland	0	7	7
	Te Kuiti	Waikato	0	16	16
	Ruatoki	BOP	0	14	14
	Tuai	Eastern	0	14	14
		2023			
Jan-23	Hicks Bay	Eastern	0	16	16
	Tokomaru Bay	Eastern	0	18	18
Apr-23	Turangi	Central	0	15	15
	Muriwai	Eastern	0	15	15
Jun-23	Tauranga	BOP	0	15	15
Aug-23	Whanganui River	Central	0	15	15
Sep-23	Kaikohe Course 1	Northland	0	17	17
	Kaikohe Course 2	Northland	0	20	20
Oct-23	Chatham Island Course 1	Wellington	0	11	11
	Chatham Island Course 2	Wellington	1	7	8
Nov-23	Maungaturoto Course 1	Northland	0	11	11
	Maungaturoto Course 2	Northland	0	15	15

Appendix 1 Firearms Safety Course data (March 2021 to February 2025)

2024					
Mar-24	Rotoiti	BOP	0	20	20
Apr-24	Te Kuiti	Waikato	0	15	15
	Whanganui	Central	0	15	15
May-24	Mangakino	BOP	0	16	16
Jun-24	Whanganui	Central	0	14	14
	Mahia	Eastern	0	15	15
Aug-24	Shannon	Central	0	13	13
Sep-24	Te Karaka	Eastern	0	13	13
Oct-24	Waimana	BOP	0	19	19
Nov-24	Chatham Island Course 1	Wellington	0	8	8
	Chatham Island Course 2	Wellington	0	8	8
	New Plymouth	Central	0	14	14
Dec-24	Waimana	BOP	0	19	19
2025					
Feb-22	Wairarapa	Eastern	0	18	18
Feb-25	Tokomaru Bay x2	Eastern	0	35	35
Mar-25	Tapawera x2	Southern	0	25	25

17 April 2024

Ministers Arms Advisory Group

Police & NOCG Firearms Investigations and intelligence

Detective Senior Sergeant Mike Beal

NEW ZEALAND POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

That was then... (1983)

This is now...(2023)

NEW ZEALAND POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

Policing change

Between 2 October 2023 and 23 January 2024 there were 34 FLINTS sent out to frontline staff in Auckland advising of persons with firearms posing risk to the community and police.

s.9(2)(a) OIA

NEW ZEALAND POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

Firearms Diversion

NEW ZEALAND
POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

Illicit Firearms Sources or Vectors

There are five know vectors or sources for how criminals access firearms today.

We target criminals use of firearms through Police activities to disrupt their ability to source firearms through all these vectors

Each vector requires different disruption techniques and activities in order to have impact.

This is a cross-agency all of firearms system issue

Te Tari Pūreke
Firearms Safety Authority

NEW ZEALAND POLICE
Ngā Pirihimana o Aotearoa

RESTRICTED

Investigations & Intelligence findings on 5 vectors

Family, friends and associates

- Investigations have identified some incidence of diversion within family groups
- Clear evidence of licensed associates engaging in diversion as straw buyers

Straw purchasers or Diverters

- Recovered firearms consistently being linked back to licence holders
- Readily available market pre-Registry
- Enabled by historically unregulated firearms transfer regime

Illegal Importation

- No evidence of significant importation
- Border seizures not consistent with significant illicit importation activity
- Human source reporting rare
- Developing understanding of parts importation
- Readily accessible firearms market negates need
- Future risk being monitored

Burglaries

- Analysis indicates firearms burglaries more opportunistic than targeted
- Proven incidence of false complaints to conceal diversion
- Some incidence of stolen firearms being recovered from criminals and at crime scenes

Manufacture

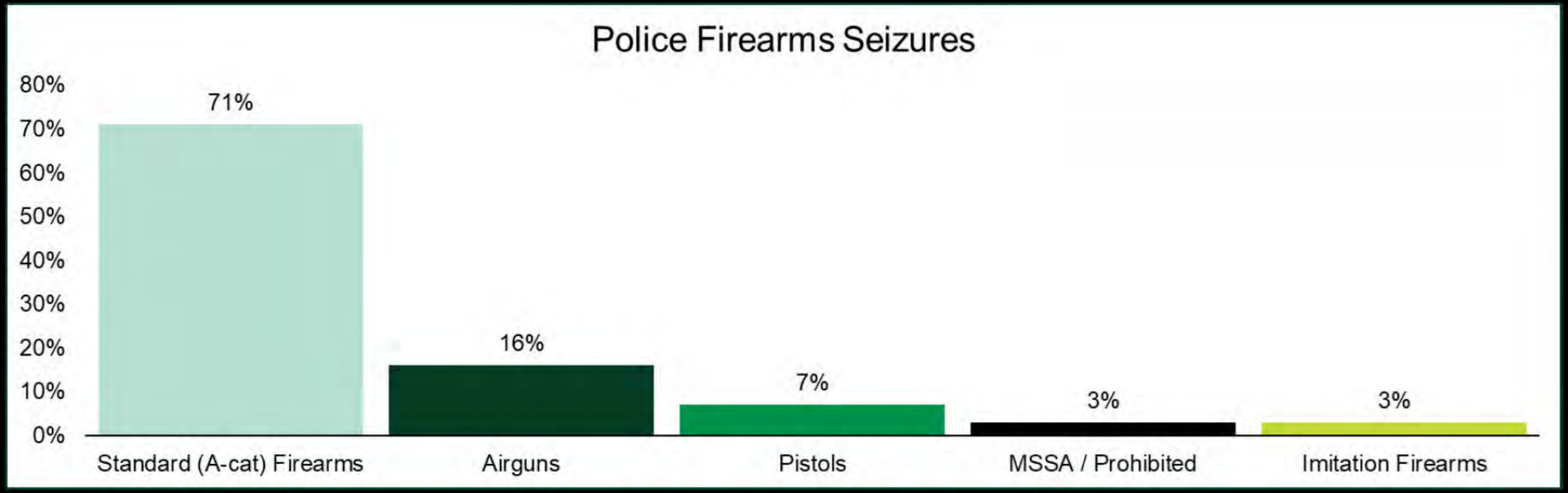
- Incidence of pipe guns and other innovative firearms manufacture in some regions
- 3D manufacture monitored but no definitive trends identified
- Future risk being monitored

Firearm Seizure Snap Shot

The majority of firearms seized by police under warrants are standard firearms.

These include rifles and shotguns. This is likely a reflection of the accessibility of the firearms.

Note that some items recorded as a pistol may also include modified rifles or shotguns.



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Taupō drug dealer used associates with gun licences to buy firearms to sell on black market

A drug dealer tried to buy an ounce of methamphetamine from a Killer Beez gang

Straw buyers spending up large to keep gangs armed

Police say firearms license holders purchasing guns, onselling to crims

NEW ZEALAND | Crime

Man found with cache of weapons was 'concerned for country's future'

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Former rugby star accused of buying guns for Comancheros and faking a burglary keeps identity secret until trial

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Police arrest man after West Auckland searches turn up firearms, ammunition and explosives

NZ Herald

20 Dec, 2023 05:36 PM · 2 mins to read

Save

Police shoot, critically injure armed man in Auckland's Grey Lynn

Police shot and injured a 32-year-old Monday night after he pointed a

Police allege Auckland man who bought 18 guns and 2500 rounds of ammunition was a 'straw buyer' for gang and other criminals

'Straw buyer' revealed: How gangs get their guns

Home / New Zealand

Auckland CBD shooting: Two people killed, gunman who stormed Queen St building site also dead, at least six injured

By Jaime Lyth

20 Jul, 2023 10:10 AM · 3 mins to rea

Gun shop owner arrested after major firearms probe

Jared Savage and George Block

a pecuniary advantage dishonestly. When detectives raided the man's

In a press statement to announce the investigation, Superintendent

holder could sell their firearms to another licence holder but was not

directly into a gang confrontation between the Killer Beez and the

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FIT Investigations

- A small element within the Firearms Licenced community provide a significant diversion source. Some examples of recent and current prosecutions include:-

Hastings 2022	**Diverter contracted 4 FLIC holders to purchase 21 firearms on his behalf**
Auckland 2022	**FLIC holder diverted 12 firearms in 4 months – led to critical incident**
Auckland 2022	**FLIC holder selling firearms and ammunition to gang member knowingly**
Tauranga 2023	**FLIC holder staged a burglary to divert 5 firearms**
Auckland 2023	**2 related FLIC holders purchased firearms for nephews with gang connections**
Auckland 2023	**FLIC holder reported a burglary to disguise diversion of 6 firearms**
Auckland 2023	**Shotgun used in multiple homicide event in CBD traced back to FLIC holder**
Northland 2023	**FLIC holder diverted 16 firearms to unlicenced persons**
Auckland 2023	**FLIC holder diverted 18 firearms – one recovered from gang member**
Auckland 2024	**Firearms retailer arrested for diversion and possession of prohibited firearms**
Auckland 2024	**Licence holder arrested for diversion of 16-19 firearms during 2023**

Investigations into licence holders involved in diversion or supply to unlicenced persons and/or criminals equates to approximately 50% of FIT investigations and prosecutions.

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s.9(2)(a) OIA

Case Study:

Operation CARBINE – Hastings - 2022

- RFD data identified suspicious Alfa Carbine purchase patterns in Hawkes Bay.
- Ex Hells Angel in Hawkes Bay recruited associates to pay five (5) FLIC holders to purchase 21 Alfa Carbines for small commission.
- 5 buyers purchased a total of 21 Alfa Carbines plus ammunition.
- 9 arrested, 2 Alfa Carbines recovered, cannabis and meth located.
- Some of the firearms went to Killer Beez in Auckland during conflict with Tribesmen.
- 1 of the diverted Alfa Carbines, serial ground down, recovered in Killer Beez safe house in South Auckland in room with 17 bagged up ounces of methamphetamine.
- Serial restored and RFD data identified purchaser as one of those prosecuted.

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Case Study:

Operation TUSCON – Auckland - 2023

- October 2022, FLIC holder, Auckland, purchased shotgun for unlicensed associate to give to a third party. FLIC holder ground off serial number.
- 20 July 2023, unlicensed offender with shotgun entered Auckland Downtown construction site and killed two former work colleagues, injured 10 others before fatally turning firearm on himself.
- Investigation by FIT to identify the origins of the firearm identified shotgun at scene as the one purchased by the Auckland FLIC holder 9 months prior.
- Licence holder and associate both arrested and charged. Associate refuses to identify person they supplied the firearm too.
- Investigation ongoing to identify full chain of possession for the firearm from 'sale to scene'.

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Case Study:

Operation WOFS – Auckland - 2024

- Auckland Firearms Retailer identified as supplying firearms to unlicensed persons.
- Sold ammunition on 2 occasions and a firearm on a third s.9(2)(b) OIA
- Prohibited magazines and cannabis located in store along with pistols not covered by dealers licence.
- Search of dealers home address found several prohibited firearms.
- s.9(2)(b) OIA

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Case Study:

Historical diversion - 2007

- Police unsuccessfully and repeatedly attempted to inspect FLIC holder with 'C' and 'E' endorsements collection.
- In July 2007, the collector made a false complaint to police of burglary. Reported 121 Restricted firearms as stolen.
- One of the firearms reported as stolen, a CZ Pistol, was later used to fire at police. Another was located in the pad of the Outcasts MC in Hamilton. The collector when arrested was found in possession of methamphetamine.
- The collector was convicted of Making a False Statement and sentenced to 1 month imprisonment. He was also convicted of supplying a restricted firearm to an unlicensed person.
- A firearm from that staged burglary located as cache of firearms recovered December 2023 in Auckland.

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NOCG Firearms Intelligence
Retail Firearms Diversion

Retail Firearms Diversion Project General Update:

- Collection and collation of Dealers books nationally from 1 January 2019 to 24 June 2023 (Registry Live date).
- 340,000 firearm purchases - dealers / retailers transcribed / assessed by intelligence teams (as at April 2024) and still building.
- 120+ referrals to District or NOCG Firearms Investigations Teams.
  - Suspected Firearms Diverters
  - Fit and Proper
  - Gang membership

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Case Study:

Historical diversion - 2018

- Between 14 June 2018 and 20 February 2019, FLIC holder, Coromandel, purchased 14 firearms from firearms retailer in Auckland. Firearms included shotguns and rifles.
    - Shotgun purchased 14 June 2018 recovered in possession of unlicenced gang member 30 August 2018.
    - Rifle purchased 10 October 2018 recovered in possession of unlicenced person 16 October 2018.
    - Shotgun purchased 2 November 2018 recovered in possession of unlicenced person with mental health issues 19 November 2018.
- FLIC holder was convicted of supplying firearms and licence revoked.
    - Relied on defence that had sold to licenced persons and had sighted licences – was only convicted on one count.

A shotgun purchased on 27 September 2018 was recovered following its use in a violent home invasion in Auckland in January 2024.

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s.9(2)(a) OIA

Case Study:

Risk Area – Inadequate Security - 2024

- Home address approx. 80 firearms and 20 air rifles / pistols were seized.
- Storage units approx. 150 firearms and 30 air rifles were seized. Additionally from both locations 10's of 1000's of rounds of assorted ammunition also located.
- Insecure firearms and ammunition were located from both addresses, with some under beds, on shelves in open garages and lying loose in storage units.
- Although some firearms and ammunition were stored in gun safes / locked cabinets, those gun safes and cabinets were not bolted to anything and easily moveable.
- When questioned by Police as to why he possessed so many firearms he replied **"it's an addiction"**.

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Potential & Developing Trends

- **Revoked FLIC holders** retaining cards and continuing to purchase firearms. Expected to decrease as uptake of the online licence portal increases and establishment of Registry identifies licences revoked.
- **Fake & Forged Licences** potential issue. Isolated incidents to date but one investigation identified a group well organised and making multiple fakes and successful in purchasing firearms through private sales in particular.
  - 3 FIT investigations to date.
  - Anticipated online licence portal will discourage much of this.
- **Staged Firearms burglaries** has potential to become an issue. Active example FLIC holder reported burglary of 6 firearms. FIT investigation confirmed complaint was fraudulent, firearms diverted and fraudulent insurance claim.
  - 2 FIT investigations to date – 1 identified historic in 2007
- **3D Printed firearms** are starting to become more common and an emerging trend
  - 3 FIT investigations to date into manufacturers – complex prosecutions

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Limitations of Retail Firearm Sales Data

- Ineffective historical record gathering
- Human error – inaccurate data recorded
- Deliberate error – inaccurate data recorded – foster diversion
- No visibility over individual suspicious purchase pattern
- Limited deterrent of RFD
- Quality and inconsistency of data
- Resource intensity to police of manual collections
- Time delay and additional resource required for data entry
- Strong working relationship between Te Tari Pureke and Police
- Currency and accuracy of information for better safety for frontline police

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s.9(2)(b) OIA

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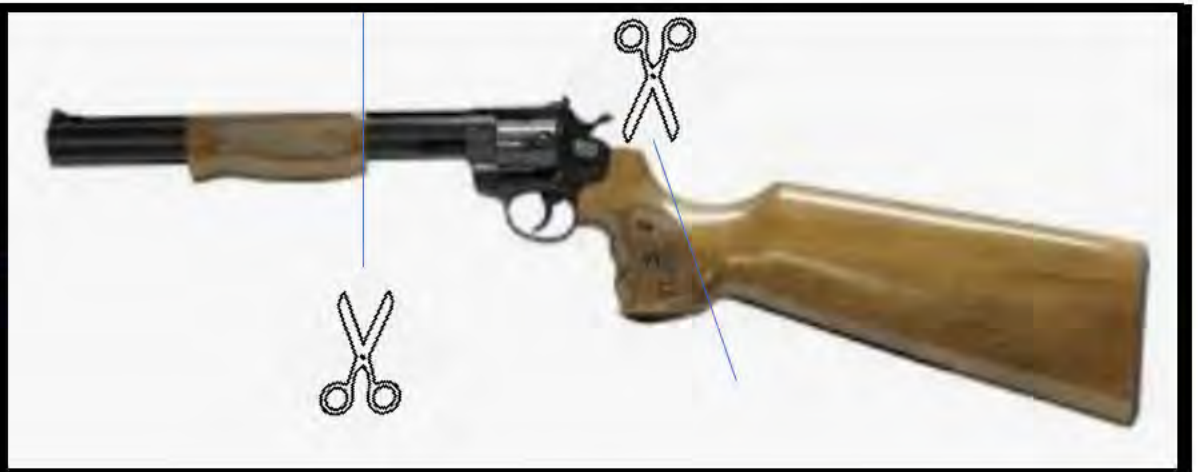
Alfa Carbine Project



The Alfa Carbine is manufactured in Czech Republic and was a commonly sought after firearm by gangs and criminal elements due to:-

- ease with which they can be cut down
- simplicity of operation
- evidential advantages with retention of casings.

Comes in .22, .223,.357 and 9 mm calibre

Retailed $1,699.00 - $2,499.00 per firearm

NOCG working with TTP to show evidence of the large scale diversion of these particular firearms to support the opposition of TTP to future Alfa Carbine imports

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Potential or Developing Trends

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  - 3 FIT investigations to date into manufacturers – complex prosecutions
- **Alfa Carbines** continue to appear in the criminal community.
  - Numerous FIT investigations and prosecutions Not currently available as permits to import declined.

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QUESTIONS?

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