

Dealer Pānui

The latest information for firearms dealers

April 2026

Know someone who might want to subscribe or benefit from this panui? Please feel free to forward it on to **anyone who might be interested**, to subscribe, people can email firearmspartnerships@police.govt.nz

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**

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Partnerships Manager

Communities and Corporate Directorate

Te Tari Pūreke | Firearms Safety Authority

Bulletin

Justice select committee now considering submissions

The Government has committed to changing New Zealand's firearms regulatory system. Submissions on the Arms Bill recently closed, and the Justice Select Committee is now considering those submissions. The Select Committee web page says their report is expected on 09 June, 2026. Until the Arms Bill is passed into law, firearms licence holders must continue complying with existing legislation.



Helping keep licence holder details private

Some licence holders have indicated that they are uncomfortable saying their full contact details in a busy retail store for privacy and security reasons. When using the dealer transaction form for firearm and ammunition sales you may wish to get the licence holder to write their details on a small piece of paper instead of giving you that information verbally. When you have entered the details into the dealer transaction form you can return the piece of paper to the licence holder. By using this method the licence holders details remain private.



Markings on firearms

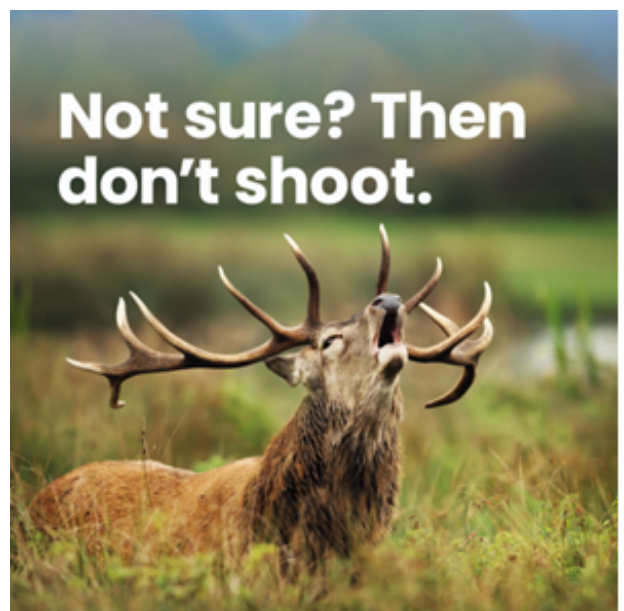
When you sell a firearm to a licence holder you are required to record the marking or serial number. The marking, or serial number, can sometimes be read differently. To help a licence holder complete their part of the process it is useful to point out how you have entered the serial number. Some serial numbers have prefix and suffix numbers, if you have entered these numbers into the dealer transaction form, please let the licence holder know.



This Roar: if you are not sure, then don't shoot!

As thousands of hunters head out for the Roar, recreational hunting firearms groups are reminding hunters of the importance of being 100% sure of their target.

Through the Recreational Firearms Users Group, a public safety message is being shared that focuses on Rule #4 of the Firearms Safety Code: identify your target beyond all doubt. Failing to fully identify a target can have serious consequences. If you are not sure, don't shoot. Hunters are encouraged to slow down, positively identify their target, check their surroundings, and never shoot at sound, colour, movement, or shape alone. For more information on Roar safety, visit: [Hunter safety | Firearms Safety Authority New Zealand](#).



Obligation to arrange a Permit to Possess before transferring an item in the Arms Registry that is held under an endorsement

The transfer of an item held under an endorsement requires a Permit to Possess as well as the transfer of possession in the Arms Registry.

Some licence holders believe that a transfer of possession of an endorsed item in the Arms Registry, has replaced the requirement to obtain a Permit to Possess.

The implementation of the Arms Registry did not remove the legal requirement for the person acquiring an endorsed item to arrange a Permit to Possess first.

The obligation is described in Arms Act 1983, s19A Restriction on possession of prohibited firearms and prohibited magazines and s19C Restriction on possession of pistols and restricted weapons.

Remember, always arrange a Permit to Possess before taking possession of a pistol, restricted weapon or prohibited item and only then complete the transfer in the Arms Registry.

The image shows a form titled 'Application for Permit to Possess a Pistol, Restricted Weapon, Prohibited Firearm, or Prohibited Magazine' from Te Tari Pūreke (Firearms Safety Authority). The form is divided into several sections: 'Applicant's details', 'Pistol, restricted weapon, prohibited firearm', 'Prohibited Magazines', and 'Current Possessor's Details'. Each section contains various fields for personal information, firearm specifications, and application details. At the bottom, there is a 'Reason for acquisition of the arms item in this capacity' section and a footer with page information and contact details.

Modifying .22 calibre prohibited magazines

In June 2025 Te Tari Pūreke published guidance on modifying .22 calibre prohibited magazines. This process allows the modification of fixed tubular magazines on bolt action, lever action and pump action rifles. Further guidance on the process is provided

Te Tari Pūreke - the Firearms Safety Authority has released its annual Delivery and Performance Summary Report for the 2024/25 Financial Year

The report is on our website [here](#):

This report outlines our work and how we met required performance measures.

The Report is in four sections

- Section One – examines licence holder demographics.
- Section Two - describes the activities undertaken to enable only individuals assessed to be fit and proper to have legitimate access to firearms.
- Section Three - describes how we proactively engage, educate, and encourage firearms users to understand and meet obligations for safe possession and use.
- Section Four - discusses our relationships with other agencies, including external reference groups, stakeholders and partners to support safety efforts and mitigate the risks of unlawful firearms use.

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

Don't use outdated forms

If you are using a form to apply for something, please always use the latest version. This will help us complete your application more efficiently. The commonly used forms are on our website, [here](#).



Receiving ammunition from a licence holder

If you receive ammunition from a licence holder you will need to record this in your dealer book. There is no provision in the dealer transaction form (registry) to record this information. This does not change the requirement that from the 24th of July 2025 all ammunition supplied must be recorded in the registry.

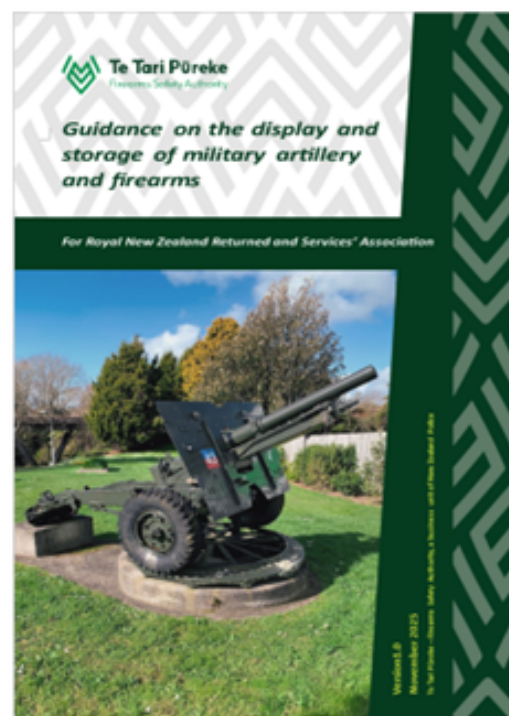


New RSA guidance released

Te Tari Pūreke has published guidance that sets out clear expectations for RSA branches on the display and storage of military artillery and firearms under the Arms Act 1983 and Arms Regulations 1992. RSAs hold arms items to honour service and commemorate significant events. This guidance helps branches maintain up-to-date security measures for all arms items whether functional or rendered inoperable - while preserving their historical significance.

It also provides practical advice for ceremonial salutes during ANZAC Day and Armistice Day, ensuring these traditions are carried out safely and in compliance with the law.

As a dealer, this resource may be particularly useful in the months leading up to commemorative events. Read the full guidance [here](#):



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. **Two additional firearms data sets are now available**, providing information on firearms regulation, Registry service performance, and Firearms Safety Course delivery.

[Firearms data and public information | Firearms Safety Authority](#)

Firearms Registry Update 1 April 2026	
Total Firearms Registered	635,003
Total Firearms Parts Registered	18,032
Total Licence Holders Registered	135,377

Total licence holders registered refers to all current and expired individual or visitor firearms licence holders with a registered firearm or firearms part.

firearmsafetyauthority.govt.nz Te Tari Pūreke
Firearms Safety Authority

Active firearms licences summary 1 April 2026	
Individual	221,132
Visitor	359
Dealer*	425
Total	221,916

*A person who holds a dealer licence must also have an individual licence.

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Firearms licensing completion summary 1 April 2026		
	Feb 2026	March 2026
Individual	1,665	1,834
Visitor	164	194
Dealer	23	45

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