

Important Information: Hunting Permissions

This Information Sheet provides essential guidance on the imminent changes brought about by the *Firearms Act 2024*.

Once enacted, new firearm laws will significantly impact both current firearm licence holders and all new firearm licence applicants, particularly in relation to changes in firearm licence types and who can obtain or retain a licence.

Types of Authority for Hunting

1. Written Authority

- Formerly known as a property letter, this authorisation permits hunting on land and is required to lodge a firearm application and retain a firearm licence.
- Written Authorities are renewable at time of licence renewal.

2. Temporary Permission (Hunting Permission)

• A short-term authorisation granted by a landowner for temporary hunting on their land by a licensed firearm holder.

Importance of Temporary Permission

Unlike a written authority, temporary permission grants firearm licence holders the right to hunt on a property for a specified duration, such as a weekend or a specific event (e.g., fox hunt).

Relation to Firearm Licence

Temporary permission cannot be used to obtain or retain a firearm licence. A written authority must accompany your firearm licence application for consideration. Temporary permission is a temporary authorisation limited to a specific period and requires a current firearm licence.

Acquiring Temporary Permission

It may be communicated via text, email, or letter, and must be producible to police if requested. Landholders will need to retain a record of all these temporary permission in the event the Regulator requires production of them.

Conditions of Temporary Permission

The issuer of temporary permission must specify the purpose and set parameters for hunting activities and firearm usage on their property. Landholders retain the authority to withdraw temporary permission at their discretion.

Buying/Selling

Buying or selling written authorities or temporary permissions is prohibited with a fine of \$5,000.

Actions to Take with Your Firearms

If you anticipate that you will not be able to meet these future requirements, you should consider the following options:

- Sell your firearms through a licensed Firearms Dealer
- Utilise the Firearm Amnesty and relinquish your firearms to the police
- You will not receive any remuneration for firearms relinquished under the Firearms Amnesty.

Failure to relinquish your firearms will result in police seizure.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For further information and frequently asked questions, visit the <u>Police WA Firearms Help</u> <u>Centre</u>.

Link to relevant Legislation Firearms Act 2024

Progress of the Act containing the *Firearm Act 2024* can be obtained from: <u>The Parliamentary of WA Website</u>.

VOLUNTARY FIREARMS BUYBACK SCHEME HAS NOW CLOSED