Landholders and Property Registration

Information Sheet

Important Information: Landholders and Property Registration

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.

Landholders and Property Registration

The new legislation requires all land intended for use in shooting activities to be registered and assessed for its suitability.

Only land that has been assessed and approved will be authorised to issue Written Authorities.

Landowners who wish to register their land must register the land using the Certificate of Title (Volume and Folio Number), which can be accessed through Landgate's website.

Land is assessed against section 40 of the Act – suitability of land for hunting. The Commissioner must be satisfied as to the land's suitability for that purpose, having regard to the following -

- The size and location of the land (including proximity of hunting areas to public roads and populated areas);
- The nature of the hunting that is likely to take place on the land and the suitability of the firearm for that hunting;
- The capabilities of the firearm;
- The number of hunting permissions in force for hunting on the land;
- Such other matters as the Commissioner thinks relevant.

Key points include:

- Written Authority enables licence holders to demonstrate genuine reason for firearm ownership thereby obtaining or retaining a firearm licence.
- Landholders may voluntarily choose to issue written authority for licence holders to shoot on their land.
- All Written Authorities are issued via the Regulator's portal.
- Land holders who register their land will be automatically taken to hold a Written Authority for their own licence on that land.

Landholder Information:

- A land holder is the owner or occupier of the land, including leaseholders.
- Only land holders who wish to issue Written Authorities (Property) are required to register their land.
- When a land holder revokes a firearm licence holder's Written Authority to hunt, it cannot be reinstated for a prescribed period (28 days).

If a land holder revokes the only Written Authority that a licence holder has, the licence holder has 28 days to obtain another written authority, or their licence is suspended and firearms seized.

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