Important Notice: Mandatory Health Assessments

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.

Key Points to Note

The WA Police Force will not receive any medical information from your medical practitioner.

Role of Medical Practitioners

Medical practitioners will play a crucial role in ensuring community safety by conducting mandatory health assessments for both new firearm licence applicants and existing licence holders.

Frequency of Health Assessments

- New firearm licence applicants must undergo a health assessment upon application and then every five (5) years.
- Firearm licence holders aged 80 or older must undergo an annual health assessment
- Current firearm licence holders will be subject to health assessments incrementally over a transition period set by the regulator then every five (5) years.

Consequences of Non-Participation

- Participation in the health assessment is mandatory.
- Failure to participate will result in licence revocation and seizure.

Conducting Health Assessments

Only medical practitioners are authorised to conduct firearm health assessments.

Assessment of Suitability

The health assessment is one factor considered by the Regulator in determining an individual's suitability for a firearm licence.

Use of Existing Health Assessment Certificates

- Some health assessments covered by other legislation may be accepted if not more than 12 months old.
- Further information regarding the use of existing health assessment certificates will be released in due course.

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: The Parliamentary of WA Website.

VOLUNTARY FIREARMS BUYBACK SCHEME HAS NOW CLOSED