

IMPLEMENTATION Q&A

New WA Firearm Laws

Western Australia's new *Firearms Act 2024* and *Firearms Regulations 2024* commenced on 31 March 2025.

Public safety is at the forefront of these new laws, which includes restrictions on the number of firearms individuals can own, disqualifying offences and orders, mandatory firearm safety training course, firearm authority health assessments and new storage requirements.

Transitional arrangements have been implemented since the new laws came into effect.

Under these arrangements, all firearms licence holders under the previous legislation are automatically granted a transitional authority (effectively a temporary licence) and will at the renewal date of their licence have at least 90 days to transition to one of the eight (8) new licence types.

From 31 March 2025, all existing licence holders whose licence is due to expire before 30 June 2025 will have 90 days from their licence renewal date to comply with the new legislation.

For those whose licence expire post June 2025, they will receive communication from WA Police Force and have 90 days to transition to their new licence.

Once you receive correspondence from WA Police Force you can contact **Firearmsproject@police.wa.gov.au** or call on **1300 894 474** and they will be able to assist you in the process.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

- **I'm a licenced firearm owner but haven't been contacted by WA Police Force. What do I need to do, if anything, after 31 March 2025?**
 - When the new firearm laws commenced on 31 March 2025, every existing firearm owner's licence was automatically converted to a transitional authority.
 - This transitional authority remains valid until either transitioned to a new licence or cancelled.
 - You should log into the online Firearms Portal to establish your new account.

- Then take no further action until you are contacted by WA Police Force.
- If you have any concerns, contact the Firearms Transition Team on **Firearmsproject@police.wa.gov.au** and if you receive no response then contact the dedicated call centre on **1300 894 474**.
- **Are transitional authorities available to everyone - new applicants and current firearm licence holders?**
 - Transitional authorities only apply to people who held a firearm licence prior to the commencement of the new legislation on 31 March 2025. It is to assist with the transition to a new licence.
 - All new applicants must apply via the online Firearms Portal.
- **My firearm licence was up for renewal on 1 April 2025, what happens to my licence given the new laws took effect 31 March 2025?**
 - Your licence will have automatically become a transitional authority that remains valid pending transition to a new licence.
 - You will be contacted by the Firearms Transition Team and will have a minimum of 90 days' transition time to comply with the new legislation, enabling transition to one of the new licence types.
 - If you have any concerns, contact the Firearms Transition Team on **Firearmsproject@police.wa.gov.au** and if you receive no response then contact the dedicated call centre on **1300 894 474**.
- **My firearm licence is not up for renewal until December 2025, what do I need to do after 31 March 2025?**
 - Unless you have been contacted by the Firearms Transition Team and advised otherwise, you remain compliant on your transitional authority and will be contacted 90 days prior to your licence expiry date with instruction on how to transition to your new licence.
- **I have always stored my firearms responsibly, so I assume I'm not required to do anything then?**
 - New storage requirements came into effect on 31 March 2025. WA Police Force are working collaboratively with licence holders during the transition period to enable them to comply with these requirements when their transitional authority is becoming a new licence.
 - The new storage requirements are based on the number and category of firearm stored at an approved storage place. Additional requirements such as Alarm and/or CCTV may be applicable depending on your circumstances.

- Licence holders with 5 or fewer firearms stored in an occupied place have had their existing storage 'grandfathered' meaning there is no need to do anything unless you replace a firearm or obtain a new firearm.
 - Licence holders with more than 5 firearms, or who store their firearms outside of an occupied building will need to comply with the new storage requirements in the *Firearms Regulations 2024*.
 - If you have any concerns about your compliance, contact the Firearms Transition Team on **Firearmsproject@police.wa.gov.au** and if you receive no response then contact the dedicated call centre on **1300 894 474**.
- **I have ordered my new storage but it's not going arrive before my licence expires, what do I do?**
- WA Police Force are taking a very collaborative approach to enable licence holders to achieve compliance with their storage requirements.
 - If you can provide proof of purchase (e.g., sales invoice etc), and an ETA on the arrival of the new storage cabinet, discretion will be exercised.
- **I have a recreational shooting licence to hunt vermin on a friend's farm; my firearm licence expired AFTER the new laws came into effect – what happens now?**
- When the new firearm laws commenced on 31 March 2025, every existing firearm owner's licence automatically became a transitional authority.
 - This transitional authority remains valid until either transitioned to a new licence or cancelled.
 - You can continue to use your firearms in accordance with your transitional authority.
 - Upon licence renewal you will have 90 days to provide evidence that supports your genuine reason to transition to a Hunting Licence. This includes obtaining a hunting permission to shoot on your friend's farm, which must be registered to issue hunting permissions.
- **What happens to Disqualified or Prohibited firearm holders after 31 March 2025?**
- Disqualified or Prohibited people are not eligible for a firearm licence or a transitional authority and their firearm licence will be cancelled.
 - For further information, see Disqualifying Offences and Orders Information Sheet.