

Government Entity Licence

What This Information Sheet is About

- This information sheet provides an overview of the **Government Entity Licence**, including:
 - the purposes for which the licence may be issued
 - the types of firearms that may be authorised
 - key restrictions and conditions
 - record-keeping and training requirements
- A Government Entity Licence allows a government entity to possess and use firearms and related things for specific authorised purposes including:
 - Animal Control
 - Law Enforcement
 - Museum Activities

Animal Control

- Animal control includes the use of a firearm to carry out any of the following activities:
 - marking animals for identification
 - sedating animals
 - culling, euthanising, or otherwise humanely destroying animals
 - marking trees or infrastructure incidental to animal control activities

Category D Firearms

- A Category D firearm may only be used for the aerial culling of animals.

Tranquiliser Guns

- A tranquiliser gun may only be authorised under a Government Entity Licence if the regulator is satisfied that:
 - an authorised person is nominated for the licence, and
 - that person may lawfully administer tranquiliser injections to animals under the Veterinary Practice Act 2021.

Category H Firearms

- A Government Entity Licence issued for animal control must not apply to Category H firearms.

Prohibited Accessories

- The regulator may approve a sound suppressor as a permitted accessory for an Animal Control Government Entity Licence.

Law Enforcement

- For the purposes of a Government Entity Licence, law enforcement includes the following activities:
 - court security services and custodial services under the *Court Security and Custodial Services Act 1999*

- management, control, and security of prisons under the *Prisons Act 1981*
- management, control, and security of facilities or detention centres under the *Young Offenders Act 1994*

Museum Activities

- For the purposes of a Government Entity Licence, museum activities are activities carried out as part of operating a museum and include:
 - studying, preserving, collecting, or exhibiting firearms or related items
 - educating the public about firearms or related items

Record Keeping

- A licensee must keep accurate records when firearms, ammunition, or related items are withdrawn from, or returned to, compliant storage.

Withdrawal From Storage

- When a firearm, ammunition, or related item is withdrawn from storage, the licensee must record:
 - the required identifying information for the firearm or related item
 - the name of the authorised person withdrawing the item
 - the reason for the withdrawal
 - the date and time of the withdrawal
- These records must be kept for 5 years, starting on the day after the withdrawal.

Return To Storage

- When a firearm, ammunition, or related item is returned to storage, the licensee must record:
 - the required identifying information for the firearm or related item
 - the name of the authorised person returning the item
 - the date and time of the return
- Additional information must be recorded where:
 - the quantity of ammunition returned differs from the quantity withdrawn, including the reason for the difference, or
 - a firearm authorised for law enforcement purposes is fired outside a licensed firearm range
- These records must be kept for 5 years, starting on the day after the return.

Approved Firearms Trainers

- The regulator may approve a person to provide firearms training for the purposes of a Government Entity Licence.
- An approved firearms trainer may only provide training that is relevant to the authorised purposes of the licence, such as animal control or law enforcement, and must comply with any conditions imposed by the regulator.

Firearm Safety Training

- Authorised persons under a Government Entity Licence may be required to complete firearms safety training.

- For animal control or law enforcement purposes, the regulator may approve an authorised person of the government entity to deliver firearms safety training to other authorised persons of that entity.
- Training must be appropriate to the type of firearm, the authorised activity, and the level of risk involved, and must be delivered in accordance with the Firearms Act 2024 and Firearms Regulations 2024.

Firearms Permitted for Government Entity Licence

- A Government Entity Licence may authorise the possession and use of firearms from the following categories, where appropriate to the authorised purpose of the licence:
 - Category A
 - Category B
 - Category C
 - Category D
 - Category E
 - Category H
- Not all firearm categories apply to all government entity licence purposes.

References to Legislation:

Legislation	Relevant Provision
<i>Firearms Act 2024</i>	Sections 24, 101-105
<i>Firearms Regulations 2024</i>	Regulations 195-211