

Trade Licence

What This Information Sheet Covers

- This information sheet explains Trade Licences under the *Firearms Act 2024* and *Firearms Regulations 2024*.
- It is intended to help members of the public understand:
 - What a Trade Licence is
 - The types of activities a Trade Licence can cover
 - Key conditions and requirements that apply to Trade Licences
- This information sheet provides general guidance only. It does not cover every requirement that may apply in all circumstances and should not be relied on as legal advice.

What a Trade Licence Covers

- A Trade Licence authorises a business to carry out specific activities involving firearms and related things as part of its commercial operations.
- A Trade Licence may be granted for 1 or more of the following purposes -
 - firearm dealing
 - firearm manufacture
 - firearm repair
 - firearm storage
- A Trade Licence may apply to:
 - Firearms
 - Major firearm parts
 - Ammunition
 - Certain prohibited accessories, only if approval has been granted for those accessories under the licence
- A Trade Licence only authorises the activities that are specifically approved for that licence. Activities outside those approvals are not permitted.

Trade Licences Are Issued for One Location Only

- A Trade Licence applies to one business location only.
- This means the licence only authorises activities at the specific premises approved as part of the licence.
- If a business operates from more than one location, a separate Trade Licence is required for each location.
- For example, if a firearm dealer operates one shop in one area and another shop in a different area, each shop must have its own Trade Licence, even if they are operated by the same business.

Who Must Supervise a Trade Licence Business

- A Trade Licence business must be supervised and managed at all times.

- This means the business must always be under the personal supervision of one of the following people:
 - The licensee; or
 - The responsible person for the licence; or
 - An authorised person for the licence
- The person supervising the business must be approved under the Trade Licence and must be able to properly oversee the activities authorised by the licence.
- This requirement helps ensure that firearm related activities are carried out safely, lawfully and in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

Minimum Activity Required for Certain Trade Licences

- Some Trade Licences require the business to meet a minimum level of activity each year.
- This requirement applies to the following Trade Licences:
 - Firearm Dealer Licence
 - Firearm Repair Licence
 - Firearm Manufacture Licence
- For each of these licences, the licensee must enter into at least 20 eligible agreements per year.
- An eligible agreement is an agreement where the licensee agrees to do the following:
 - Firearm Dealer Licence – supply one or more firearms or related thing to a customer
 - Firearm Repair Licence – repair one or more firearms or related thing for a customer
 - Firearm Manufacture Licence – manufacture one or more firearms or related thing for a customer
- If more than one eligible agreement is entered into with the same customer within a 24-hour period, those agreements are counted as one eligible agreement.
- If a business holds a multi-purpose Trade Licence, the minimum activity requirement can be met using eligible agreements for any of the approved trade activities under that licence.

What a Firearm Dealer Licence Allows

- A Firearm Dealer Licence authorises the licensee to deal in things to which the licence applies in the course of the licensee's firearm dealer business, as well as:
 - use a thing to which the licence applies for the purpose of testing or demonstration;
 - dismantle a thing to which the licence applies for parts and deal in those parts;
 - accept possession of a thing to which the licence applies for the purpose of its delivery to the licensee under another Trade Licence.
- Only the activities specifically approved under the licence are permitted. Any activities outside those approvals are not authorised.

What a Firearm Repair Licence Allows

- A Firearm Repair Licence authorises the licensee to repair things to which the licence applies in the course of the licensee's firearm repair business, as well as:
 - possess ammunition for a firearm to which the licence applies;
 - use a thing to which the licence applies for the purpose of testing;
 - dismantle a thing to which the licence applies for parts and use those parts for the purposes of the repair under the authority of the licence;

- make an approved alteration to a thing to which the licence applies;
- carry out maintenance of a thing to which the licence applies.
- Only the activities specifically approved under the licence are permitted. Any activities outside those approvals are not authorised.

What a Firearm Manufacture Licence Allows

- A Firearm Manufacture Licence authorises the licensee to manufacture a thing to which the licence applies in the course of the licensee's firearm manufacture business, as well as:
 - supply a thing to which the licence applies that is manufactured under the authority of the licence;
 - dismantle a thing to which the licence applies for parts and use those parts for the purposes of the manufacture under the authority of the licence of things to which the licence applies;
 - use a thing to which the licence applies for the purpose of testing or demonstration.
- Only the activities specifically approved under the licence are permitted. Any activities outside those approvals are not authorised.

What a Firearm Storage Licence Allows

- A Firearm Storage Licence authorises the licensee to possess a thing to which the licence applies for the purposes of storage of the thing.
- A Firearm Storage Licence does not authorise the licensee to:
 - Deal in firearms or related things
 - Repair firearms or related things
 - Manufacture firearms or related things
- Only the activities specifically approved under the licence are permitted. Any activities outside those approvals are not authorised.

What You Need to Apply for a Trade Licence

- To apply for a Trade Licence, an applicant must provide information that shows they can lawfully operate the proposed firearms business.
- An application must include:
 - The business premises where the licensed activities will be carried out.
 - Evidence that the applicant can lawfully operate the business at those premises (for example, relevant local government approvals).
 - A business plan that meets the requirements set out in the regulations.
 - Details of any insurance held in relation to activities that would be authorised by the licence.
 - Additional information is required for certain licence types:
 - For a Firearm Repair Licence or Firearm Manufacture Licence, information must be provided to show that the applicant, or an authorised person, is appropriately qualified.
 - For a Firearm Storage Licence, the applicant must provide the approximate number and categories of firearms or related things intended to be stored.
- The applicant must also provide any other information required for the specific Trade Licence being applied for.

Qualification Requirements for Repair and Manufacture Licences

- The Regulator must not grant a Firearm Repair Licence unless satisfied that the applicant, or a person who will be an authorised person for the licence, is appropriately qualified to repair the firearms or related things that would be covered by the licence.
- Similarly, the Regulator must not grant a Firearm Manufacture Licence unless satisfied that the applicant, or a person who will be an authorised person for the licence, is appropriately qualified to manufacture the firearms or related things that would be covered by the licence.
- For these purposes, the Regulator may be satisfied that:
 - Different people are appropriately qualified to repair or manufacture different types of firearms or related things; and
 - Where repair or manufacture involves more than one step, different people are appropriately qualified to carry out different parts of the work.

References to Legislation:

Legislation	Relevant Provision
<i>Firearms Act 2024</i>	Sections 86 - 100
<i>Firearms Regulations 2024</i>	Regulations 166 - 194