



Western Australia Firearms Consultation Working Group Newsletter

April 2026



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The Western Australian Firearms Consultation Working Group (WAF CWG) is a collaborative forum convened by the WA Police Force to engage with industry stakeholders across the firearms community. Its primary aim is to foster transparent, ongoing consultation between Police and industry representatives, ensuring the implementation of the firearm reforms are practical, inclusive and well-communicated.

This newsletter aims to provide an overview of issues raised by the WAF CWG, and important information for dissemination to respective association members.



For advice or assistance with transitioning a firearm licence or registering your property, please contact:

Transition Team

1300 894 474

FirearmsProject@police.wa.gov.au

For advice or assistance with a new or additional firearms application, please contact:

Licensing Services

1300 171 011

LicensingServices@police.wa.gov.au

[Visit WA Police Force website](#)



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TRANSITION UPDATE

- **Transitional Authority Expiry:** The transition of firearm licences is nearing completion, with the final Transitional Authorities due to expire by 23 August 2026. No further extensions are planned.
- **Regulation Amendments:** Tranche 2 drafting instructions for regulation amendments are awaiting Ministerial approval.
- **Firearms Portal:** 46,000 users accessing the portal. Development for future functionality and ongoing improvements continue.
- **Property Registrations:** These approvals are generally processed in real time, however, some reported delays.
- **Online Renewals:** When available, licence holders will be able to select one, three or five-year renewal options through the portal.

SURRENDER VS SEIZURE OF FIREARMS

- **Surrender of Expired Firearms:** Firearms that become unlicensed after a Transitional Authority expires must be surrendered at a police station, not to a dealer.
- **Voluntary vs Forced Surrender:** Voluntary surrender of an unlicensed firearm allows a person to make a new application. Firearms seized through enforcement action may affect future licensing eligibility.

FIREARM USE, IMPORTATION AND TRANSPORT

- **Competition Firearms:** A regulation amendment is proposed to allow Competition Licence holders to share their firearms at a licensed firearm range with another Competition Licence holder. The same will apply between two Hunting Licence holders.
- **Interstate Competitors:** May bring more firearms than WA's numerical limits provided they can justify the number for an event.
- **Interstate Travellers:** May possess firearms in WA with a permit, but cannot use them unless the permit is linked to a licence purpose (e.g. Hunting or Competition).
- **Under 18s and Firearm Licensing:** There is no provision for junior firearm licences under the Act – any change would require legislative amendment. There are specific circumstances, requirements and limits determining firearm use by young persons in WA.
- **Firearm Tracking:** Work is underway to develop clearer policy guidance on acceptable tracking for firearm transport.

CLUB CHARACTER REFERENCE

- Clubs may determine the form of a character reference, provided they meet minimum regulatory requirements, including a two-year qualifying period.
- A new character reference is required when moving between clubs.

FIREARM AUTHORITY HEALTH EXAMINATIONS

- Recognition of other medical certificates for firearm licensing is not supported, as health examinations must be specific to firearms.
- Licence holders will be randomly selected by Licensing Services for health examinations through a staged approach over several years to avoid overwhelming GPs and the health system.
- Licence holders must wait for a health examination to be requested by Licensing Services and are not to present themselves ahead of receiving this notice.

RESOURCES

- **Information Sheets:** Additional information sheets will be added to the [Licensing Services \(Firearms\) website](#) as they become available.
- **Handbook:** A reference handbook is planned in line with the Standing Committee's recommendations.