



NT NATIONAL FIREARMS REGISTER

Edition 2 | October 2025

October Update

In this month's National Firearms Register (NFR) newsletter, we're sharing updates on the phased rollout of the NFR in the Northern Territory and setting a return date for licence holders to complete the Firearms self-check form.

We also reflect on the recent tragedy in Porepunkah, reinforcing the importance of national firearm reforms and the commitment to a fully operational NFR by mid-2028.



Acknowledging recent tragedies and the path forward



We acknowledge the tragic events in Porepunkah, Victoria, where two police officers were fatally shot and another was critically injured undertaking police duties. We also acknowledge the police officer killed in regional Tasmania in June this year. Our thoughts are with the families, colleagues, and communities affected.

This tragedy is a powerful reminder of the risks police face every day. The NFR remains firmly committed to delivering a system that enhances safety for police and the community and strengthens the effectiveness of law enforcement across Australia. The Commonwealth State and Territory governments remain committed to delivering a fully operational NFR by mid-2028, as agreed by National Cabinet. The NFR will be the most significant upgrade to Australia's firearms management systems in nearly 30 years.

Governments recognise that the risks exposed by all recent tragedies remain until all jurisdictions can share critical information through the NFR. Knowing where firearms are, who owns them, and what risks exist is vital. Access to this information in near-real time will help protect front line police and communities and prevent firearms from entering the illicit market.

Key streams driving the National Firearms Register

The Northern Territory Government is progressing the National Firearms Register (NFR) through a phased approach tailored to the Territory's unique needs.

The program is structured around several key streams, each targeting a critical aspect of firearms management and regulation.



Firearms Data Uplift

This stream focuses on enhancing the quality, accuracy, and accessibility of firearms-related data. In the NT, all firearms licence holders must complete a Firearms self-check form for each firearm they own. If you are a licence holder who has not yet completed the form, you have until **Friday 17 April 2026** to complete it. Complete the form by visiting <https://pfes.nt.gov.au/national-firearms-register> or scanning the QR code below.



Registry system changes

Modernising the NT's firearms registry system is central to ensuring the Territory delivers the full benefits of the NFR's objectives. This includes upgrading old technology that will improve system performance, user experience, and integration with the NFR.



Legislation Reform

An update of the NT Firearms Act 1997 and NT Firearms Regulations 1997 is underway to ensure it reflects the requirements of the National Firearms Register project. This will ensure the act will allow the NT to reflect firearm information in near-real time nationally to better address community and police safety. There will also be some adjustments to the legislation to also address gaps and inconsistencies in the current Act and Regulations.



Licensee and dealer portals

New digital portals are being developed to streamline interactions between licensees, dealers, and the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit (FPRU). These portals are expected to simplify application processes and improve efficiencies.

Together, these streams form the backbone of the NFR's transformation agenda, driving a safer, more efficient firearms regulatory environment in the Northern Territory.

IMPORTANT UPDATE

Action required: Firearms self-check forms are to be returned by 17 April 2026

Important update for firearms licence holders: The Firearms self-check form is due by **Friday 17 April 2026**.

By **Friday 17 April 2026**, all licence holders are asked to return the Firearms self-check form for each firearm they own.

This step is essential to ensure NT's firearm records meet the National Data Standards and are ready to be uploaded into the NFR.

From **Thursday 1 January 2026**, all licence holders will need to provide photographs of their registered firearms and complete the Firearms self-check form before any firearm licence or permit applications are processed by the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit (FPRU).

We encourage all licence holders to complete the firearms self-check form as soon as possible.



Accessing the firearms self-check form



To access the firearms self-check form, please visit www.pfes.nt.gov.au/national-firearms-register or scan the QR code. Additional information including help guides, factsheets and important updates can also be found by visiting the NT National Firearms Register website.

If you require assistance, please contact the National Firearms Register team by emailing NationalFirearmsRegister@pfes.nt.gov.au.