



Legislation changes: Fact Sheet

Firearms Amendment Act 2026

Licence and Permit Conditions

The legislation now enables conditions to be varied, revoked or added to a licence or permit during its currency. This applies to licences and permits only (not Permits to Acquire) and does not extend to adding new licence categories.

A decision to vary, revoke or add a condition to a licence or permit is a reviewable decision by the Northern Territory Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

Licence Periods (Firearms Corporate Licence and Firearms Employee Licence)

A firearms corporate licence and firearms employee licence may now be issued for a period of up to 10 years. Fees will be charged pro-rata according to the number of years selected for a firearms corporate licence or firearms employee licence.

Continuation of a licence

A licence holder who lodges an application for a new firearms licence of the same licence type as the existing licence before it expires will continue in force. The licence continues where the application has not yet been granted or refused, and the existing licence has not been revoked.

Firearms Advisory Council (FAC)

Changes have been made to the structure and membership of the FAC. These changes diversify the membership of the FAC, including adjustments to membership composition and numbers:

- The Northern Territory Firearms Council Incorporated can nominate up to 4 executive members;
- The Commissioner can nominate up to 2 police officers by name or reference to an office, position or rank;
- The Minister can appoint up to 4 other persons in consultation with the Northern Territory Firearms Council Incorporated and the Commissioner.

Altering Firearms

The scope of offences relating to the alteration of firearms has been broadened. New offences have been introduced to address unauthorised alteration to a firearm in any way that destroys it, or renders it, or part of it, inoperable. A part of a firearm includes a silencer or another item related to a firearm prescribed by regulation.

Notifiable Matters

It is now an offence under section 125 of the *Firearms Act 1997* if a licence holder fails to notify the Commissioner of any destruction or disposal of a firearm, or rendering inoperable of a firearm, that occurred before 30 June 2026. Licence holders who have not previously notified the Commissioner of the historical destruction or disposal of a firearm are encouraged to do so at the earliest opportunity.

The holder of a licence, permit or certificate of registration is required to notify the Commissioner through the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit, in writing, of any loss, theft, destruction, or disposal of a firearm, not later than 2 working days after becoming aware of the loss, theft, destruction, or disposal.

Additionally, the holder must notify the Commissioner through the Firearms Policy and Recording Unit, in writing, if a licence, permit or certificate of registration is destroyed, defaced or damaged, not later than 2 working days after becoming aware of the destruction, defacing or damage.



Digital Blueprints for Manufacture of Firearms

A person commits an offence if the person intentionally produces, sells, distributes or possesses a digital blueprint for the manufacture of a firearm, or part of a firearm, on a 3D printer or electronic milling machine. Part of a firearm includes a silencer, or any other article related to a firearm that is prescribed by regulation.

This offence does not apply to, or in relation to, a person who is in possession of a digital blueprint for the manufacture of a firearm, or a part of a firearm:

- a) for a purpose connected with a law enforcement function or for the preparation or conduct of a criminal proceeding; or
- b) if the person is authorised by a licence or permit to manufacture a firearm, or part of a firearm, based on the digital blueprint.

Interstate Licence Holders – Ammunition Purchase

Legislation now formalises the ability for interstate licence holders to possess, use and purchase ammunition in the NT while participating in shooting competitions at a premises approved for shooting activities.