



Cabinet Legislation Committee

Minute of Decision

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Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations 2023

Portfolio **Police**

On 6 April 2023, the Cabinet Legislation Committee:

- 1 **noted** the impacts of Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle mean that some holders of a firearms licence or a dealer's licence are unable to apply for a new licence and wild animal pest control endorsement before their current licence and endorsement expires;
- 2 **noted** that section 74(1)(ea) of the Arms Act 1983 enables regulations to be made extending the expiry date of licences and endorsements in the event of an emergency being declared under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002;
- 3 **noted** the Minister of Police is satisfied that, in the circumstances that led to the development of these regulations as per section 74(4) of the Arms Act 1983, the Commissioner has done everything reasonable to consult persons or organisations that appear to be affected or likely to be affected by the regulations;
- 4 **noted** that Police's Firearms Safety Authority – Te Tari Pūreke has identified there are 2,081 licence holders whose licence address is in the declared national emergency areas and whose licence or wild animal pest control endorsement will expire between 11 January and 5pm 31 August 2023 and may require an extension to their licence;
- 5 **noted** that the Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations (the Regulations) 2023 provide sufficient time up to 5pm 31 August 2023 for those identified in paragraph 4 above to:
 - 5.1 apply for a new firearms licence (and the endorsements on them), and new endorsements issued to wild animal pest controllers, and;
 - 5.2 apply for a new dealer's licences (and the endorsements on them) that have expired or will be expiring;
- 6 **authorised** the submission to the Executive Council of the attached Arms (Extension of Licences and Endorsements) Amendment Regulations 2023 [PCO 25395/7.0];
- 7 **noted** that a waiver of the 28-day rule is sought:
 - 7.1 so the Regulations can come into force as soon as possible;

- 7.2 on the grounds that it is important to minimise the time affected licence holders are without a current licence and endorsement, and remove the risk of their being penalised with a 5-year licence if application for a new licence and endorsement had not been made before the expiry date of their previous licence or endorsement due to the impact of Cyclones Hale and Gabrielle on licence holders, business, housing and travel;
- 8 **agreed** to waive the 28-day rule so that the Regulations can come into force on the day after they are gazetted.

Vivien Meek
Committee Secretary

Present:

Hon Grant Robertson (Chair)
Hon Megan Woods
Hon Andrew Little
Hon David Parker
Hon Kieran McAnulty
Hon Ginny Andersen
Hon Barbara Edmonds
Hon Willow-Jean Prime
Tangi Utikere, MP

Officials present from:

Office of the Prime Minister
Officials Committee for LEG