

Appendix A: Comparisons of New Zealand's proposals to other jurisdictions

	New Zealand Proposals	Australia	Canada	Europe Union	Great Britain	USA
Overarching summary	<p>The Arms Act 1983 promotes both the safe use and the control of firearms and other weapons.</p> <p>The proposals are intended to strengthen the framework for the safe use and control of firearms to provide a better balance between enabling safe and legitimate firearms use, and ensuring government can effectively manage the risk to the public of firearms misuse.</p>	<p>Firearm laws in Australia are predominately state or territory based. The importation of firearms regulated by the federal government.</p> <p>Most state and territory firearm laws are aligned with the National Firearms Agreement, established in 2017.</p>	<p>The Firearms Act 1995 sets out the provisions for licencing of firearms owners, and establishes the Canadian Firearms Registration System (which records all licences and all prohibited or restricted firearms).</p> <p>Some provinces (i.e. Quebec) have implemented additional firearms regulation.</p>	<p>The European Firearms Directive is a law of the European Union which sets minimum standards regarding civilian firearms acquisition and possession.</p> <p>Member States are free to adopt more stringent rules, which leads to differences in the extent of citizens' legal access to firearms within different European Union countries.</p>	<p>The Firearms Act 1968 sets out the provisions for the possession, handling, and distribution of firearms and ammunition.</p> <p>The laws are more restrictive than the minimum rules required by the European Firearms Directives, and Great Britain has been described as having some of the most stringent firearm control laws in the world.</p>	<p>In the United States federal statutes regulate the manufacture, trade, possession, transfer, record keeping, transport, and destruction of firearms, ammunition, and firearms accessories.</p> <p>States have their own laws that regulate firearms, and these vary significantly in their form, content, and level of restriction.</p>
Firearms registry	<p>Proposal is to develop a registry of licence holders and their firearms. The firearms registry would be developed to enable the public to interact with components of it directly (applying for a licence, registering a firearm, notifying of the sale of a firearm, notifying of a change of address, etc). Paper based options will be available for those who do not have access to the internet.</p>	<p>Each state and territory has a firearms registry that includes both a register of firearms, and register of licence holders. Information is stored at state level on a system that can be shared at a national level.</p>	<p>Canada introduced a firearms programme in 1995 that required both licence holder and firearm registration. The registration component was repealed in 2012, largely due to cost-overruns.</p> <p>In 2018, Quebec re-introduced registration for firearms.</p>	<p>The European Union requires member states to register all firearms or their essential components.</p>	<p>A national register records details of those who have applied for a firearm or shotgun certificate, and details of their firearms.</p>	<p>No national licencing or firearm register and each state has different requirements as to licencing and firearm registration.</p> <p>Only two states (Hawaii and District of Columbia) require registration of all firearms.</p>
Private sales allowed	<p>Proposal is to retain ability for people to conduct private sales, and ensure registry (above) includes functionality to track and manage the sale and purchase of all firearms. Buyer and seller required to independently verify transaction. In this way, firearms will be monitored and tracked throughout their lifecycle.</p>	<p>Sale and transfer of firearms limited to licensed dealers.</p> <p>Private sales are carried out through dealers on behalf of an owner.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>Yes.</p>	<p>Yes. Details of the purchased firearm must be manually entered on the purchaser's Firearms Certificate.</p> <p>The purchaser and seller must also inform the relevant Firearms Licensing Department in writing within seven days.</p>	<p>Yes (although some states restrict private sales, i.e. California).</p>
Licencing of individuals	<p>Any person who is over the age of 16 may apply for a firearms licence. A non-licence holder can use a firearm if they are under supervision of a licence holder.</p> <p>Proposal to strengthen the licencing process by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarifying in legislation what makes a person 'fit and proper' adding requirement for licensee to disclose material changes that may impact on their 'fit and proper' status 	<p>National agreement states licence holder must be 18 or over and most states allows for supervised used. However, some States allow minors to get a licence (i.e. Queensland from age 11; ACT, NSW, Northern Territory, Tasmania and Victoria from age 12).</p> <p>A person must have a firearm licence to possess or use a firearm. Licence holders must demonstrate a "genuine reason" (which does not include self-defence) for holding a</p>	<p>Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) – for people 18 and over. A minor's licence enables young people (12-17) to borrow shotguns and rifles for approved purposes of hunting or target shooting.</p> <p>Individual must demonstrate knowledge of firearms safety. If person meets legal conditions, then they will not be denied a firearms licence.</p>	<p>European firearms pass issued by Member States to person lawfully entering into possession of and using a firearm. Pass granted to people who have good cause, and who are at least 18 years or older (except for hunting and target shooting if under guidance) and unlikely to be danger to themselves or others, to public order or public safety.</p> <p>Conviction of a violent intentional crime is taken as indicative of such danger.</p>	<p>To obtain a firearm certificate, the police must be satisfied that a person has "good reason" to own each firearm, and they can be trusted with it "without danger to the public safety or to the peace".</p> <p>A person 14 or over is eligible for a firearms licence however, they cannot purchase or hire firearms or ammunition until the age of 18.</p> <p>The authorities have the final say on whether a person may obtain a licence. Firearm Certificates will</p>	<p>Each state has its own laws regarding who is allowed to own or possess firearms (and type). The vast majority of US citizens are allowed to buy and keep firearms without restriction.</p> <p>If person meets legal conditions, then they will not be denied a firearms licence. Fugitives, those convicted of a felony (where sentence exceeded 1 year), and those involuntarily admitted to a mental facility are prohibited from purchasing a firearm.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> adding in that person would not be considered a fit and proper person if convicted of particular offences, and is therefore unable to apply for a licence revocation of licence for conviction for particular offences. 	<p>firearm licence and must not be a "prohibited person".</p> <p>State authorities have final say whether someone is 'fit and proper'. While each state's legislation is worded slightly differently, most indicate a person is not considered a fit and proper person if they have been convicted of particular offences within a ten year period.</p>			only be issued if a person has legitimate sporting, collecting, or work-related reasons for ownership.	
Duration	Proposal to reduce duration of individual licence from 10 years to 5 years.	The National Agreement states that licences must not be issued for more than 5 years, however some states allow for different periods – i.e. Queensland and Northern Territory allow for 10 year licences. Western Australia provides for 12-month licences, except for Firearm Collector's Licences (3 years) and Ammunition Collector's Licences (5 years).	<p>Possession and Acquisition licence (PAL) valid for 5 years.</p> <p>Minor's licence valid until day minor turns 18.</p>	European firearms pass valid for 5 years.	Firearm and shotgun certificates valid for 5 years.	Differs between States (depending on whether licence required).
Visitor permit	<p>A visitor can obtain a licence, and must meet requirements (such as having a firearms licence in their own country). A visitor can bring their own firearm with them into New Zealand.</p> <p>Specific proposals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> require fit and proper assessment (meaning application must be made in advance) prohibit visitors from purchasing firearms in New Zealand. 	<p>Two permits required: international visitors firearms permit (allows possession and use of firearm), and import permit (allows people to bring firearm into country).</p> <p>The international visitor permit is only recognised in the state/territory of issue. Interstate hunting or shooting competitions may require permit for each state/territory visited.</p>	A non-resident firearms declaration that is confirmed by a customs officer is deemed to be a temporary licence for up to 60 days. A person holding a temporary licence can buy firearms and ammunition.	<p>European firearms pass can be used by resident of one Member State to purchase firearms and ammunition in another Member State.</p> <p>Most states allow non-EU visitors to apply to bring in their firearm but may need second permit to use it.</p>	<p>A visitor can obtain a visitor's firearm permit (must be applied for in advance).</p> <p>A holder of a visitor's firearm permit cannot purchase a firearm but may purchase ammunition.</p>	Yes if admitted to US for hunting or sporting purposes.
Dealers	<p>Dealers licence are issued annually.</p> <p>Proposals are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clarify (and extend) the definition of a dealer to include those carrying out commercial transactions involving firearms add a 'excellent character' test, in addition to the fit and proper person test for standard licence issue. 	Persons or companies conducting a business involving the buying, selling or trading of firearms or ammunition must obtain a firearm dealers licence, and firearms repairers must hold a firearms repairer's licence. These must be renewed annually.	<p>A business or organisation requires a firearms business licence to possess, manufacture or sell ammunition or firearms, with a separate business licence required for each location where the business operates.</p> <p>All employees who handle firearms for employment purposes must have a valid Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL).</p>	Licensing involves check of private and professional integrity and of the relevant ability of the dealer or broker.	All dealers are registered and must hold a firearms licence.	Dealers interested in obtaining a Federal Firearms Licence (FFL) must be at least 21 years of age. They must have premises for conducting business and must alert a local law enforcement official. Like gun owners, they must fulfil the same criteria regarding their history of prior convictions and mental state. Renewed every 3 years.
Clubs and shooting ranges	Proposal to licence shooting clubs and ranges.	All shooting clubs and ranges required to be licenced.	A person who wishes to establish a shooting range or club is required to seek approval from relevant provincial minister.	Not mentioned in directives (likely to depend on Member State requirements).	Clubs must apply for licences if they wish to possess or use firearms.	Not licenced at federal level.

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