

LicensingServices@police.wa.gov.au
Minister.Papalia@dpc.wa.gov.au

Private and Confidential

Date: _____

Name: _____

Postal Address: _____

Licence Number: _____

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you in response to the Firearm Authority Requirement letter that I have recently received with respect to prohibited firearms under the recently released WA Firearms Regulations 2024.

The prohibited firearm details are _____

My firearms licence for this firearm was issued on the _____ without any notice that this firearm was soon to be prohibited. There was no public statement or indication by the WA Government in the lead up to the WA Firearms Act 2024 being passed on the 20th of June 2024, or the release of the WA Firearms Regulations on the 21st of December 2024 that this action type of firearm was being targeted for prohibition.

No statement has ever been issued or suggested from the WA Government or the WA Police Firearms - Project Reform Team that a single shot .22 calibre or 12 Gauge bolt action firearm would be deemed illegal, based simply on its single shot function. The arbitrary decision that these types of firearms should be banned in Western Australia and made by persons unknown, without any consultation with industry or end users is disingenuous. This Category A bolt action button or lever release firearm is legal and permitted in all other Australian State and Territory jurisdictions and remains approved for importation into Australia by the Federal Attorney General and Australian Border Force agencies.

This bolt release firearm action type is NOT semi-automatic.

At the time of purchasing this firearm I conducted as much due diligence and research as possible to ensure that I would remain compliant with any new legislation when it came into force, given the relentless media attention that the WA Government has given firearm reform since announcing the re write of the firearms act in March 2022. I intentionally selected a Category A firearm for this very reason.

The WA Government Firearm Buyback Scheme for individuals commenced on the 21st of February 2024 and ended on the 31st of August 2024. The new regulations were not made public until the 21st of December 2024 thereby not affording me the opportunity to reduce any financial loss and for now forcing me to sell this firearm interstate or dispose of this new firearm at a complete loss, or worst still, having to surrender my legally acquired vermin management tool or competition sporting equipment to WA Police before the 31st of March 2025 with zero reparation.

It is my understanding that the WA Government is not providing any compensation for my loss which I believe is unreasonable and unjustified.

I also feel coerced and intimidated with the threats and tactics from the WA Government and the WA Police that my firearm licence will be suspended or revoked should I not be able to comply with these demands before the 31st of March 2025. This is not how a substantive equality model for the citizens of Western Australia should be applied especially with such limited time to be compliant.

I contend it would have been prudent for the WA Government and the public service agency, WA Police - Licensing Services Firearms agency to notify me that the firearm was soon to be prohibited at the time of issuing my new licence and sending out my licence renewal. I contend it was at best negligent for WA Police - Licensing Services Firearms to collect an annual licence fee for this firearm in full knowledge that the firearm was intended to be banned in Western Australia.

I intend to purchase a replacement firearm in the same calibre as the existing firearm and in compliance with all regulatory approved action types.

The underlying premise of genuine reason and genuine need as outlined in the WA Firearms Act and satisfied in my original application remains in place and I intend to continue to legally control vermin / hunt / conduct primary production on the approved land of which written authority to legally use a firearm has been provided /and or compete in approved shooting competitions at approved clubs.

I request that

1. Suitable financial compensation is provided by the WA Government for the loss of a firearm which I recently purchased.
2. My firearms licence remain active and not suspended or revoked throughout any transitional period and that any replacement firearm should be expedited onto my existing firearm licence by WA Police – Licensing Services Firearms, without the imposition of any cooling off period, new application or additional application fee.
3. The renewal date of my firearm licence reflects my current firearm licence renewal date.
4. My existing safe storage is grandfathered as it remains compliant at the time of writing and is unchanged from its original installation. The safe storage of firearms is paramount to maintaining community safety and is also imperative to the security and safety of my family.

This request is submitted in good faith as a law-abiding firearm owner in the State of Western Australia and I implore you to enact a sensible manner response to this matter.

Your faithfully