

**From:** [Grant Hatcher](#)  
**To:** [Legislative Scrutiny Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Firearms Amendment Bill 2026  
**Date:** Saturday, 21 March 2026 1:16:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [Submission to FAC - Out of Session - Provide for amend Licence in force .pdf](#)

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Dear Sir/ Madam

In respect to parts 6 and 8 regarding General Conditions of a License or permit , the Firearms Amendment Bill 2026 proposed amendments are not what was past as a motion at the Firearms Advisory Council , please see below attached copy of motion, there has been a complete omission of the procedural fairness and justification part proposed in the submission .

I therefore ask that both parts 6 and 8 of the Firearms Amendment Bill 2026 are amended to show this or removed from the Bill and be submitted in an amended form at a later date.

Regards

Grant Hatcher  
President NT Firearms Council  
Member Firearms Advisory Council  
[REDACTED]

**MOTION TO FIREARMS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
OUT OF SESSION RECOMMENDATION**

Under the provisions of Section 56(1)(d) of the *NT Firearms Act*, the following recommendation is made to the Police Minister to amend Section 10 and Section 13 of the *Firearms Act*, or alternately to create a new section which provides the Commissioner the ability to amend a licence after it has been granted and whilst it is still in force.

Motion:

***That Section 10 and Section 13 be amended, or new section drafted which provides the ability for the Commissioner to amend a licence and/or its conditions after it has been issued.***

***That the amendment includes the following procedural fairness and natural justice provisions.***

***That the Commissioner can amend a licence in force;***

- 1. On application by the holder of the licence, amend the genuine reason(s), firearms categories or conditions of their licence, or***
- 2. In circumstances where a change to the Act or Regulations requires the licence be amended for it to remain compliant with the changes to the Act or Regulations, or***
- 3. In circumstances where the Commissioner has reasonable grounds to believe that the licence needs to be amended to ensure public safety.***

***And further;***

- 4. In circumstances where the Commissioner needs to amend the licence to allow the effective administration of the licence, in accordance with the principles of the Act or Regulations, where:***
  - The Commissioner advises the holder of the licence of the proposed change and its purpose, and***
  - Allows the holder of the licence 14 days to make a submission on the change, taken from the day that the notice of change is given, and***
  - The Commissioner takes into account the holders submission before making a determination to either change the licence, or not proceed with the proposed change.***
- That the new section provides that where a decision is made to amend a licence under part 3 or 4 of these provisions, that the holder, if aggrieved, has the ability to appeal the decision through the provisions of Section 50.***

***(NB This would also require an addition to Schedule 7)***

Rationale:

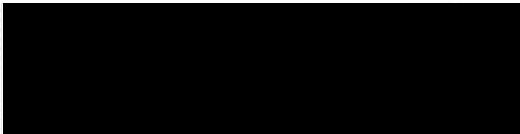
Recent legal advice sought by the Firearms Policy & Records Unit has identified that the Commissioner lacks the legislative ability to amend a licence once it has been issued. Any changes can only be addressed through a licence being revoked or surrendered by the holder and then rectified through a fresh application for a new licence.

This is far from desirable and inability for the Commissioner to amend a licence after it has been issued and whilst still in force should be addressed as a matter of urgency.

This would provide significant benefits for the Commissioner in managing existing licences and allow licence holders the seek an amendment to an existing licence without the need to lodge a full new application. In these circumstances, it would reduce the workload for the Firearms Registry, and benefits licence holders by removing the impost and cost of having applying for a further licence.

Such a change would not lessen public safety expectations but in fact would provide better licensing outcomes for both the Commissioner and the licence holder.

I put forward this Motion to the FAC for consideration.



Phil Duffield  
FAC Member