



# Staffordshire Police Equality Impact Assessment



The purpose of this EIA is to ensure you consider any equality issues as part of your decision making when developing / reviewing your policy / procedure.

Please complete the sections below and send to the Equality and Diversity unit to be quality assured. New / revised policies cannot be published on the policy database until the EIA has passed the quality assurance process.

<b>Title of policy/procedure:</b>	Firearms and Explosives Licensing
<b>Department:</b>	Operational Services
<b>Date:</b>	18.12.13

## 1. Identify the aims and purpose of the policy

Firearms and Explosives Licensing is delivered by the Police Service as mandated by the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013). Each force has an established Firearms and Explosives Licensing Unit to fulfil its legal obligations.

Staffordshire is required to process the grant, renewal and variations of all certificates prescribed by the various Firearms and Explosives Acts. The terminology used by both forces is consistent with that contained within the Acts.

The aim of this policy is set out the manner in which Staffordshire Police deliver the legislative licensing requirements listed below:

Authorities Issued on behalf of the Chief Officers

- Firearms Certificates
- Shotgun Certificates
- Explosives Acquire Only Certificates
- Explosives Acquire and Keep Certificates
- Temporary Permits
- Registered Firearms Dealerships
- Visitors Permits
- European Firearm Passes
- Article 7 authorities
- Section 11(6)
- Club Approvals
- Enquiries re: Section 5 Authorities, Museum Licenses and Firearms Club Approvals (undertaken on behalf of the Home Office)
- Auctioneers Permits

**2. Identify the individuals and organisations who are likely to have an interest in, or be affected by the policy.**

Home Office

The College of Policing

Crown Prosecution Service

British Association of Shooting and Conservation

Clay Pigeon Shooting Association

National Rifle Association

Nation Smallbore Rifle Association

Association of Professional Shooting Instructors

British Shooting Sports Council

Country Landowners Association

Gun Trade Association

Association of Chief Police Officers Firearms and Explosives Licensing Working Group

Shooting Community

General Public

UNITE

UNISON

Police Federation

Superintendents Association

Association of Chief Police Officers

### **3. Data**

Summarise the findings of any monitoring data / information which you have considered regarding the impact of this policy on people from all or any of the protected groups. This could include national or local data.

#### **3.1 Age**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

The information collected to determine the 'low risk' renewal via telephone interview has created a problem due to applicants from a high age category with hearing problems. As a result the Policy offers a home visit service when the need is identified.

#### **3.2 Disability**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

The information collected to determine the 'low risk' renewal via telephone interview has created a problem for applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing. As a result the Policy offers a home visit service when the need is identified.

#### **3.3 Race**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS)

and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.  
No data collected suggested that this policy has an adverse impact on race.

### **3.4 Religion or Belief**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

No data collected suggested that this policy has an adverse impact on religion or belief.

### **3.5 Sex**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

No data collected suggested that this policy has an adverse impact on sex.

### **3.6 Sexual Orientation**

All statistical research to determine the policy content is obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

No data collected suggested that this policy has an adverse impact on sexual orientation.

### **3.7 Transgender**

All statistical research to project the demand of work has been obtained via the reporting tools provided by the National Firearms Licensing Management System (NFLMS) and Staffordshire Police performance data compile by the Firearms Licensing Unit.

No data collected suggested that this policy has an adverse impact on transgender.

#### 4. Research

Summarise the findings of any research you have considered regarding this policy for all or any of the protected groups. This could include information you have obtained from other sources e.g. ACPO, Home Office.

##### 4.1 Age

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for age and as a result there is no findings regarding age.

##### 4.2 Disability

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

*When a disability is disclosed within an application process appropriate medical advice will requested from the appropriate medical practitioner. A decision will be made on the application with regard to:*

##### Section 27(1)(a) Firearms Act 1968

A firearm certificate shall be granted where the chief officer of police is satisfied that the **applicant is fit** to be entrusted with a firearm to which section 1 of this Act applies and is not a person prohibited by this Act from possessing such a firearm.

The Firearms Licensing will be responsible for monitoring this process.

##### 4.3 Race

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for race and as a result there is no findings regarding race.

#### **4.4 Religion or Belief**

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for religion and belief and as a result there is no findings regarding religion and belief.

#### **4.5 Sex**

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for sex and as a result there is no findings regarding sex.

#### **4.6 Sexual Orientation**

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for sexual orientation and as a result there is no findings regarding sexual orientation.

#### **4.7 Transgender**

Research to justify the delivery of the policy has considered the Firearms Acts 1968 – 1997 (inclusive), the various explosives Acts together with published Home Office Guidance to Police (2013).

All information does not differentiate for transgender and as a result there is no

findings regarding transgender.

## **5. Consultation**

Summarise the opinions of any consultation for all or any of the protected groups.

Who was consulted and how e.g. survey, discussion, forum.

If there was no consultation please justify why.

### **5.1 Age**

Firearms and Explosives Licensing is a legislative process which is the responsibility of the Chief Constable. Staffordshire are required to administer the Firearms and Explosives Licensing process in a prescriptive manner. As a result there has been no justification to engage or consult with the protected groups outlined within this document.

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## **6. Conclusions**

Taking into account the results of the monitoring, research and consultation, set out how the policy impacts or could impact on people from the following protected groups? (Include positive and/or negative impacts)

### **6.1 Age**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on age.

### **6.2 Disability**

The policy may negatively impact in disability. This will occur if a person is not deemed medically, psychologically or physically fit to safely possess a firearm.



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The Firearms Licensing will be responsible for monitoring this process.

**6.3 Race**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on race.

**6.4 Religion or Belief**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on religion or belief.

**6.5 Sex**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on sex.

**6.6 Sexual Orientation**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on sexual orientation.

**6.7 Transgender**

At this time it is not foreseen that the policy will either negatively or positive impact on transgender.

**7. Decisions**

If the policy will have a negative impact on members of one or more of the protected groups, explain how the policy will change or why it is to continue in the same way.

If no changes are proposed, the policy needs to be objectively justified.

The policy is driven by legislative requirement, if there is a negative impact on any of the protected groups no change will be possible if it means that Staffordshire Police are acting in an unlawful manner.

The policy has been amended to include a home visit service instead of a phone call for people who are deaf or hard of hearing to collect the information to determine the 'low risk' renewal.

#### **8. Monitoring arrangements**

If the policy is new what consideration has been given to piloting the policy?

If monitoring is not already in place what arrangements have been made to monitor the effects of the policy on equality and diversity?

The policy is based on current work practises, national guidance and national advice. The policy will be monitored by Firearms Licensing and a Policy Development Officer within Staffordshire Police.

**This equality impact assessment will be published on the force website.**

EIA Form Dated  
01/11/11