

## Genuine Reason 5 – Animal Welfare

**Note:** This information sheet does not constitute legal advice and is for general information purposes only. Applicants and licensees are required to understand and comply with the *Firearms Act 1996* (“the Act”) and associated Regulations, which are available on the Tasmanian legislation website – [www.legislation.tas.gov.au](http://www.legislation.tas.gov.au). This document was prepared in April 2023 based on the relevant legislation at that time.

A person needs to have a ‘genuine reason’ to possess or use a firearm to apply for a firearms licence. This information sheet explains how to apply for a firearms licence for the purpose of animal welfare.

### What categories of licence are available for animal welfare?

- Category A and/or Category B licence.
- See *Information Sheet 3 Firearms Licence Categories* for more detail.

### To obtain a firearms licence for the purpose of animal welfare the applicant must be:

- an officer of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals established in Tasmania; or
- a veterinary surgeon registered under the *Veterinary Surgeons Act 1987*; or
- an inspector under the *Animal Health Act 1995*; or
- an inspector or officer under the *Animal Welfare Act 1993*; or
- an authorised person under the *Dog Control Act 2000*; or
- an authorised officer under the *Nature Conservation Act 2002*; or
- a primary producer; or
- a prescribed person.



## What documents are required to apply for a firearms licence for the purpose of animal welfare?

### Category A:

Evidence that the applicant has a genuine reason for possessing or using a firearm for the purpose of animal welfare is required. Firearms Services requests that this evidence is provided in the form of a letter from the applicant's employer or affidavit/statutory declaration from the applicant if appropriate (for example, if the applicant is a primary producer). Relevant information is likely to include:

- information in relation to the applicant's employment or occupation;
- the applicant's role and professional duties; and
- why the applicant's duties require the use of a firearm.

### Category B:

#### All Category A documents plus:

evidence to the Commissioner of Police's satisfaction that there is a need for the person to possess or use a firearm of the category to which the application relates.

### Important note:

A licence or permit from the Department of Natural Resources and Environment is usually **also** required for activities involving shooting animals. Check their website and contact the department for more information <https://nre.tas.gov.au/>.



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Current as at April 2023