



March 2020

Freedom of Information Request Reference N°: FOI 000600/20

I write in connection with your request for information received by the Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies on the 7th February 2020 in which you sought access to the following information:

- 1 How many firearm licence holders in force area currently?
- 2 How many shotgun certificate holders in force area currently?
- 3 How many applications for a firearm or shotgun have been rejected?

What is your force policy if a license holder dies and spouse and such having no authority to be in possession? Last thing they are thinking. Does your licence team have guidelines if so publish please

Response to your Request

The response provided below is correct as of 14th February 2020.

Norfolk and Suffolk Constabularies have considered your request and our response is below.

Q1

Firearm Licence Holders	
NORFOLK	5,301
SUFFOLK	4,795

Q2

Shotgun Certificate Holders	
NORFOLK	21,293
SUFFOLK	17,198

Q3 Rejected applications are published by the Home Office and can be accessed via the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/firearm-certificates-in-england-and-wales>

With regard to the final part of your request, please see linked Home Office guidance, Chapter 1.10 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/firearms-law-guidance-to-the-police-2012>

Under Section 21(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), public authorities are not required to provide information that is reasonably accessible to the public by other means, therefore in accordance with Section 17 of the Freedom of Information Act (2000), this serves as a Refusal Notice for this part of your request.

Additional information, from internal Standard Operating Procedures, has been provided below:

Deceased Persons

Firearms Certificate & Shotgun Certificate

Notification received that a holder is deceased either by phone or e-mail.

If the guns have been or will be transferred to known location ie a current certificate holder or a temporary permit is being issued, transfer the guns then debase the certificate.

If unknown where the guns have gone, delete guns from record as holder deceased and debase certificate.

Only debase the record when all issues are resolved and checked and death certificate has been received or seen by a Firearm Enquiry Officer, unless a sudden death attended by a police officer.

Temporary Permits

Firearms Certificate & Shotgun Certificate

Temporary permits are issued to authorise the temporary possession of firearms, shotguns or ammunition. These can be issued to a relative or executor of a deceased person or the receiver or liquidator of a bankrupt person. (nominated person)

Firearms Administrator – Vetting checks carried out on Police National Computer (PNC), Crime Intelligence System (CIS), Athena & Cats (database in relation to child and adult protection referrals) in respect of the nominated person. Result of check to be added to NFLMS notes, not printed off.

Firearms Administrator - If the nominated person has no NFLMS record, a nominal is to be created completing mandatory fields, name, address, date of birth, place of birth, sex and colour.

If the nominated person already has a NFLMS, this record to be used.

A temporary permit is created on the NFLMS record

For a temporary firearm permit the weapons are to be added to the permit in the 'requested weapons'

Permit granted. Firearms to be added to the permit in possessed weapons. Relevant standard conditions to be added. Permit printed on blue security paper.

For a temporary shotgun permit. Permit granted. Shotguns to be added in possessed weapons.

Permit printed on buff security paper.

FLO – sign permit and post to permit holder.

For info:

NFLMS is the National Firearms and Licensing Management System

FLO is Family Liaison Officer