STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2015 No. 860

ARMS AND AMMUNITION

The Firearms Regulations 2015

Made - - - -	*23rd March 2015*
Laid before Parliament	*25th March 2015*
Coming into force - -	*16th April 2015*

The Secretary of State being a Minister designated(**1**) for the purpose of section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972(**2**) in relation to measures relating to firearms and ammunition, in exercise of the powers conferred by that section, makes the following Regulations.

Citation, commencement and extent

1.—(1) These Regulations may be cited as the Firearms Regulations 2015 and come into force on 16th April 2015.

(2) Regulation 2 extends to England and Wales and Scotland.

(3) Regulation 3 extends to Northern Ireland.

Amendments to the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 and transitional provision

2.—(1) Section 39 of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997(**3**) (register of holders of shot gun and firearm certificates) is amended as follows.

(2) For the heading, substitute "Computerised register of firearms and shot guns and their holders".

(3) In subsection (1) the words following "of" become paragraph (a) and at the end of that paragraph insert—

"; and

(b) each firearm to which a firearm certificate or a shot gun certificate relates".

(4) For subsection (2) substitute—

"(2) The register shall—

(**1**) S.I. 1991/755, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.
(**2**) 1972 c. 68; section 2(2) was amended by section 27(1)(a) of the Legislative and Regulatory Reform Act 2006 (c. 51), and by section 3(3) of, and Part 1 of Schedule 1 to, the European Union (Amendment) Act 2008 (c. 7).
(**3**) 1997 c. 5.

(a) record a suitable identifying number for each person to whom a certificate is issued;

(b) be kept by means of a computer which provides access on-line to all police forces;

(c) record for each firearm to which a firearm certificate or a shot gun certificate relates—

(i) the type, make, model, calibre and serial number of the firearm;

(ii) the name and address of the holder of the certificate who acquires or possesses the firearm;

(iii) the name and address of the person from whom the holder of that certificate purchased or acquired the firearm; and

(iv) where the holder of that certificate sells or transfers the firearm, the name and address of the person to whom it is sold or transferred; and

(d) be structured so as to ensure that such records are maintained for not less than twenty years beginning with the date that they are first entered onto the register.

(3) For the purposes of this section a firearm certificate or shot gun certificate does not relate to a firearm solely because it authorises the purchase or acquisition of the firearm by the holder of the certificate, if the holder of the certificate has not purchased or acquired the firearm.

(4) In subsection (2)(c)(iii) and (iv) "name and address" means name and address at the time of the purchase, acquisition, sale or transfer.".

(5) Section 39(2)(c)(iii) of the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997 as substituted by this regulation does not apply where the firearm was purchased or acquired before the coming into force of these Regulations.

Amendments to the Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004

3.—(1) The Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004(**4**) is amended as follows.

(2) In Article 30(1) for "may, if the certificate has expired, and shall, if it has been revoked," substitute "shall".

(3) In Article 38—

(a) after paragraph (1)(a) omit—

"and"

(b) after paragraph (1)(b) insert—

"; and

(c) send a copy of the record of each transaction involving a firearm within 72 hours of the transaction to the Chief Constable.".

(c) after paragraph (6) insert—

"(6A) A person who fails to comply with paragraph (1)(c) shall be guilty of an offence.";

(d) in paragraph (7)(a) after "any" insert "other".

(4) After Article 38 insert—

(**4**) S.I. 2004/702 (N.I. 3).