



## Purchase of a Firearm (or component part) and ammunition – Update – August 2017

Following a number of enquiries we would like to remind Firearm Certificate holders that a person **cannot** purchase a firearm, or a component part, or ammunition online.

- Article 39 of the Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 requires the transfer of firearms and ammunition to be in person (please see the extract below).

### ***Transfers of firearms and ammunition to be in person***

**39.—(1)** *This Article applies where in Northern Ireland a firearm or ammunition is sold, let on hire, lent or given by any person (“the transferor”) to another person (“the transferee”) who is neither the holder of a firearms dealer’s certificate nor a person who is entitled to purchase or acquire the firearm or ammunition without a firearm certificate or a visitor’s firearm permit.*

*(2) Where this Article applies—*

*(a) The transferee must produce to the transferor the certificate or permit entitling him to purchase or acquire the firearm or ammunition being transferred;*

*(b) The transferor must comply with any instructions contained in the certificate or permit produced by the transferee;*

*(c) The transferor must hand the firearm or ammunition to the transferee and the transferee must receive it, in person.*

**(3) A person who fails to comply with paragraph (2) shall be guilty of an offence.**

- Article 2 of the Firearms Order, defining the meaning of ‘Firearm’ includes ‘component part’ so it does not provide an option for the online purchase of component parts.

*“Firearm” means a lethal barrelled weapon of any description from which any shot, bullet or other missile can be discharged and includes—*

*(a) Any prohibited weapon, whether it is such a lethal weapon or not;*

*(b) Any component part of such a lethal or prohibited weapon; and*

*(c) Any accessory to any such weapon designed or adapted to diminish the noise or flash caused by firing the weapon;*