



# Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997

## 1997 CHAPTER 5

### PART I

#### PROHIBITION OF WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION AND CONTROL OF SMALL-CALIBRE PISTOLS

##### *Special exemptions from prohibition of small firearms*

#### **7 Firearms of historic interest.**

- (1) [<sup>F1</sup>The authority of the Secretary of State or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm which—
- (a) was manufactured before 1st January 1919; and
  - (b) is of a description specified under subsection (2) below,
- if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession, or to purchase or acquire it, subject to a condition that he does so only for the purpose of its being kept or exhibited as part of a collection.
- (2) The Secretary of State may by order made by statutory instrument specify a description of firearm for the purposes of subsection (1) above if it appears to him that—
- (a) firearms of that description were manufactured before 1st January 1919; and
  - (b) ammunition for firearms of that type is not readily available.
- (3) The authority of the Secretary of State [<sup>F2</sup>or the Scottish Ministers] is not required by virtue of subsection (1)(aba) of section 5 of the 1968 Act for a person to have in his possession, or to purchase or acquire, or to sell or transfer, a firearm which—
- (a) is of particular rarity, aesthetic quality or technical interest, or
  - (b) is of historical importance,
- if he is authorised by a firearm certificate to have the firearm in his possession subject to a condition requiring it to be kept and used only at a place designated for the purposes of this subsection by the Secretary of State [<sup>F3</sup>or the Scottish Ministers (by virtue of provision made under section 63 of the Scotland Act 1998)].

---

*Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the  
Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, Section 7. (See end of Document for details)*

---

- (4) This section has effect without prejudice to section 58(2) of the 1968 Act (antique firearms).

**Textual Amendments**

- F1** Words in s. 7(1) substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(a\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); [S.I. 2014/949](#), [art. 6\(b\)](#)
- F2** Words in s. 7(3) substituted (14.7.2014) by [Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 \(c. 12\)](#), [ss. 109\(3\)\(b\)](#), [185\(1\)](#) (with [ss. 21, 33, 42, 58, 75, 93](#)); [S.I. 2014/949](#), [art. 6\(b\)](#)
- F3** Words in s. 7(1)(3) inserted (1.7.1999) by [S.I. 1999/1750](#), [arts. 1\(1\), 6\(1\)](#), [Sch. 5 para. 18\(7\)](#) (with [art. 7](#)); [S.I. 1998/3178](#), [art. 3](#)

**Modifications etc. (not altering text)**

- C1** S. 7(3) restricted (*tempto* 1.7.1997) by [S.I. 1997/1538](#), [reg. 2](#)  
S. 7(3): Transfer of functions (1.7.1999) by [S.I. 1999/1750](#), [arts. 1\(1\), 2](#), [Sch. 1](#) (with [art. 7](#)); [S.I. 1998/3178](#), [art. 3](#)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Firearms (Amendment) Act 1997, Section 7.