



**ST HELENA**

**A BILL**

**FOR**

**AN ORDINANCE**

**to amend the Firearms Ordinance, 1997, to make provision for a firearms certificate to be granted to the Museum of St Helena; to exclude certain historical articles from the application of the Ordinance; and for related and connected purposes.**

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Enacted by the Governor of St Helena with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council of St Helena.

**Short title**

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Firearms (Amendment) Ordinance, 2020.

**Amendment of section 3 – Application**

2. Section 3 of the Firearms Ordinance, 1997, is amended—
  - (a) by renumbering the existing text as subsection (1); and
  - (b) by adding the following subsection:

“(2) This Ordinance does not apply to any muzzle loading cannon on St Helena which was manufactured before 1900.”.

**Insertion of section 14A – Museum firearms and ammunition**

3. The following section is inserted in the Firearms Ordinance, 1997, after section 14:

**“Museum firearms and ammunition**

**14A. (1)** The application of sections 23 and 24 with respect to a firearms certificate granted to the Museum of St Helena is subject to the provisions of this section.

- (2) The Director of Police must not grant a firearms certificate to the

Museum of St Helena, unless the Director is satisfied that the arrangements for exhibiting and securing the safe custody of the firearms and ammunition in question are such as not to endanger the public safety or the peace.

(3) While a firearms certificate is in force in respect of the Museum of St Helena, the persons responsible for the management of the Museum and its employees—

- (a) may, without holding a firearm certificate or shot gun certificate, have in their possession, purchase or acquire, for the purposes of the museum, firearms and ammunition of historical interest which are or will be normally exhibited or kept on the premises of the Museum, as specified in the certificate; and
- (b) if the certificate so provides, may, without the authority of the Director of Police, have in their possession, purchase or acquire, for those purposes, prohibited weapons and ammunition of historical interest which are or will be so normally exhibited or kept.

(4) In this section, “**persons responsible for the management**” means the board of trustees, governing body or other person or persons (whether or not incorporated) exercising corresponding functions with respect to the Museum of St Helena.”.

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Ordinance)*

The purpose of the Bill is to amend the Firearms Ordinance, 1997, to make provision for the granting of a firearms certificate to the Museum of St Helena for purposes of holding and exhibiting firearms and ammunition of historical interest. Persons responsible for the management of the Museum and its employees may possess, purchase or acquire such firearms, ammunition or prohibited weapons for purposes of the museum without being required to hold an individual firearms certificate. The Bill also excludes from the application of the Ordinance all muzzle loading cannons on St Helena which were manufactured before 1900.