



Home Office

Offensive Weapons Act 2019: surrender and compensation scheme for certain firearms and offensive weapons

Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation

December 2020

These surrender and compensation arrangements apply in England and Wales. They extend to Scotland and Northern Ireland with respect to firearms and ancillary equipment only.

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1. What is the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 surrender and compensation scheme for certain firearms and offensive weapons?

The Government is determined to protect people from all forms of serious violence. We are delivering on the people's priorities by putting 20,000 extra police officers on the streets over the next three years, and we are giving the police the support, resources and powers they need to protect the public.

The Offensive Weapons Act 2019 is an important part of the response to serious violence and gives the police the powers they need to go further in tackling serious violence. The Act includes new measures to control the sale of knives and corrosive substances and introduces new offences relating to their possession and use. The Act also introduces new Knife Crime Prevention Orders.

The Act will also prohibit certain offensive weapons, knives, rapid firing rifles, and bump stocks¹. A summary of the items that will be subject to general prohibition on their possession by virtue of the Offensive Weapons Act are listed in Annex A. If you currently lawfully own any of these items and will not be permitted to keep them once measures in the Act are commenced, you should surrender the item(s) to the police. The surrender and compensation scheme allows you to claim compensation for items surrendered if you meet the eligibility criteria and surrender and make a claim in line with the arrangements set out in this guidance and the Surrender of Offensive Weapons (Compensation) Regulations 2020. The total value of a claim cannot be less than £30. If you are the owner of one of the affected items, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have transported it safely to the designated police station (where appropriate), surrendered it to the police in good time and, if seeking financial compensation, submitted your claim at the same time as surrendering your item(s). It will not be possible to seek compensation at any time after you have surrendered your item, or at any time after the surrender and compensation scheme closes. **The scheme will start on 10 December 2020 and close on 9 March 2021.**

Which items will become prohibited?

The items that will be subject to general prohibition by virtue of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 are listed in Annex A.

¹ Bump stocks or bump fire stocks are devices that can be installed into semi-automatic firearms to increase the speed at which ammunition cartridges are fired.

Will you have to surrender your item(s)?

Once the measures in the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 prohibiting possession of the items listed in Annex A come in to force, it will be an offence to possess them, aside from in a few specific circumstances, as mentioned in Annex A. However, before they are prohibited, the Act allows for legal owners of these items to surrender them to the police and claim compensation for their loss. This guidance sets out how to surrender the item(s) to the police in order to claim compensation. Compensation can only be claimed if the item(s) are surrendered as part of this scheme.

What is the surrender period?

This is a three-month period during which you will be able to surrender your firearm, knife or other offensive weapon to the police if it is covered by the scheme. Compensation can only be claimed if you surrender your item(s) during the surrender period and submit a claim for compensation at the same time.

When will the surrender period start?

The surrender period will start on 10 December 2020, the day that the Surrender of Offensive Weapons (Compensation) Regulations 2020 come into force, as these regulations provide the legal framework for the compensation for items surrendered.

When will the surrender period end?

The surrender period will last for three months and will end on 9 March 2021.

What to do if you own a knife or other offensive weapon.

The arrangements in respect of knives and offensive weapons apply only in England and Wales. If you own one of the knives or other offensive weapons in the list at Annex A, you will be able to surrender this item to the police at a designated police station and claim compensation for it. You must transport your item safely according to the guidance below. You can find out your nearest designated police station by checking the gov.uk website or by contacting your local police force. In order to claim compensation, you will first need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s). Depending on how much compensation you are seeking, you may need to take supporting evidence of the value of the item(s) you are surrendering. **Further detail is provided in Chapters 2 and 3 and in Annex C to this guidance.**

What to do if you own a firearm.

The arrangements for firearms apply throughout the UK. If you are the owner of one of the firearms listed in Annex A and you are a firearms certificate holder, it is likely that your local police force will contact you directly to either arrange for your firearm(s) to be collected, or arrange for you to bring this to a designated police station at an agreed time and date. If you are a certificate holder and own one of the firearms listed in Annex A and you do not hear from the police after the scheme has commenced, you should contact your local force to either arrange for your firearm(s) to be collected or to agree a date and time to surrender your firearm(s) at a designated police station. **Further detail is provided in Chapter 2.**

In order to claim compensation for your item(s), you will first need to download, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the firearm(s). Depending on how much compensation you are seeking, you may need to provide supporting evidence of the value of the firearm(s) you are surrendering. **Further detail is provided in Chapter 3 and in Annex D to this guidance.**

What to do if you own a bump stock or ancillary equipment.

The arrangements for bump stocks and ancillary equipment apply throughout the UK. If you lawfully own a bump stock or any of the ancillary equipment² listed in Annex A, and the ancillary equipment cannot be used or adapted for use with any other firearm which is not a prohibited weapon, you can surrender these items to the police at a designated police station in order to claim compensation for it. You can find out your nearest designated police station by checking the gov.uk website or by contacting your local police force. In order to claim compensation for your item(s), you will first need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s). Depending on how much compensation you are seeking, you may need to take supporting evidence of the value of the item(s) you are surrendering. **Further detail is provided in Chapters 2 and 3.**

Ammunition will **not** be eligible for compensation, unless it is assessed that it is designed or adapted for use in connection with the rifles that will be prohibited and could not be used with any firearm which is not a prohibited weapon.

² Under section 60(2) of the Offensive Weapons Act, “ancillary equipment” means equipment, other than prohibited ammunition, which (a) is designed or adapted for use in connection with firearms prohibited by the Act, and (b) has no practicable use in connection with any firearm which is not a prohibited weapon.

What happens if you do not surrender an item during the surrender period?

Once the surrender period comes to an end on 9 March 2021, the Government will commence the prohibition of all the items set out in Annex A. If you are still in possession of one of these items at this point, and your possession becomes unlawful when the measures in the Offensive Weapons Act are commenced, you will be committing a criminal offence. Once the surrender scheme closes, you will still be able to surrender the item to the police, but you will not be able to claim compensation for the loss of the item.

How to request a surrender and compensation claim form if you cannot print or access one online.

In order to claim compensation for your item(s) you will first need to download and complete the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form from gov.uk and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s).

If you are unable to download and print this form you can request that a form is posted to you by sending an email request to OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk. You will need to provide the address to which you would like the form posted. You will also need to ensure that you allow enough time to receive and complete the form, and to attend a designated police station to surrender your item(s) and claim compensation before the surrender period comes to an end. You should be aware that at the current time and for the period of this scheme, the majority of Home Office staff will be working from home. This means that it may take longer than normal to receive a response to an email request for a form, and we recommend that you take account of this, and do not leave it too late to send in a request. Wherever possible, you may wish to print off the form yourself at home or at some other suitable location.

Do you need to complete a surrender and compensation scheme claim form if you are not seeking compensation?

Whether or not you are seeking compensation, if you are surrendering an item, we request that you complete the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form and submit this to the police when you surrender your item(s). You are asked to indicate on the form whether or not you are seeking compensation and complete the relevant sections. You need to complete this form if you are claiming compensation. Details of how to access the form are found above.

What to do if you have any special requirements or accessibility needs.

If you have any special requirements or accessibility needs that might impact your ability to surrender your item(s) you should contact your local force to discuss this.

What to do if you think your knife or offensive weapon has historic value

If you are the owner of a knife, or offensive weapon in the list at Annex A and you consider that the item might be of interest to a museum, you may choose to transfer the item to the museum, instead of surrendering it to the police. You would need to make contact with a relevant museum and seek to make arrangements to transfer the item if appropriate. Museums will handle such matters in line with their collections development policies. It is the owner's decision and responsibility to make such arrangements; any transfers to museums would not fall within scope of this Surrender and Compensation scheme and as such the police and Home Office cannot advise on any arrangements or provide compensation for any such transfers. Transfers to museums should take place before the surrender period ends. For further information about transferring offensive weapons to a museum, please contact the co-ordinator of the Museums Weapons Group: Mark Murray-Flutter mark.murray-flutter@armouries.org.uk or 0113 220 1876.

Firearms listed under Annex A must be surrendered to the police.

Do restrictions on travel and the need for social distancing impact on the surrender arrangements

You must at all times abide by any local or national Covid-related restrictions that apply in the area where you live. At the present time, people who wish to surrender weapons should do so in accordance with this surrender and compensation scheme guidance document, taking care to ensure that appropriate social distancing is maintained while travelling to and from police stations, where required, and while in the police station. Information will be posted on gov.uk if any changes to Covid-19 restrictions impact on the operation of the scheme.

If you are unable to travel, for example because your age or a pre-existing health condition makes this unwise, you may wish to consider asking somebody else to undertake the surrender on your behalf. You must not do this if you are surrendering one of the firearms that are part of this scheme. Only the certificate holder may do this. As indicated in this guidance, we expect that in the vast majority of cases, the police will arrange to collect firearms from owners, and if you do not hear from your local force, you should make contact with them.

If you do need to ask somebody else to surrender your offensive weapon(s) you should ensure that you have completed and signed the compensation claim form yourself in advance, have provided that person with written authorisation to do this for you, ensure that the person surrendering on your behalf has also completed and signed the relevant section of the form and that the person who is surrendering your item(s) hands in the claim form to the police at the same time as surrendering the item(s) if you are seeking compensation. As explained elsewhere in this guidance, it will not be possible to claim compensation at any other time for items that have already been surrendered.

2. Eligibility (people and property)

After the surrender scheme closes it will become a criminal offence to possess the items set out in Annex A, unless you have a lawful defence. You will no longer be able to claim compensation from the Home Office.

You can only apply for compensation for items of property surrendered under this scheme if you are the legal owner of the item, and you surrender it to the police during the three-month surrender period, in accordance with this guidance. The surrender period will run between 10 December 2020 and 9 March 2021.

Knives and other offensive weapons – England and Wales

To be eligible to claim compensation for one of the offensive weapons set out in Annex A (other than a cyclone knife), you must:

- be the legal owner of the item and, where possible, should provide acceptable proof that you lawfully own the item. This could include a dated receipt of purchase, or legal documentation showing inheritance or transfer of ownership. You will also be asked to provide a signed declaration that you are the legal owner of the item and that it was lawfully acquired, when completing the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form; and
- have owned or contracted to acquire the weapon on or before **20 June 2018** (unless this is a cyclone knife, see below). If you acquired the item after this date, you will still need to safely dispose of it and should do so by surrendering the item to the police at a designated police station, but you will not be eligible to claim compensation under this scheme.

In the case of a **cyclone knife** you must:

- be the legal owner of the item and, where possible, you should provide acceptable proof that you lawfully own the item. This could include a dated receipt of purchase, or legal documentation showing inheritance or transfer of ownership. You will also be asked to provide a signed declaration that you are the legal owner of the item and that it was lawfully acquired, when completing the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme claim form; and
- have owned or contracted to acquire the weapon on or before **22 January 2019**. If you acquired the item after this date, you will still need to safely dispose of it and should do so by surrendering the item to the police at a designated police station, but you will not be eligible to claim compensation under this scheme.

Firearms (including bump stocks) and ancillary equipment – United Kingdom

To be eligible to claim compensation for any of the rapid firing rifles set out in Annex A, you must have:

- owned or contracted to acquire the firearm on or before **20 June 2018**, with entitlement to have that firearm in your possession by virtue of a firearm certificate held by you or by virtue of being a registered firearms dealer.

To be eligible to claim compensation for a bump stock, you must have:

- owned or contracted to acquire the bump stock on or before **20 June 2018**, and
- you must not have imported the bump stock into the United Kingdom on or after **4 December 2017**.

To be eligible for compensation for surrendered ancillary equipment under this scheme:

- you must be the legal owner and where possible should provide documentary evidence to show that you lawfully own the item. You will also be asked to provide a signed declaration that you are the legal owner of the item and that it was lawfully acquired;
- you must have owned or contracted to acquire the equipment on or before **20 June 2018**;
- it must be designed or adapted for use in connection with rapid firing rifles being prohibited under the Act; and
- it must not have any practical use in connection with any firearm which is not a prohibited weapon; and

(where the ancillary equipment is ammunition):

- your possession must have been lawful at all material times by virtue of a firearm certificate held by you or by virtue of being a registered firearms dealer.

Having “contracted to acquire” one of these items means that you entered into a legally binding agreement to acquire the weapon but it was not yet in your possession.

Compensation is sought by submitting to the police a completed **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form**. This is to be completed in

advance and handed to the police, with any supporting documents, at the time of surrender. **Further detail is provided in Chapter 5.**

3. Entitlement (level of compensation payable)

Annex B sets out the standard list of values for the items that fall to be surrendered to the police under this scheme. This is the minimum amount of compensation that the Home Office will pay to the legal owners of items that are surrendered to the police under this scheme. If you consider that your item is worth more than the level of compensation set out in the Values List or if you are claiming compensation for an item that is eligible under the Offensive Weapons Act but is not included in the Values List, you will need to provide sufficient evidence of the item's value, which must be submitted at the time of surrendering the item to the police. This evidence will then be forwarded to the Home Office for consideration. **Further detail is provided in Chapter 5.**

4. How to surrender

Knives and other offensive weapons – applies to England and Wales only

During the three-month surrender period, you will be able to surrender the items listed in Annex A to your local designated police station. You can find out your nearest designated police station by checking the **gov.uk** website or by contacting your local police force. You should contact the police in advance if you intend to surrender a large number of items at one time (more than 10 items) to see whether the police would prefer you to make a specific appointment to attend the police station.

You must take all reasonable steps to make any item(s) that you are surrendering safe to handle while travelling to the police station and while on police premises.

Items should be made safe to handle for yourself and for the police and must be contained in a manner that allows them to be transported without causing distress or alarm to other members of the public, including members of the public who might be at the designated police station. For example, items must be wrapped up and placed in a bag or box where possible. **They must not be carried on your person at any time.** Once in the police station, you must not take out the item until you are requested to do so by a police officer or member of police staff.

If you want to claim compensation for any item(s) that you are surrendering, you need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s). You will also need to bring with you evidence to confirm your identity (such as a valid passport or driving licence) and, where possible, evidence to establish that you are the legal owner of the item(s) that you are

surrendering. If it is difficult for the legal owner to attend a police station and you are surrendering items on their behalf, you must bring evidence to confirm their identity, their consent for you to surrender the item and, where available, evidence of legal ownership of the item(s).

You must submit your claim form to the police at the same time you surrender items at the police station; claims for compensation submitted at a different time or on a later date will not be accepted. If you surrender your item to the police, you will not be able to recover it, in order to surrender and claim compensation at a later date.

You should review the list of the weapons that will be subject to general prohibition and ensure you understand which are eligible for compensation, should you wish to make a claim. If you bring to a police station an item that is not covered by the scheme you may still be required to surrender the item, without compensation, outside of the scheme.

The police will take steps to verify your ownership and eligibility under the scheme, including verifying that the item you are surrendering is one covered under the scheme. The police will then take possession of the item(s) and provide you with a receipt if you are seeking compensation. The receipt provides you with a unique reference number in relation to the item(s) you surrender for the purpose of tracking the compensation claim. You must keep this unique reference number safe, as it may be required later if the Home Office contact you about your claim.

Your compensation claim form and supporting documents will then be forwarded by the police to the Home Office where it will be considered. The Home Office will contact you once the claim has been considered.

The fact that the police accept your surrendered item(s) and compensation claim form does not necessarily guarantee that you will receive compensation. Your claim will be considered by the Home Office.

The Checklist provided at Annex C may help you to ensure that you have completed all the steps needed to successfully surrender your item(s).

Firearms (including bump stocks) and ancillary equipment – applies throughout UK

Police forces are likely to contact those firearm certificate holders who are in possession of the firearms that are listed in Annex A about the arrangements for their surrender. If you do not hear from your local police force after the start of the surrender period, and you are the certificate holder for a firearm listed in Annex A, you should contact your local force to either arrange for your firearm(s) to be collected or to agree a date and time to surrender your firearm(s) at a designated police station.

The police may provide you with an appointment to surrender your firearm(s) at a local designated police station or they may arrange to collect them from you. If it is agreed that you must go to a designated police station to surrender your item(s) you must take reasonable precautions for the safe custody of the firearm and/or ammunition whilst travelling to the police station and while on police premises in accordance with the conditions of your firearm certificate. **Firearms must not be loaded and must be made safe to handle for yourself and for the police.** They must be contained in a manner that allows them to be transported without causing distress or alarm to other members of the public, including members of the public that might be at the designated police station. For example, items should be securely fastened inside a gun cover and/or wrapped up and placed in a bag or box where possible. **They should not be carried on your person at any time**, and they should not be revealed until requested to do so by a police officer or member of police staff.

If you want to claim compensation for any item(s) that you are surrendering, you need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s). You will also need to bring with you evidence to confirm your identity (such as a valid passport or driving licence) and evidence to establish that you are the legal owner of the item(s) that you are surrendering, which will normally be your firearms certificate. If it is difficult for the legal owner to attend a police station to surrender ancillary equipment (excluding ammunition) and you are surrendering these items on their behalf, you must bring evidence to confirm their identity, their written authorisation for you to surrender on their behalf, and where possible evidence of legal ownership of the item(s).

The police will take steps to verify your ownership and eligibility under the scheme, including ensuring that the firearm and/or ancillary equipment you are surrendering is covered under the scheme. The police will then take possession of the firearm and provide you with a receipt if you are seeking compensation. The receipt provides you with a unique reference number in relation to the items surrendered for the purpose of tracking the compensation claim. You must keep this unique reference number safe, as it may be required later if the Home Office contact you about your claim.

Your compensation claim will then be forwarded by the police to the Home Office where it will be considered. The Home Office will contact you once it has been fully considered.

The fact that the police accept your surrendered item(s) and compensation claim form does not necessarily guarantee that you will receive compensation. Your claim will be considered by the Home Office.

The Checklist provided at Annex D may help you to ensure that you have completed all the steps needed to successfully surrender your item(s).

Are you a Registered Firearms Dealer?

If you are a Registered Firearms Dealer holding stocks of the firearms or other items listed in Annex A, you should contact your local police force to discuss arrangements for surrendering your stock to the police. As with individual certificate holders, if you wish to claim compensation you need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme claim form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s).

You must submit your claim form to the police at the same time you surrender items to the police; claims submitted for compensation at a different time or on a later date will not be accepted.

The police will take possession of the stock you are surrendering and provide you with a receipt if you are seeking compensation. The receipt provides you with a unique reference number in relation to the items surrendered for the purpose of tracking the compensation claim.

Your compensation claim will then be forwarded by the police to the Home Office where it will be considered. The Home Office will contact you once it has been fully considered.

5. How to claim compensation

The Surrender of Offensive Weapons (Compensation) Regulations 2020 provide the legal framework for the compensation of items surrendered. If you want to claim compensation for any item(s) that you are surrendering, you need to download from gov.uk, or request from the Home Office, and complete the **Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form** and hand this over to the police when you surrender the item(s). You will need to complete all relevant sections of the form, including personal details and an email address for contacting you. **You must submit your claim form to the police at the same time you surrender items to the police; claims submitted at a different time or on a later date will not be accepted.**

When completing the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form, you will be asked to identify on the form:

- i. the item you are surrendering to the police;
- ii. the quantity of items you are surrendering;
- iii. whether you are claiming financial compensation; and
- iv. if you are claiming financial compensation, whether you accept the valuation of the item(s) set out in the Values List and Claim Form, or whether you are claiming a different amount. If you are claiming a different amount, you will need to specify the amount and provide acceptable documentation to evidence this value.

The Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Values List sets out the standard valuation for the items that qualify for compensation under this scheme. The Values List can be found in Annex B to this guidance. These values are also included in the Claim Form.

If you are claiming an amount other than the value set out in the Values List, you will need to provide the police with sufficient evidence to support the amount that you are claiming. This evidence may include:

- (a) a valuation from an auction house;
- (b) evidence of the price paid for the purchase of the item and the date of purchase;
- (c) published evidence of value of the item; or
- (d) a valuation from a registered firearms dealer in the case of a firearm

This evidence must be provided at the time of the surrender. **In the case of a claim for compensation for any individual offensive weapon that is over £250, it is recommended that you bring a photograph of the item as part of the evidence of its value. This is not compulsory, but it will help in considering your claim for compensation.**

Where the police have taken your Claim Form, having verified your ownership and eligibility to make a claim, including that the item is one covered under the scheme, they will complete Annex B of the compensation claim form which is for police use only, which will include a unique reference number in relation to your surrendered item(s). The police will provide you with a receipt which states the unique reference number for the purpose of tracking the compensation claim. You must keep this reference number safe, as you may need to provide it later. It is important that you ensure that your item is covered under the scheme as any false claims will be investigated.

With regards to bump stocks, claims for compensation may be made but you must provide proof of value.

Claims may only be made where the total value of the claim is at least £30.

The Checklists provided at Annex C and D may help you to ensure that you have completed all the steps needed to successfully surrender your item(s).

6. What happens next?

If you are surrendering an item or items but are not seeking compensation, once the police have taken possession of your item(s) the surrender process is complete. Your item(s) will be disposed of under normal police operational procedures.

If you are surrendering an item or items and are seeking compensation, once the police have taken possession of your item(s) they will retain the item until such time as any claim for compensation has been determined unless that item poses a safety risk. Once determined the item(s) will be disposed of under normal police operational procedures or where it poses a safety risk it may need to be destroyed sooner.

If you have surrendered an item and you are seeking compensation and have indicated this on the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme Claim Form, your form and any supporting documents submitted to the police, including evidence of value where appropriate and any photograph, will then be forwarded by the police to the Home Office where it will be considered.

You will be notified by the Home Office once your claim has been considered and you will be notified of the amount that is to be paid to you in compensation, and the compensation payment will then be made to you. If for any reason it is determined that compensation should not be paid, you will be notified of this together with the reasons for the decision.

If the Home Office needs to contact you in relation to your claim, for example to clarify details on the form or to discuss the evidence of value that you have submitted, they will use the contact details you have provided on your claim form.

7. Contact

If you have a query in relation to your claim, you can send this to the Home Office administration team via email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk

If it is in relation to a claim that you have already made, please include your full name and your claim unique reference number.

8. Data handling

Your details will be held with the police and Home Office and recorded on the administration team's system and handled in line with data protection legislation. The Home Office's Personal Information Charter explains how we look after your information and can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/home-office/about/personal-information-charter>.

Annex A: Summary of items of which possession will be prohibited by virtue of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019

The Offensive Weapons Act 2019 is an important part of the response to serious violence and gives the police the powers they need to go further in tackling serious violence. Part 4 of the Act deals with the possession of bladed articles and certain offensive weapons in the United Kingdom and Part 6 makes certain firearms subject to general prohibition in the UK. The surrender and compensation arrangements, set out in this guidance, apply only in England and Wales in respect of those weapons prohibited under Part 4 of the Act and apply throughout the UK with respect to firearms and ancillary equipment.

Amongst other measures, the Offensive Weapons Act extends the controls (under the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959, the Criminal Justice Act 1988, the Firearms Act 1968 and the Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004) to prohibit private possession of dangerous and offensive weapons and to make certain firearms subject to general prohibition to prevent them being used in crime.

The list of the firearms and weapons that will be subject to the prohibition on possession by virtue of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 and will be eligible for compensation can be found in the Values List at Annex B.

This annex summarises the changes brought about by Part 4 (insofar as they relate to England and Wales) and Part 6 of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 relating to offences for possession of certain weapons and firearms, and the defences that apply, in order to help you identify whether any items you possess fall in to scope and should be surrendered.

The legislation can be found here:

Offensive Weapons Act 2019 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2019/17/contents>

Criminal Justice Act 1988 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/33/contents>

Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/Eliz2/7-8/37/contents>

Firearms Act 1968 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1968/27/contents>

Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 -

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/nisi/2004/702/contents/made>

Flick knives and gravity knives:

Currently, section 1 of the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959 makes it an offence to manufacture, sell or hire, offer for sale or hire, expose or possess for the purpose of sale or hire, lend or give to another person or import flick knives and gravity knives.

Section 43 of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 amends the definition of flick knife in section 1 of the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959 to include knives that can be

opened through a mechanism not in the handle itself. This includes any knife that opens automatically from a closed position, or partially opened position, to a fully opened position by means of any manual pressure that is applied to a button, spring or other device which is contained either within the knife or is attached to the knife.

Section 44 of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 amends the Restriction of Offensive Weapons Act 1959 further to prohibit the possession of any knife under section 1 of that Act, ie a flick knife or gravity knife.

However, these amendments provide for a defence where a person can show that they possessed a flick/gravity knife in their capacity as the operator of a museum or gallery or as a person acting on behalf of a museum or gallery.

Offensive Weapons

Section 46 of the Offensive Weapons Act amends section 141 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 to make it an offence to possess in private the weapons set out in the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) Order 1988. Weapons listed in this Order are set out below. It is already an offence, under section 141 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 to manufacture, sell, hire, (have in your possession for the purpose of sale or hire), lend or import these weapons.

Weapons currently listed in the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) Order 1988 are:

- a knuckleduster - a band of metal or other hard material worn on one or more fingers, and designed to cause injury, and any weapon incorporating a knuckleduster;
- a swordstick - a hollow walking-stick or cane containing a blade which may be used as a sword;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “handclaw” - being a band of metal or other hard material from which a number of sharp spikes protrude, and worn around the hand;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “belt buckle knife” - being a buckle which incorporates or conceals a knife;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “push dagger” - being a knife the handle of which fits within a clenched fist and the blade of which protrudes from between two fingers;
- a sword - with a curved blade of 50 centimetres or over in length; and for these purposes, the length of the blade is the straight line distance from the top of the handle to the tip of the blade;

- a straight, side-handled or friction-lock truncheon, sometimes known as a baton-;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “stealth knife” - a knife or spike, which has a blade, or sharp point, made from a material that is not readily detectable by apparatus used for detecting metal and which is not designed for domestic use or for use in the processing, preparation or consumption of food or as a toy;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “disguised knife” - any knife which has a concealed blade or concealed sharp point and is designed to appear to be an everyday object of a kind commonly carried on the person or in a handbag, briefcase, or other hand luggage (such as a comb, brush, writing instrument, cigarette lighter, key, lipstick or telephone);
- the weapon sometimes known as a “hollow kubotan” - being a cylindrical container containing a number of sharp spikes;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “footclaw” - being a bar of metal or other hard material from which a number of sharp spikes protrude, and worn strapped to the foot;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “shuriken”, “shaken” or “death star” - being a hard non-flexible plate having three or more sharp radiating points and designed to be thrown;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “balisong” or “butterfly knife” - being a blade enclosed by its handle, which is designed to split down the middle, without the operation of a spring or other mechanical means, to reveal the blade;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “telescopic truncheon” - being a truncheon which extends automatically by hand pressure applied to a button, spring or other device in or attached to its handle;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “blowpipe” or “blow gun” - being a hollow tube out of which hard pellets or darts are shot by the use of breath;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “kusari gama” - being a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at one end to a sickle;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “kyoketsu shoge” - being a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at one end to a hooked knife;
- the weapon sometimes known as a “manrikigusari” or “kusari” - being a length of rope, cord, wire or chain fastened at each end to a hard weight or hand grip.

Section 47 of the Offensive Weapons Act amends the weapons listed in the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) Order 1988 to include zombie knives and spiral/cyclone knives. Private possession of these weapons will therefore also become prohibited by virtue of the Offensive Weapons Act. These are defined as:

- a “zombie knife” - being a blade with a cutting edge; a serrated edge; and images or words (whether on the blade or handle) that suggest that it is to be used for the purpose of violence;
- a “cyclone knife” or “spiral knife” - being a weapon with a handle, a blade with two or more cutting edges, each of which forms a helix, and a sharp point at the end of the blade.

A private place is defined as a place other than (a) a public place (b) school premises (c) further education premises (d) a prison – because legislation already prevents possession in those places.

A number of defences set out in section 141 of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 will apply to the new offence of possession in private under new section 141(1A) of that Act:

- (i) Where possession is for the purposes of functions carried out on behalf of the Crown or of a visiting force.
- (ii) Where the weapon is one of historical importance.
- (iii) Where it's in a person's possession in their capacity as the operator of, or as a person acting on behalf of, a museum or gallery.
- (iv) Where possession is for educational purposes only.
- (v) Where possession is for the purpose only of making the weapon available for the purposes of theatrical performances and the production of films and television programmes.

Further defences are also provided for in the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (Offensive Weapons) Order 1988:

- (i) Antiques are exempt from the Order and it is therefore not an offence to possess these weapons if they are antique - manufactured more than 100 years ago.
- (ii) It is a defence to possess swords described in the Order if:
 - (a) it is shown that the weapon was made before 1954 or was made at any other time according to the traditional methods of making swords by hand;
 - (b) it is shown that possession is for religious reasons or for the purpose of making the weapon available for the purposes of use in religious ceremonies for religious reasons;
 - (c) it shown that possession is for the purposes only of making the weapon available for, or participating in, a permitted activity – i.e a historical re-enactment or sporting activity;

(d) *(da)* the person in possession is Sikh and possession is for the purpose only of presenting it to another person at a religious ceremony or other ceremonial event; or,

(db) the sword was presented to the person by a Sikh at a religious ceremony or other ceremonial event; or,

(dc) possession is for the purpose only of making the sword available for presentation by a Sikh to another person at a religious ceremony or other ceremonial event.

In summary, the defences in (d) above ensure the act of ceremonial gifting of the Sikh kirpan can lawfully occur.

Firearms

Section 54 of the Offensive Weapons Act 2019 amends section 5 of the Firearms Act 1968 to make rapid firing rifles and bump stocks subject to general prohibition across England, Scotland and Wales, which means they cannot be held without the authority of the Secretary of State or Scottish Ministers.

As a result of these amendments, rapid firing rifles will no longer be able to be held on a firearm certificate. These are defined as any rifle with a chamber from which empty cartridge cases are extracted using energy from propellant gas, or energy imparted to a spring or other energy storage device by propellant gas, other than a rifle which is chambered for .22 rim-fire cartridges.

Section 55 of the Offensive Weapons Act makes corresponding amendments to Article 45 of the Firearms (Northern Ireland) Order 2004.

Annex B: Offensive Weapons Act Values List

OFFENSIVE WEAPONS (ENGLAND AND WALES ONLY)

Note: Compensation can only be claimed for any of the items listed below if the total amount of the claim amounts to £30 or more.

Item	Standard Value
Flick knife (or 'flick gun')	£20
Gravity knife	£40
Zombie knife	£10
Cyclone knife (aka 'spiral knife')	£30
Curved sword	£15
Baton	£10
Stealth knife	£3
Disguised knife	£5
Knuckle Duster	£2
Swordstick	£12
Handclaw	£9
Belt buckle knife	£5
Push dagger	£2
Hollow kubotan	£3
Footclaw	£7
Shuriken (aka 'shaken' or 'death star')	£5
Balisong (aka 'butterfly knife')	£9
Telescopic truncheon	£20
Blowpipe (aka 'blow gun')	£14
Kusari gama	£35
Kusari (or manrikigusari)	£10
Kyoketsu shoge	£20

FIREARMS (ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Item	Standard Value
Lever Release 9mm	£2,240
Lever Release .45 ACP	£2,362
Lever Release .223	£4,445
Lever Release .308	£5,105
VZ58 MARS rifle (calibre 5.56 x 45 and calibre 7.62 x 39)	£1,950
Bump stock	N/A

FIREARMS ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT (ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Note: Compensation can only be claimed for any of the items listed below if the total amount of the claim amounts to £30 or more.

Item	Standard Value
Upgraded AR Charging handle	£90
Upgraded Triggers	£150
Upgraded forend	£150
Forend grip, grip rails, VFG's etc	£50
Pistol Grips	£26
Buffer tube assemblies	£60
Butt stock	£60
Action Pins	£20
Iron Sights	£115
Sling mounts	£50
Bipods each	£70

Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation

Safety selectors	£50
Magazine buttons	£45
Magazines	£28
Electronic sights	£170
Optical rifle scopes	£160
Sight Mounts	£50

Annex C: Offensive Weapons – Checklist

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Does your offensive weapon qualify under the Offensive Weapons Act surrender and compensation scheme? Annex A and Annex B of the guidance will help you to answer this question. If your answer to this question is 'no' go to step 2. If your answer to the question is 'yes' go to step 3. |
| 2 | If your weapon does not qualify under this scheme you may still surrender it to the police, but you cannot claim compensation. |
| 3 | If your weapon does qualify, is your weapon (or the total number of qualifying weapons you intend to surrender) valued at £30 or more? If your answer to this question is 'no' go to step 4. If your answer is 'yes' go to step 5. |
| 4 | If your weapon does qualify under the scheme but the value of your intended claim is less than £30, you must still surrender it to the police, but you cannot claim compensation. |
| 5 | If the value of your intended claim is £30 or more, do you wish to claim financial compensation for the value of the item you are surrendering? If your answer to this question is 'no' go to step 6. If your answer to the question is 'yes' go to step 7. |
| 6 | If you do not wish to claim compensation, you should still complete sections A,B,C and E of the compensation form. You should download a copy of the form from gov.uk or, if this is not possible, you can request a form by email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk . You should then take your weapon and the completed form to a designated police station (see 10 below) following the guidance in this document about safe storage during travel and taking account of any travel restrictions that apply. |
| 7 | If you do wish to claim compensation, do you accept the standard value of compensation for your item as set out in the published Values List (Annex B of the guidance provides more information)? If your answer to this question is 'yes' go to step 8. If your answer to the question is 'no' go to step 9. |

8	<p>If you accept the standard value of compensation, you must complete all sections of the compensation claim form. You should download a copy of the form from gov.uk or, if this is not possible, you should request a form by email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk. You should then take your weapon and the completed claim form to a designated police station (see 10 below), following the guidance in this document about safe storage during travel.</p>
9	<p>If you do not accept the standard value of compensation and wish to seek a different amount, you must complete all sections of the compensation claim form and obtain evidence to support the higher value that you are claiming. If you are claiming compensation over £250 for any item, it is recommended that you also take a photograph of the item if you can. You should download a copy of the compensation claim form from gov.uk or, if this is not possible, you should request a form by email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk. You should then take your weapon, the fully completed claim form, additional evidence and photograph if available, to a designated police station (see 10 below) following the guidance in this document about safe storage during travel and taking account of any travel restrictions that apply.</p>
10	<p>Are you able to travel to a designated police station? You can find the nearest designated police station to you by looking at the list on gov.uk or by contacting your local force. You will need to ensure that you take care that appropriate social distancing is maintained while travelling to and from police stations. If you are able to travel yourself to a designated police station, go to step 12. If you are not able to travel yourself to a designated police station, go to step 11.</p>
11	<p>If you are unable to travel yourself to a designated police station, you can ask somebody else to do this for you. You should give them your fully completed claim form, the weapon you are surrendering, evidence of value if appropriate and photograph, if appropriate and possible, along with written authorisation for that person to surrender your weapon on your behalf. They will need to take some form of identification with them, they must follow the guidance in this document about safe storage of weapons while travelling and in the police station, maintain appropriate social distancing while travelling and comply with any travel restrictions that apply. Now go to step 12.</p>

12

You, or your authorised representative can surrender your item at a designated police station, following the guidance in this document about keeping the weapon safe while travelling and in the police station, and following instructions given by the police. There will also be a need to maintain social distancing whilst in the police station. You, or your representative, must follow the guidance in this document about safe storage of weapons while travelling and in the police station, maintain appropriate social distancing while travelling and comply with any travel restrictions that apply. You or your representative will be given a unique reference number which you should keep safe for future use.

13

The Home Office will contact you as soon as possible about your compensation claim.

Annex D: Firearms, ancillary equipment and bump stocks – Checklist

1	Does your firearm, ancillary equipment and/or bump stock qualify under the Offensive Weapons Act surrender and compensation scheme? Annex A and Annex B of the guidance will help you to answer this question. If your answer to this question is 'no' go to step 2. If your answer to the question is 'yes' go to step 3.
2	If your firearm, ancillary equipment and/or bump stock does not qualify under this scheme and you hold a valid firearms certificate for your firearms there is no requirement for you to surrender your property.
3	If you are seeking to surrender ancillary equipment and/or bump stock only, go to step 4. If you are seeking to surrender a firearm, with or without ancillary equipment or bump stock, go to step 7.
4	If you are seeking to surrender ancillary equipment and/or a bump stock only and this qualifies under the scheme, is the item (or the total number of qualifying items you intend to surrender) valued at £30 or more? If your answer to this question is 'no' go to step 5. If your answer is 'yes' go to step 6.
5	If the value of your ancillary equipment (other than qualifying ammunition) is less than £30, you will not be able to submit a claim for compensation for the equipment.
6	If the value of your intended claim for ancillary equipment (excluding ammunition) is £30 or more, and you wish to claim financial compensation for the value of the items you are surrendering, you should follow the steps set out in Annex C which relates to the surrender of offensive weapons. You should follow the procedures from step 7 onwards.
7	If you are seeking to surrender a firearm, with or without ancillary equipment and/or ammunition, you will be the holder of a valid firearms certificate. You should expect to be contacted by your local police force to arrange the collection or surrender of your firearm. If you are not contacted by your local force, go to step 8. If you are contacted by your local force, go to step 9.
8	If you are the holder of a valid certificate covering a firearm and ammunition that qualifies under this scheme and you do not hear from your local police force, you should contact the force to make arrangements for the collection or surrender of your firearm. Once these arrangements have been made go to step 9.

9	<p>Once the police have made arrangements for the collection and surrender of your firearm and ammunition, where relevant, you should ensure that the weapon is made safe in accordance with the guidance set out in Part 4 of this document before the police arrive at your premises or before attending a police station, if asked to do so. Then go to step 10.</p>
10	<p>If you wish to claim compensation for your surrendered firearm(s) and associated ammunition, do you accept the standard value of compensation for your item(s) as set out in the published Values List (Annex B of the guidance provides more information)? If your answer to this question is 'yes' go to 11. If your answer to the question is 'no' go to 12.</p>
11	<p>If you accept the standard value of compensation, you must complete all sections of the compensation claim form. You should download a copy of the compensation claim form from gov.uk or, if this is not possible, you should request a form by email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk before the surrender takes place. You will need to hand your fully completed compensation form to the police at the time of surrendering your item(s). The police will provide you with a receipt, with a unique reference number which you should keep in a safe place. Then go to step 13.</p>
12	<p>If you do not accept the standard value of compensation and wish to seek a different amount, you must complete all sections of the compensation claim form and provide evidence to support the higher value that you are claiming. You should download a copy of the compensation claim form from gov.uk or, if this is not possible, you should request a form by email at OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk before the surrender takes place. You will need to hand your fully completed compensation form, with supporting evidence of value, to the police at the time of surrendering your item(s). The police will provide you with a receipt, with a unique reference number which you should keep in a safe place. Then go to step 13.</p>
13	<p>The Home Office will contact you as soon as possible about your compensation claim.</p>

Annex E: Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme - Claim Form



Home Office

For police use only
Unique reference number:



**OFFENSIVE WEAPONS ACT SURRENDER AND
COMPENSATION SCHEME - CLAIM FORM**

(Please ensure that you have read the accompanying guidance before completing this form)

PLEASE COMPLETE IN BLOCK CAPITALS

PART A – Your details

Title					
Forename(s)					
Surname					
Date of Birth	<i>Day</i>		<i>Month</i>		<i>Year</i>
Your address	<i>House number or name</i>				
	<i>Street</i>				
	<i>Village, Town or City</i>				
	<i>County</i>				
	<i>Postcode</i>				
Contact number					
Email					

PART B – What items are you surrendering to the police? Tick the relevant box(es).

<input type="checkbox"/>	Firearms – if so, complete the details of the items you are surrendering in Part F of this form.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Firearms Ancillary Equipment - if so, complete the details of the items you are surrendering in the list in Part G of this form.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Offensive weapons - if so, complete the details of the items you are surrendering in the list in Part H of this form.

PART C – Do you want to claim financial compensation for the item(s) you are surrendering to the police? Note your claim must amount to £30 or over to be eligible for compensation. Tick which box applies.

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Now go to Part D of this form
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Now go to Part E of this form
--------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------------

PART D – Your bank account

All compensation payments will be made by cheque if it is determined that compensation is payable. Please provide here the details of the bank account into which any compensation awarded to you will be paid. These details will be included on any cheque that is issued by the Home Office.

Name of account holder	
-------------------------------	--

Account number	
-----------------------	--

Bank sort code	
-----------------------	--

PART E – Declaration and signature:

- I declare that I have read the guidance for the scheme.
- I declare that I am the legal owner of the weapon(s) that I am surrendering to the police and it was/they were lawfully acquired by me.
- I confirm that I understand that in surrendering the item(s) described in Parts F - H of this form to the police, I have relinquished any entitlement to the ownership or use of the item(s).
- I confirm that I owned the weapon(s) on the relevant date or contracted to acquire it on or before that date in order to be eligible to make a claim. These dates are as follows:

For knives and offensive weapons

- owned or contracted to acquire the weapon on or before **20 June 2018** (unless this is a cyclone knife, see below; and
- in the case of a cyclone knife owned or contracted to acquire the weapon on or before **22 January 2019**

For firearms

- owned or contracted to acquire the firearm on or before **20 June 2018**, with entitlement to have that firearm in your possession by virtue of a firearm certificate held by you or by virtue of being a registered firearms dealer

For bump stocks

- owned or contracted to acquire the bump stock on or before **20 June 2018**; and
- did not import the bump stock into the United Kingdom on or after **4 December 2017**

For ancillary equipment

- owned or contracted to acquire the equipment on or before **20 June 2018**

- If seeking compensation: I will accept the listed value in relation to the items for which I am making a claim. Tick which box applies.

Yes No Some

- If “Yes” is ticked, I accept that the police may dispose of the item(s) concerned straightaway.
- To the best of my knowledge and belief all the items listed in Parts F - H of this application are eligible for payment under the published terms of that scheme.
- By signing this declaration, I authorise the police to pass on the information contained in this form to the Home Office for the purposes of processing any claim that I am making for financial compensation.

Signature of legal owner

Date.....

Person surrendering the item(s) if not the legal owner

If you are surrendering the item(s) on behalf of the legal owner, please the details on the next page. This is in addition to the signature of the legal owner above.

If you are surrendering item(s) on behalf of the legal owner, if the owner is unable to do so for any reason, please complete the following information about you:

Title					
Forename(s)					
Surname					
Date of Birth	<i>Day</i>		<i>Month</i>		<i>Year</i>
Your address	<i>House number or name</i>				
	<i>Street</i>				
	<i>Village, Town or City</i>				
	<i>County</i>				
	<i>Postcode</i>				

Signature of person surrendering the item(s) if different to the legal owner.

Signature..... Date.....

DETAILS OF THE PROPERTY BEING SURRENDERED (TO BE COMPLETED BY THE CLAIMANT)

PART F – FIREARMS (ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

Ref. Official Use Only	Item	How many?	Seeking compensation? Enter Y or N	If Y, do you accept standard value? Enter Y or N		If N and claiming individual value, enter value (£)	Has evidence to support individual value been provided? Enter Y or N	Total claim for item(s) (£)
				Standard Value				
F1	Lever Release 9mm			£2,240				
F2	Lever Release .45 ACP			£2,362				
F3	Lever Release .223			£4,445				
F4	Lever Release .308			£5,105				
F5	VZ58 MARS rifle (calibre 5.56 x 45 and calibre 7.62 x 39)			£1,950				
F6	Bump stock			N/A				

PART G - FIREARMS ANCILLARY EQUIPMENT (ENGLAND, WALES, SCOTLAND AND NORTHERN IRELAND)

<i>Ref. Official Use Only</i>	Item	How many?	Seeking compensation? Enter Y or N	If Y, do you accept standard value? Enter Y or N		If N and claiming individual value, enter value (£)	Has evidence to support individual value been provided? Enter Y or N	Total claim for item(s) (£)
				Standard Value				
A1	Upgraded AR Charging handle			£90				
A2	Upgraded Triggers			£150				
A3	Upgraded forend			£150				
A4	Forend grip, grip rails, VFG's etc			£50				
A5	Pistol Grips			£26				
A6	Buffer tube assemblies			£60				
A7	Butt stock			£60				
A8	Action Pins			£20				
A9	Iron Sights			£115				
A10	Sling mounts			£50				
A11	Bipods each			£70				
A12	Safety selectors			£50				
A13	Magazine buttons			£45				
A14	Magazines			£28				
A15	Electronic sights			£170				
A16	Optical rifle scopes			£160				
A17	Sight Mounts			£50				

If you are surrendering any other equipment that is designed or adapted for use in connection with firearms prohibited by the Offensive Weapons Act and which has no practicable use in connection with any firearm which is not a prohibited weapon, please include the details on the next page. Please also indicate whether you are seeking compensation, how much compensation and please provide evidence of that valuation to support your claim.

PART G - CONTINUED

Ref. Official Use Only	Item	How many?	Seeking compensation ? Enter Y or N	If Y, enter amount claimed per item.	Has evidence to support value been provided? Enter Y or N	Total claim for item(s) (£)
A18						

PART H - OFFENSIVE WEAPONS (ENGLAND AND WALES ONLY)

To help clarify which items will be subject to prohibition, the Surrender and Compensation Scheme Values List at www.gov.uk includes descriptions of each of the items listed as Offensive Weapons.

Ref. Official Use Only	Item	How many?	Seeking compensation? Enter Y or N	If Y, do you accept standard value? Enter Y or N		If N and claiming individual value, enter value (£)	Has evidence to support individual value been provided? Enter Y or N	Total claim for item(s) (£)
				Standard Value				
OW1	Flick knife (or 'flick gun')			£20				
OW2	Gravity knife			£40				
OW3	Zombie knife			£10				
OW4	Cyclone knife (aka 'spiral knife')			£30				
OW5	Curved sword			£15				
OW6	Baton			£10				
OW7	Stealth knife			£3				
OW8	Disguised knife			£5				
OW9	Knuckle Duster			£2				
OW10	Swordstick			£12				
OW11	Handclaw			£9				
OW12	Belt buckle knife			£5				
OW13	Push dagger			£2				
OW14	Hollow kubotan			£3				
OW15	Footclaw			£7				
OW16	Shuriken (aka 'shaken' or 'death star')			£5				
OW17	Balisong (aka 'butterfly knife')			£9				
OW18	Telescopic truncheon			£20				
OW19	Blowpipe (aka 'blow gun')			£14				
OW20	Kusari gama			£35				
OW21	Kusari (or manrikigusari)			£10				
OW22	Kyoketsu shoge			£20				

For police use:

Once completed, the police must complete the receipt at Annex B. The entire form, including the receipt, should then be sent to OWACompensationScheme@homeoffice.gov.uk. The Home Office will review the claim and respond directly to the claimant to confirm progress and next steps as soon as possible.

The completed receipt at Annex B must be given to the claimant.

Annex A: Guidance for completing the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme - Claim Form

This section provides guidance for individuals completing this form. Further information can be found in 'Offensive Weapons Act 2019: surrender and compensation scheme for certain firearms and offensive weapons - Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation' available on www.gov.uk. Alternatively you can ask for assistance at the police station in which you are surrendering your items, you can email your question to OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk.

PART A – Your details

Please use this Part to provide the relevant details in the correct boxes. The police will need to verify your identity and it is important to provide correct contact details so you can be contacted regarding your claim(s) for compensation. Your phone number can be a landline or mobile.

Part A should include an email contact address. At the present time, Home Office staff are mostly working from home, and contact by email rather than by post will avoid any delays in considering claims or paying compensation.

PART B – What items are you surrendering to the police?

This Part asks you to confirm whether you are surrendering Firearms, Firearms Ancillary Equipment or Offensive Weapons. Please tick the box(es) next to the type of weapon you are surrendering. You may tick more than one box. Part B also references completing Parts F, G, and H. For guidance on completing these Parts, please see below.

PART C – Do you want to claim financial compensation for the item(s) you are surrendering to the police?

Under the Offensive Weapons Act Surrender and Compensation Scheme, legitimate and eligible owners of firearms and offensive weapons are entitled to financial compensation to cover the value of any item surrendered. Please use this Part to indicate whether you are claiming financial compensation by ticking the relevant box - 'Yes' or 'No'.

Note, the Home Office has published a values list containing the standard amount of compensation that will be paid to the lawful owners of items that are surrendered to the police under this scheme. If you consider that your item is worth more than the standard amount of compensation published, it is open to you to make a claim for the higher amount and if you wish to do so you must provide acceptable evidence of this value. This evidence, which must be submitted at the time of surrendering the item to the police, will be forwarded to the Home Office for consideration alongside your compensation claim. The amount of compensation due to you will be decided by the Home Office. If your claim is for over £250 for any single item, other than a firearm or ancillary equipment, it is recommended that you provide a photograph of the item along with the evidence of its value.

Further information on your potential entitlement and how to claim compensation can be found in 'Offensive Weapons Act 2019: surrender and compensation scheme for certain firearms and offensive weapons - Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation' which is available on www.gov.uk.

PART D – Your bank account

If it is determined that compensation is payable, we will issue a cheque for that amount to be paid into the account specified in Part D of this form.

PART E – Declaration

You are required to complete this Part to confirm that you are the legal owner of the item(s) that you are surrendering, that it was lawfully acquired and that you are eligible to claim compensation, if applicable. You should have also read and ensured that you understood the guidance for the scheme before signing. Signing this Part also signals that you understand that in surrendering the item(s) you relinquish your ownership of the item(s) you are surrendering.

If you are claiming financial compensation, you are also required to use this Part to confirm whether:

- you will accept the compensation value listed in this document for your item(s) (under Parts F, G and H);
- you will not accept the compensation value listed in this document for your item(s) (under Parts F, G and H) and are seeking a higher amount;
- you will accept the compensation value listed in this document for some of your item(s) but will not accept the compensation value listed for other item(s) (under Parts F, G and H).

You must tick which box applies to your application.

If you are claiming compensation for an offensive weapon, you must have been the lawful owner on 20 June 2018 (or otherwise lawfully contracted to acquire the weapon on or before that date) unless the item is a cyclone knife. In the case of a cyclone knife, you must have been the lawful owner on 22 January 2019 (or otherwise lawfully contracted to acquire the weapon on or before that date).

If you are claiming compensation for a firearm, ancillary equipment or a bump stock, you must have been the lawful owner (or otherwise lawfully contracted to acquire the item(s)) before 20 June 2018. In the case of a firearm, you must have owned or contracted to acquire the firearm on or before 20 June 2018, with entitlement to have that firearm in your possession by virtue of a firearm certificate held by you or by virtue of being a registered firearms dealer. Additionally, in the case of a bump stock, you must not have imported the item into the United Kingdom on or after 4 December 2017.

If you acquired any of the above items after the relevant dates, you will still need to safely dispose of the items and should do so by surrendering them to the police at a designated police station. You will not, however, be eligible to claim compensation under this scheme.

Signing the declaration also confirms that you agree that the police can pass on the information contained in this form to the Home Office for the purposes of processing any claim that you are making for financial compensation.

Further information on your potential entitlement and how to claim compensation can be found in 'Offensive Weapons Act 2019: surrender and compensation scheme for certain firearms and offensive weapons - Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation' which is available on www.gov.uk.

PARTS F, G, and H – Details on the property being surrendered

In these Parts you will find the list of all the firearms, firearms ancillary equipment and offensive weapons that are subject to surrender, as well as the standard value of compensation that is payable for each item if you are seeking compensation.

It is important that you accurately complete these parts to ensure we know how many items you are surrendering, which of these items you are seeking compensation for, and what you consider the value of each individual item to be.

If you are seeking more than the standard value compensation, you must complete these Parts to state the value you believe the item to be worth and to confirm that you have provided evidence to support this value. If you are claiming more than £250 for any offensive weapon, it is recommended that the supporting evidence you provide includes a photograph of the weapon.

Further information on your potential entitlement and how to evidence your valuation if you are claiming an amount higher than the standard value can be found in 'Offensive Weapons Act 2019: surrender and compensation scheme - Guidance for surrender and claiming compensation' which is available on www.gov.uk.

Annex B – This section is to be completed by the police

To be completed by the police. Once completed, a copy will be provided to the claimant as a receipt.

Application unique reference number: Format is Police Station Code + Property booking in reference. E.g. XXX-123456	
Police Force	
Name of receiving officer or staff (please print)	
Receiving station name	
Date received	
Identity of claimant confirmed? (Y/N)	
Ownership by claimant confirmed? (Y/N)	
All surrendered items correctly detailed in Parts F-H? (Y/N) If no, use box below for details	
Is the value of the claim £30 or over? (Y/N)	
Valuation of relevant items provided and attached? (Y/N)	
Declarations completed and signed by applicant (Y/N)	
Where firearm surrendered, enter relevant firearms certificate number	

Additional comments: This space is for the police to record any other information not provided elsewhere in this form. If required, further detail can be recorded on another page.

For police use: Once completed the entire form with all supporting documents should then be sent to OWACompensationScheme@homeoffice.gov.uk with the compensation claim's unique reference number added to the subject line. The Home Office will review the claim and respond directly to the claimant to confirm progress and next steps in due course. A copy or photo of the completed receipt at Annex B should be given to the claimant.



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This publication is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/offensive-weapons-act-surrender-and-compensation-scheme>

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at: OWACompensationSchemeEnquiries@homeoffice.gov.uk.