

**First meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee**  
**26<sup>th</sup> July 2022**  
**Report**

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**Attendees**

**Chair** Emma Meagher Neville

Paul Walsh

Fabian Connolly

John Guinane

Paul Greene

Minister Browne (attended for agenda point 1.1 only).

**Secretary** Aoife Byrne

Report of the first meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee.

1. The first meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee was held on 26 July 2022 at 51 St Stephen's Green. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Emma Meagher Neville.
2. Minister Browne attended the start of the meeting to welcome the committee and wish the members well in their work.
3. At its first meeting, the Committee heard statements detailing the experiences and perspectives of An Garda Síochána, delivered by Inspector Paul Greene, and of Mr Fabian Connolly and Mr. Paul Walsh. In their statements, the members addressed a variety of issues related to firearms licencing. The statements noted the difficulties faced by both An Garda Síochána and the shooting community when navigating the licencing system.
4. The Committee discussed the roadmap and mode of work of the Committee. The members agreed to adopt the roadmap as the basis for its deliberations.
5. The Committee agreed that persons who wish to share views of issues under the remit of the Committee should be directed to submit these to [FEC@justice.ie](mailto:FEC@justice.ie).
6. The Committee discussed the types of the firearms available for licencing in Ireland. The Committee devised an initial list of the types of firearms, which will be the basis of future discussions.
7. The Committee discussed the purposes for which firearms are licenced in Ireland. The Committee devised an initial list of purposes for which firearms may be licenced, which will be the basis of future discussions.
8. The Committee was advised of several pieces of correspondence received by the secretary.
9. The Committee agreed to meet again in September 2022.