

**5th meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee**  
**28 November 2022**  
**Report**

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**Attendees**

**Chair** Emma Meagher Neville

Paul Walsh

Fabian Connolly

John Guinane

Inspector Green (on behalf Superintendent Doyle)

Detective Sergeant Curran (on behalf of the Garda National Technical Bureau)

Detective Sergeant O'Leary (on behalf of the Garda National Technical Bureau)

**Secretary** Aoife Byrne

**Report of the fifth meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee.**

1. The fifth meeting of the Firearms Expert Committee was held on 28 November 2022 at 51 St Stephen's Green. The meeting was chaired by Ms. Emma Meagher Neville.
2. At its fifth meeting, the Committee discussed the definition of an assault rifle. Representatives from the Garda National Technical Bureau, attended the meeting for the discussion of this agenda point only.
3. The Committee agreed that the definition of an assault rifle is a source of inconsistency in licencing decisions and it should be addressed in the report.
4. The Committee began its consideration of one items in its terms of reference: whether there should be a limit on the number and type of firearms a person may hold. The Committee considered whether setting a limit would be appropriate or if alternatives to a limit could be explored.
5. The Committee discussed the issues of the licencing of centre-fire short firearms, the five round limit and the barrel length and agreed the recommendations and positions to be reflected in the report.
6. The Committee discussed the regulation of gas-operated firearms which are over one joule. The Committee considered whether the licencing framework applied to these firearms is appropriate.
7. The Committee agreed to meet again in early December 2022.