

The New Human Rights and Equality Commission

Testing Times

EQUALITY & RIGHTS ALLIANCE

The Minister for Justice, Equality and Defence promises that the newly merged Human Rights and Equality Commission will “more effectively, efficiently and cohesively champion equality and human rights”.

EQUALITY & RIGHTS ALLIANCE IS APPLYING 4 TESTS TO DETERMINE IF THE MERGER IS A RENEWAL OF OUR EQUALITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS INFRASTRUCTURE OR FURTHER REGRESSION:

We call on the Minister to ensure that the new Commission passes the tests

Age Action
Age and Opportunity
Akidwa
Amnesty Ireland
ASTI
Aontas
Banúlacht
Barnardos
Blue Drum
Cairde
Carmichael Centre for Voluntary Groups
Children's Rights Alliance
Choice Ireland
Comhlámh
Community Action Network
Community Platform
Community Workers Co-operative
Cultur
Doras Buí
Dublin Rape Crisis Centre
EDENN
European Anti-Poverty Network Ireland
Feminist Open Forum
Fingal Centre
FLAC
Galway Refugee Support Group
Greater Dublin Independent Living
Humanist Association of Ireland
Immigrant Council of Ireland
Inclusion Ireland
Irish Association of Social Workers
Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Irish Council for Civil Liberties
Irish Family Planning Association
INOUE
Irish Network Against Racism
Irish Penal Reform Trust

Irish Rural Link
Irish Traveller Movement,
Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice
LGBT Diversity
LGBT Noise
LIR Anti-Racism Training Programme
Marriage Equality
Mercy Law Resource Centre
Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
Nasc Irish Immigrant Support Centre
National Lesbian and Gay Federation
National Traveller MABS
National Traveller Women's Forum
National Women's Council of Ireland
National Youth Council of Ireland
North side Community Law Centre
Older Women's Network
One Family
One in Four
OPEN
Outhouse
Pavee Point Traveller Centre
People Before Profit
Ruhama
Sonas Housing Association
Sport Against Racism Ireland
TASC
Teach Na Daoine
The Integration Centre
The Wheel
Transgender Equality Network Ireland
Treoir
School of Social Justice UCD
Waterford Women's Centre
Wexford Age Equality Network
Women's Aid

1. The HREC must retain the powers and functions of the former Equality Authority and Irish Human Rights Commission. There must be a levelling-up of their powers
2. The HREC must have sufficient staffing and financial resources
3. The legislation to establish the HREC must introduce a Positive Duty on public sector bodies to realise the commitment in the Programme for Government that the public sector will “take due note of equality and human rights in carrying out their functions”
4. The HREC must be fully independent involving: open and transparent Board appointments; freedom to appoint its own staff at all levels; accountability to the Oireachtas

For a stronger equality and human rights infrastructure.

www.eracampaign.org

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