



PAVEE POINT TRAVELLER AND ROMA CENTRE

By-Election Considerations

Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre are calling on by-election candidates to make Traveller and Roma human rights and equality a policy priority

Pavee Point is seeking commitments from By-Election candidates, that if elected they commit to:

1. Implementing and resourcing existing policy commitments to improve access and outcomes in employment, health, and education for Travellers and Roma. Deliver on the commitment to develop:

- A Traveller and Roma training, employment and enterprise strategy
- Roma Health Action Plan

2. Addressing Traveller and Roma homelessness now

- Implement recommendations of the Independent Expert Group on Traveller Accommodation recommendations
- Commit to targeted measures to end Traveller homelessness
- Address Traveller accommodation provision at a senior department level
- Remove the Habitual Residence Condition (HRC) as a condition to access homelessness supports

3. Addressing Traveller and Roma Child Poverty

- Remove Habitual Residence Condition for Child Benefit, making it truly universal
- Ring Fence resources for Traveller and Roma children homelessness prevention
- Invest in Traveller youth mental health
- Promote Traveller and Roma arts and culture in the school curriculum
- Invest in the upcoming Traveller Heritage Strategy

4. Ensuring robust Hate Speech legislation is developed and passed, effectively implementing the Hate Crime Bill and the National Action Plan Against Racism, and implementing the National Action Plan Against Racism.

5. Supporting Independent National and Local Traveller Organisations and Traveller Representation

- Provide funding to support existing Traveller organisations
- Provide funding to create new, autonomous Traveller and Roma organisations
- Introduce quotas and/or reserved seats for Travellers in representative and participatory democracy structures

6. Urgently addressing high levels of substance misuse and addiction among Travellers and Roma

- Introduce targeted and mainstreaming measures, and wrap around supports, to support Travellers and Roma to get adequate treatment for addiction. Resource Traveller organisations to undertake this work.

Let's ensure an Ireland free from racism and discrimination, where all Travellers and Roma can fully realise their potential and participate as fully respected members of minority ethnic groups.