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Ethnicity

Recognition of ethnicity was not the endpoint of the ITM's campaign- rather the crucial start for future campaigns to move towards promotion, protection and celebration of Traveller identity- within the community, internally to non-Travellers and through the development of Statutory Policy which not only meets the present and future cultural needs of the community, but to redress the decades denial that lead to the erosion of Traveller ethnicity across the country.

The Dail ethnicity debate which accrued from the Oireachtas Justice Committee report on ethnicity was held on June 1st. The Department of Justice, Taoiseach and Minister for Equality were always very clear to point out that recognition would not create any new or enhanced benefits to Travellers and that it was largely a symbolic gesture. However recognition does enhance in some cases Travellers protection in legislation and should be a guarantee of future legal inclusion. . Both reports of Joint Oireachtas Justice committees stated *steps be taken to implement any necessary legislative change to reflect recognition*. The current joint committee was very keen that this issue would remain firmly on the political agenda." **ITM and our members should aim to ensure it is kept on local and national agendas also.**

Next steps that can take place now ethnicity is recognised:

ITM created a space for members on the 18th May to explore two linked themes:

1. What are the current policy or legislative changes that Ethnicity Recognition currently brings
2. What future changes would ITM members like to see now that Traveller ethnicity has been recognised

Thematic areas members looked at were:

- · Traveller Culture
- · Education
- · Employment
- · Policies and Representation
- · Health

A second space for further discussion is being convened at the ITM AGM and ties in with year's theme

- The development of a strategy
- What we can do now and on an ongoing basis

Full copy of the Dail transcript linked here: <https://www.kildarestreet.com/debates/?id=2017-06-01a.43>

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Contactable on working days: Monday / Wednesday and Thursdays

Traveller Pride Awards

RTE Six One news: total clip [here](#)

News2day - Ian McDonagh - from 2mins 30sec to 4 mins 40sec [here](#)

[ITM Accommodation Update](#)

ITM AWG meeting 21st June 11-3 Exchange House

August date to be confirmed

**No September meeting now

October date to be confirmed

For further information please contact Rose Marie at

[Upcoming ITM Events](#)

The ITM AGM and Conference will take place on Tuesday 11th July in the Tullamore Court Hotel

Diary Date : Traveller Research Preview 11.30am July 26th 2017

Preview of findings from the National Traveller Survey for local and national Traveller organisation at:
on July 26th 2017 in the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission.

Findings will be regionalised to provinces and greater Dublin area and compared to national findings.

This invite is extended to research participants, research assistants and Traveller organisations.

Please RSVP to Jacinta Brack / Damien Peelo on travellerresearch@gmail.com

[Policy Update](#)

Statement Irish Traveller Movement

Launch of National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy 2017 - 2021

(June 13th 2017) Today the Irish Traveller Movement welcomed the publication of the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy (NTRIS) a cross departmental integrated national policy plan to address Traveller and Roma inclusion. The Strategy targets a series of high level objectives and actions in areas of **Education, Employment and Traveller Economy, Children and Youth, Cultural Identity, Health and Equality, Anti-Discrimination, Accommodation and Public Services**

The development included consultation with the Traveller and Roma communities and a spokesperson from the Irish Traveller Movement said: *"It is important to acknowledge the contribution to this process of Minister David Stanton and his notable commitment to Traveller equality and the establishment of the Traveller and Roma Inclusion Unit in the Department of Justice for driving the development of the Strategy. Ensuring Travellers were consulted. The critical next steps to ensure NTRIS makes meaningful progress is to develop a detailed operational plan to be advanced without delay, with clear targets, timelines and realistic measures for implementation."*

The Irish Traveller Movement is represented on the monitoring committee to the Strategy which will encompass new policy actions and a revision of existing policies that require new emphasis and monitoring of outcomes. The Strategy was designed to allow for adjustments in light of developments subject to a mid-term review. *The Irish Traveller Movement, as the national representative platform, will continue forward to working with the Minister with responsibility and Government Departments to ensure our views feed into the monitoring and evaluation of the NTRIS in the years ahead.*

Some of the objectives to achieve the 120 actions included in the **strategy across the ten thematic areas** include

- **Cultural Identity:** Support for the protection, valuing and promotion of cultural identity and communities.
- **Education:** Greater access and improved participation and outcomes for Traveller and Roma education, that are equal to those for the majority population. (Currently only 13% of Travellers complete secondary school, compared with 92% in the settled community and just 1% of Travellers progress to third level.
- **Accommodation:** There should be adequate provision of accessible, suitable and culturally-appropriate accommodation available for Travellers and the implementation of a robust monitoring and evaluation framework, ensuring full expenditure of funds allocated for Traveller-specific accommodation. *On 29th 2017, Minister of State for Environment, Damien English agreed to a review of accommodation legislation. The Irish Traveller Movement has continued to call for an independent review to implement Traveller accommodation nationally.*
- **Employment and Enterprise:** Increased employment, training and apprenticeship opportunities for Travellers and Roma, including a targeted positive public service recruitment drive to train and employ Traveller and Roma staff in public services. - Support for Entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities. - There should be clear links and progression routes between education, training and employment
- **Health:** Travellers and Roma should have improved access, opportunities, participation and outcomes in the health care system. - The rate of suicide and mental health problems should be reduced and positive mental health initiatives should be put in place.
- **Children and Youth:** There should be a special focus on Traveller and Roma children's needs. Traveller and Roma children should be consulted appropriately in the development of policy, legislation, research and services. - Appropriate, culturally sensitive, preventative and early intervention supports should be available for Traveller and Roma families, where required. - Access to participate in culturally appropriate youth programmes that meet their needs.
- **Gender Equality:** The multiple disadvantages faced by Traveller and Roma women should be addressed.

addressed and both groups should be supported in key areas including education, employment and economic development. - The incidence of violence against women should be addressed and Incidences of direct and indirect discrimination through targeted interventions.

- **Anti-discrimination and Equality:** Measures to address Incidences of direct and indirect discrimination and including robust targets towards racism and hate speech in the mainstream media and public sphere. - Develop culturally appropriate supports for inclusion of LGBTI Travellers and Roma.
- **Traveller and Roma Communities:** Supports to participate in political processes at local and national levels and resources to support political engagement and leadership. - Development and resourcing of strong Traveller and Roma infrastructure. - Effective measures to protect support the Traveller and Roma communities in addressing conflict, feuding and anti-social behaviour.
- **Public Services:** Traveller and Roma organisations should be consulted on design and delivery of relevant services and programmes that affect them - Public services provided in non-discriminatory and culturally appropriate way. - Relevant public services staff trained in anti-racism and cultural awareness and obligations under the section 42 (positive duty) in the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014. - Data disaggregated by ethnicity and gender and collected across all Government Departments and statutory agencies to monitor and evaluate the impact of existing policies and strategies and to support evidence-based policy making.

Previous Traveller Policy

1963 Report of Commission in Itinerancy

1985 Travelling People Review Body

1995 Task Force on the Travelling Community

1996 National Strategy for Traveller Accommodation

2002 National Traveller Health Strategy and 2008 National Intercultural Health Strategy

Oireachtas Dail Debates (Sat, 3 Jun 2017) Report on Recognition of Traveller Ethnicity: Motion [here](#)

[Information Sharing](#)

LGBT+ Pavee members invite all Traveller and Roma organisations and individuals to take part in the collective space in this year's national LGBT+ Parade in Dublin on the 24th of June 2017.

We have registered participation with the parade under the open title of “**LGBT+ Traveller and Roma community collective**” – and akin to last year would envision an open, non organisation focused collective space for LGBT+ Travellers, Roma and Allies. It remains important to us that in light of the lack of community support structures and the wider engagements that the space is facilitated to be claimed by LGBT+ Travellers

Roma as much as possible, rather than various and multiple organisations (who of course remain very welcomed!).

The theme of this year's Pride is "Dublin Pride goes Pop; Find Your Inner Hero". This is with the hope of starting a conversation around mental, sexual and all types of health within the LGBT+ community. What an abundance of heroes and what better time to celebrate them than Pride?

The entry is set as an open collaboration of Traveller and Roma individuals and organisations, inclusive of national, regional and local Traveller/ Roma groups, the wider collective and LGBT+ members; as a united force of welcome, celebration and support in the spirit of creating an attendant and unified space of solidarity rather than the possible multi group approach.

We welcome support in event promotion, physical attendance and any offers of aid in the crowd support group(s) attendees.

For more info please contact info@lgbtpavee.com

Save the Date: Minister for Mental Health Helen McEntee to launch Mental Health Reform and Dublin Simon Community report on *Homelessness and Mental Health: Voices of Experiences*

What: Minister for Mental Health Helen McEntee will launch a report by Mental Health Reform (MHR) and Dublin Simon Community on *Homelessness and Mental Health: Voices of Experiences*. The report documents homeless people's experiences of mental health difficulties, their experiences of seeking help for such difficulties, as well as the barriers to accessing and sustaining appropriate mental health care.

The report is part of a larger project which involves collective advocacy training for people engaged in homeless services. The Homeless Adults Speak Out on Mental Health Group has been established through this training. The key objective of the Group is to campaign for better mental health services and support for homeless people.

When: Thursday 15th June @ 9.30am- 11.30am / registration 9.15am

Where: Light House Cinema, Market Square, Smithfield, Dublin 7
(please see the map [here](#))

Who: This event will bring together key stakeholders and decision makers in both the mental health and homeless sectors. All are welcome to attend including:

- People with self-experience of mental health difficulties
- People with experience of homelessness
- Family members, supporters and carers
- Mental health groups, services and professionals
- Homeless services and organisations
- Academics and policy makers
- Other interested groups/individuals

Registration: This event is free of charge but places are limited so please reserve your place as soon as possible and no later than 8th of June 2017. Full details of the launch, including venue and speakers on the day will be circulated shortly. To register for this event you can contact Indre at admintemp@mentalhealthreform.ie or phone [01 874 9468](tel:018749468).

Please let us know if you have any accessibility requirements and we will ensure that we meet such requirements on the day.

Please feel free to circulate this notice to your relevant contacts.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Kate Mitchell
Senior Policy and Research Officer
Mental Health Reform,
Coleraine House,
Coleraine Street,
Dublin 7

Tel. [01 874 9468](tel:018749468)

Mob: [086 024 5409](tel:0860245409)

Follow us on Twitter: [@MHReform](https://twitter.com/MHReform)

Like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/mentalhealthreform/

Have your say!

What do we want the Government to do about poverty and how can we achieve this?

Invitations to regional consultations on government plans on poverty and social exclusion

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION

2007-2016

Regional Workshops

- **Longford, 21st June: EDI Centre, 11A2 Mastertech Business Park, Athlone Road**
- **Limerick, 23rd June: IMPACT Building, 30-36 Roxboro Rd**

Both events will run from 9:30 – 13:00 followed by a light lunch

These events are free of charge but prior registration is necessary



Registration

Please return registration to enquiries@eapn.ie .

- **Name:**
- **Organisation (if any):**
- **Contact email:**
- **Which workshop do you wish to attend?**
- **Any special access for food requirements?**

EAPN Ireland and the CWI would like to encourage the participation of people with direct experience of homelessness relating to the workshops. A small budget is available to support participation. This can be used to cover travel costs for unfunded or under-funded groups and to the childcare costs of unwaged individuals. Please contact enquiries@eapn.ie in advance if you wish to avail of this support.

EAPN Ireland staff e-mail addresses are:

Robin Hanan, Director, robin@eapn.ie

Paul Ginnell, Policy Officer, paul@eapn.ie

Maureen Gondipon, Administration and Finance Officer, maureen.gondipon@eapn.ie

EAPN Ireland is a member of the European Anti-Poverty Network. It is a network of anti-poverty groups working to put the eradication of poverty at the top of the EU and Irish agenda through information, training, advocacy and networking.

Hello

This is the Irish Housing Network outreach team, we are contacting you to get support for the National Homeless Demonstration on June 17th. We are looking for groups to publicly support, promote and get involved in building the demonstration and actions in the lead up and following it. Enough is enough.

Details below

From 13 families on the street last week to deteriorating conditions in hostels, it's clear the homeless housing crisis is only getting worse. Proposals to move families to warehouses such as Bargaintown, rents and more evictions are only the start of a worsening crisis. Inner City Helping Homeless have called for a national homeless demonstration on the 17th of June, supported so far by the Irish Housing Network and we are calling to all groups to support. As the crisis gets worse, it is time to start working together. The 17th is only the beginning.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1860106834239026/>

Get Involved

We need your help to organise and promote the national demo. On Thursday the 8th June, at 7pm we will have a public meeting, with information on how to get involved.

Otherwise Please contact National Homeless Demonstration on facebook, Irish Housing Network or Inner City Helping Homeless or email Homelessdemo@protonmail.com or outreach.ihn@gmail.com to get involved

We need help recruiting volunteers, contacting groups around the country, leafleting, postering, door knocking and setting up stalls. social media and media promotion and organising the logistics for the day.

Our Demands

There are immediate issues that have to be dealt with in Emergency accommodation to tackle the terrible conditions and horrible mistreatment of residents.

1. **Emergency accommodation Independent review:** Independent human rights and care review from private to charity and state run
2. **Emergency Accommodation, as a center of care:** 24hr access, Fully funded response team & around supports centering mental health, security and privacy for all residents, full and enforceable

complaint procedures implemented.

3. No to Family Hubs. Warehousing families is not a solution. Homes not hubs

We need to tackle the causes of homeless and the wider housing crisis

4. No evictions and security of tenure Private Rental Market: No Economic Evictions. Security of tenure and affordable rents for all

5. Build and Buy Social housing: Build social housing for all. Usage of 183,000 empty houses as social housing. Buy portfolios from NAMA.

6. Mortgages Write down. On negative equity for those in mortgage distress in their single family homes

Best

Outreach Team, IHN

"Health as a Human Right" Seminar

Tuesday 27th of June 2017 – 9.30am to 1.30pm

IHREC Public Meeting Space

16 – 22 Green Street - Dublin 7

The Community Platform and ATD Ireland invite you to a Seminar to discuss the Community Platform ["Six principles for an inclusive health policy"](#).

9.30-10 - Registration - Tea Coffee

10 - 11 – Welcome and introduction Brid O'Brien (INOUE) for the Community Platform

Initial contributions

- Why Ireland has never had an universal health system and will we ever have one? - **Sara Burke** : Centre for Health Policy and Management, TCD
- Our Voices about Health – Project participants from SAOL, NWICTDP & ATD
- The Community Platform "Six principles" – Paul Ginnell, EAPN

11 - 12 - Discussing key principles - **World Cafe Sessions**

4 discussion tables will address the following issues:

1. Social Determinants of Health
2. The type of health system we need
3. Access for Everyone to quality healthcare
4. Participation

12 - 1pm - Plenary session – facilitation – Pierre KLEIN (ATD Ireland & Community Platform)

- Feedback from the tables and open discussion

- **Panel discussion - Next possible steps for action** – a key stakeholder of the [Sláinte Care Report](#) (Committee on the Future of Healthcare), a representative of IHREC (TBC) and Ronnie Fay (Pavee Point) for the Community Platform

1pm– 1.30 - Refreshments - Sandwiches/fruits

Save the date today and [register here!](#)

Registration on Eventbrite :

www.eventbrite.ie/e/health-as-a-human-right-seminar-tickets-34744673253

[MPhil in Race, Ethnicity, Conflict? Trinity College Dublin](#)

This one-year postgraduate course, which has been running since 1997, examines the techniques used by states and international agencies to manage peoples and conflict, their social and cultural impact and the responses they elicit. It applies a wide variety of sociological theories to racialisation, gender, migration, conflict and peace-making.

Trinity's Department of Sociology, is committed to advancing the understanding of society and to igniting the passion of our students through exceptional teaching and research. The emphasis is on small group teaching and one-to-one support in the preparation of a research-based dissertation. Staff, students and alumni form a friendly, ethnically diverse intellectual community with links to a host of national and international academic and civil society organisations involved in race critical theory, peace studies, anti-racism and migrant studies.

For more information click [here](#)

[Job Opportunities](#)

St. Catherine's Community Services Centre

St. Joseph's Rd, Carlow

Carlow Catalyst Programme for Women Project Co-ordinator (Ref. CPC)

The Catalyst Programme aims to increase women's access to employment, education and training by engaging those who are the most disadvantaged and furthest from the labour market. The Co-ordinator post requires the following qualities and qualifications in the successful candidate:

- Experience in co-ordinating/managing projects and budgets
- A Third Level qualification in a related field and a qualified QQI tutor
- Experience in providing individual and group support to participants and an awareness of the target groups' needs, social situation and barriers to participation
- Excellent communication skills and the ability to work effectively with participants, employers and other agencies including the ability to proactively recruit programme participants

The position is a fixed term 3 year full-time position. To apply please forward the completed Application Form and cover letter marked with the vacancy reference to Director of Services, St. Catherine's Community Services Centre, St. Joseph's Road, Carlow or email to teresad@catherines.ie. **The closing date is the 16th June 2017.** Applications may be considered for other positions arising within St. Catherine's

St Catherine's is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes suitably qualified applicants from all of society

[Latest News From National Traveller MABS](#)

National Traveller MABS Info

National Traveller MABS is a leading advocate for financial exclusion of Travellers in Ireland, we are a free and confidential service, you can contact us by:

Phone : 0761 072230

Email: info@ntmabs.ie

Website: <http://www.ntmabs.org>

Social Media: <https://www.facebook.com/National-Traveller-MABS>

[Use the ITM Bulletin to get your message across](#)

All ITM members who wish to circulate positions available and upcoming events etc can simply send information to be circulated to the membership.

Please send details and information to info@itmtrav.ie



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