

The Irish Traveller Movement (ITM) is the national representative membership platform of over 40 Traveller organisations committed to seeking full participation and equality for Travellers in Ireland.

We support the election of candidates in both Elections who express core democratic values as founded on equality - **where people have equal worth and value.**

The endorsement by Candidates of matters affecting Travellers lives in campaigns towards May 24th 2019 will help to create more inclusive and diverse communities, with equal participation, opportunity and outcomes. Traveller **engagement with running candidates and Traveller voter turnout** is critical to all communities Travellers and Non.

We call on governing Parties, Groups and Independents on election of candidates to:

- > **Ensure Councillors appointed to Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committees are vetted according to their human rights values and oppose the election of those who have voted against Traveller accommodation and services.**
- > **Ensure candidates act with integrity and promote, protect and support Traveller efforts towards broader equality and sign up to the ENAR Anti-racism protocols <http://enarireland.org/anti-racism-election-protocol-2019/>**
- > **Stand up to and challenge discriminatory actions / narrative towards Travellers and support Traveller inclusion within community programmes, social and civil, political and decision making structures at local level**

Health



Travellers have grossly disproportionate outcomes in health and mental health in particular, compared to the majority population. Suicide is 7 times higher and represents 11% of all Traveller deaths (AITHS 2010). Over 82% of Travellers in the National Traveller survey (2017) said they had been affected by suicide.

- **Ensure adequate resourcing** towards Traveller health as a priority and address the crisis in mental health and suicide by working in closer partnership with the community.
- **Ensure the design** and delivery of services and planning is guided and informed by the needs of and in consultation with, Travellers.

Accommodation

- **Ensure delivery** of the Traveller Accommodation Programme 2019 - 2024 and redress under delivery and underspending where it occurs, promote improved quality of building, adequate planning for population growth and transparency of Local Authority practice in delivery.
- **Respond to** Travellers in need of emergency accommodation and **Redress the** practice of Travellers threatened with eviction without the necessary safeguards.
- **Support the** recalibration of the planning and development structure used to provide a home for Travellers.



Employment

80% of Travellers within the potential workforce are unemployed, **six times higher than the national average.**

- **Advocate for** targeted support of Traveller Social Enterprise and within broader Enterprise initiatives.
- **Support** the National Traveller and Roma Inclusion Strategy objective of an internship programme for Travellers within local authority structures.
- **Promote the aims** of SICAP and engage active targeting of Travellers in programmes supported by community reach out and consultation.
- **Encourage the use** of an ethnic identifier throughout Local Authorities services and programmes, in order to adequately measure need and apply resources.



Community and Inclusion

- **Promote Traveller inclusion** in public consultation processes, in Public Participation Networks (PPN), Traveller Interagency Committees and across all local authority Strategic Policy Committees.
- **Engage with** Traveller organisations to bring about innovative solutions to support matters affecting the community.
- **Include Traveller participation** in Local Authority stakeholder settings such as in tourism, heritage, sports, the arts, community development and social inclusion.
- **Support the adoption** of the Yellow Flag schools programme locally, aimed at promoting cross cultural diversity.

