



An Rialálaí  
Carthanas

Charities  
Regulator

**31 October, 2017**

**Make your voice heard – Charities Regulator seeks public opinion  
on governance of charities**

The Charities Regulator is seeking the opinion of the general public and everyone who has an interest in Irish charities on how charities should be governed.

“The Charities Regulator is seeking the opinion of charities trustees, their staff, volunteers, service users, donors and funders, for their input on an important piece of work currently being undertaken,” Charities Regulator Chief Executive John Farrelly said.

It is running an online questionnaire and a series of public meetings (starting in Cork tomorrow), and is also accepting written submissions, in order to give the public the opportunity to make their views known.

The Regulator established a panel in February to make proposals for the governance of charities and to support trustees in their duties. These standards will deliver improved outcomes for our society through better focused charities where volunteers, staff, service recipients and all other stakeholders will have a common point of reference for governance standards.

As part of this process, the panel is seeking to consult the public and other stakeholders on issues such as governance responsibility, monitoring, governance code and guidelines.

Among the questions raised will be: Is there a need for a governance code specific to all registered Irish charities operating in the State?; Should these governance standards apply differently for small, medium and large charities?; Should there be reasonable checks on a person's suitability to be a charity trustee?; Should there be a maximum term allowable for charity trustees?

"The public's opinion on these key issues is important and I would urge everyone who has an interest in charities, and the valuable work that they do, to take this opportunity to share their views with us," Mr Farrelly said.

### **Online Questionnaire**

The online questionnaire will be hosted on the Charities Regulator's website until 6 December and can be accessed [here](#)

Alternatively, it can be accessed at [www.bit.ly/GovSurvey17](http://www.bit.ly/GovSurvey17)

### **Public Consultation Meetings**

The following are the details of the public consultation meetings:

**Cork** – Wednesday, 1 November, The Ambassador Hotel, Military Hill, St Lukes, Cork, 7-9pm.

To register to attend click <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/charities-regulator-governance-meeting-cork-city-tickets-39079600136?ref=estw>

**Galway** – Monday, 6 November, The Connacht Hotel, Old Dublin Road, Galway, 7-9pm.

To register to attend click <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/charities-regulator-governance-meeting-galway-tickets-39079754598?ref=estw>

**Dublin** – Tuesday, 21 November, O'Callaghan Alexander Hotel, 41-47 Fenian Street, Dublin 2, 7-9pm.

To register to attend click <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/charities-regulator-governance-meeting-dublin-2-tickets-39079843865?ref=estw>

### **Written Submissions**

In addition, if members of the public wish to make a written submission they can email it to [governancepanel@charitiesregulator.ie](mailto:governancepanel@charitiesregulator.ie) or post it to: Consultative Panel on Governance of Charitable Organisations, 3 Georges Dock, IFSC, Dublin 1. The closing date for submissions will be close of business on December 6.

*For more information: email [press@charitiesregulator.ie](mailto:press@charitiesregulator.ie) or contact Eamon Timmins, Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement, at 01-6331517 or 087-7520978.*