

ACTION



In a Republic based on equal citizenship civil marriage should be open to all citizens. In 2015 we will all be asked to vote on whether lesbian and gay people should have the same constitutional status that is available to all others.

The Wording

The proposed wording of the referendum has been released by the Government. It consists of an addition to Article 41 of the Constitution. It reads as follows:

"Marriage may be contracted in accordance with law by two persons without distinction as to their sex."

The wording is very clear, straightforward and easy to understand. It does not alter any existing language in the Constitution.

Contents:

- The Campaign: Pledge to Vote
- Running Your Own Event
- · Campaign Resources
- Contact Information





The Campaign:



The goals of the campaign are:

- To increase voter turnout in the upcoming referendum
- To increase levels of awareness about civil marriage equality
- To take the opportunity to set a positive tone in the run up to the referendum
- To motivate and mobilize early supporters of equality
- To empower young people to be agents of change
- **6** To provide pathways to join the campaign

We aim to be a resource to support the civil marriage equality campaign of other LGBT organizations, political parties, trade unions and supporters of equality. Together we can explain to people why marriage matters to all of Irish society including lesbian and gay people. We hope that this campaign will be a significant step in helping to make that a reality in engaging all our allies. By getting people to pledge to vote we increase their likelihood of voting, increase their engagement with the Yesequality campaign and build the capacity of people to move from being supporters to persuaders.





Building a Pledge to Vote Campaign or Event

You can get involved and engage your campus/ workplace/town centre by running a 'Pledge To Vote' event.

Your event should:

- Encourage people to make their pledge to vote. Having people sign the pledge to vote ballot cards and placing them in the YesEquality "ballot box" or making their pledge via the pledge to vote Facebook app will allow them to make their pledge either on paper or online in the easiest possible manner.
- Raise awareness about the importance of civil Marriage equality, the reasons why it matters and address questions people may have.
- Supporters can make their pledge and find out more about the referendum as well as upcoming events at YesEquality.ie. You can also collect supporter email addresses for campaign updates and information on the referendum.
- Provide a pathway for people to join the campaign. The type of event you choose to run will depend on the resources available to you. For larger events the key elements are; engaged, positive and informed volunteers; access to the pledge to vote app and pledge to vote ballot cards so people can actively make their pledge and also let others know that they will be turning out to vote in the referendum this coming May.





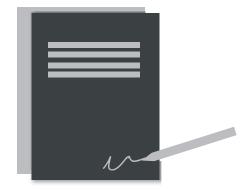
Pledge to Vote – the process

Ask people if they have made their pledge to vote.

If they haven't yet pledged to Vote

You can ask them to fill out the pledge to vote ballot card and pop it in the pledge to vote ballot box. Alternatively they can make their pledge online using the pledge to vote app. By using the facebook app they can choose to tell their facebook friends that they have made the pledge. Remember, the more people who know about the campaign, the more people can make the pledge.





RUNNING YOUR OWN EVENT



Your Campaign Pack:







Hi-Vis Bib



Ballot Box



YES EQUALITY.

■YesEquality











Pledge Card

Stickers x5 colours





Posters (included in pack)



Posters

Pull-up stand

(A hi-resolution pop-up template is available for groups/organizations who wish to produce their own pop-up stand, please contact info@yesequality.ie for more).







A REFERENDUM CAN BE LOST BY ONE VOTE



MAKE YOURS COUNT.

Pledge to Vote at YesEquality.ie

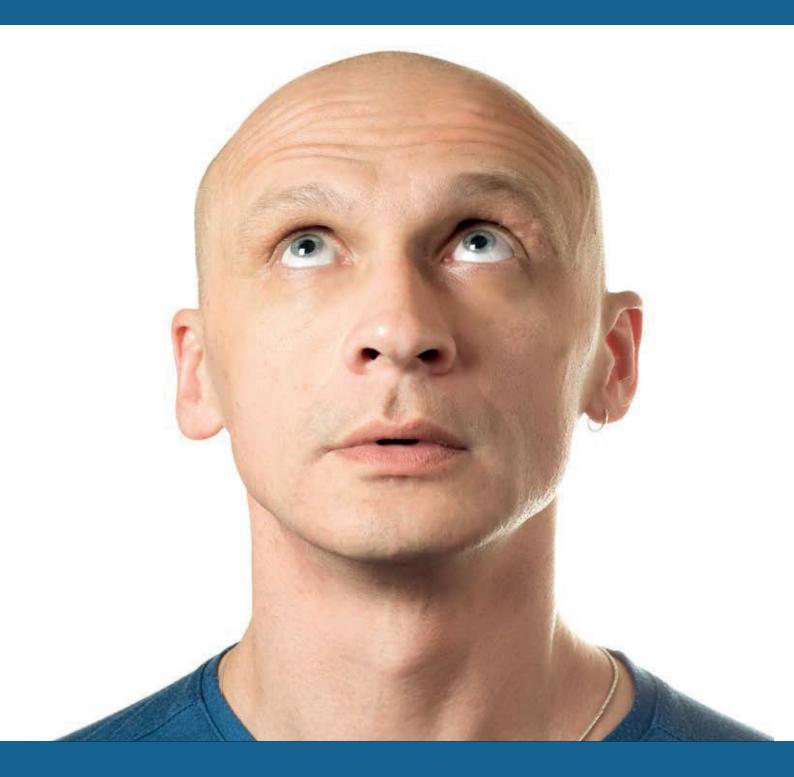
A REFERENDUM CAN BE LOST BY ONE VOTE



MAKE YOURS COUNT.

Pledge to Vote at YesEquality.ie

A REFERENDUM CAN BE LOST BY ONE VOTE



MAKE YOURS COUNT.

Pledge to Vote at YesEquality.ie



Steps to Setting up Your Campaign

College Campaign:

- Link in with relevant college authorities to give your campaign greater impact.
 Counselling/Welfare services should be included. This issue may cause anxiety to students coming to terms with their own sexuality. Details of on-campus services and the LGBT Helpline number could be included on social media posts/ materials
- Consider the **best location** for your event/ information stand
- **Gain permission** from the relevant office
- Recruit a team of volunteers
- Arrange a **staff briefing** in advance of the event to make sure everyone is up to speed on key information
- **Laptop and wifi** desirable so that a person can pledge to vote online using the pledge to vote app

- Pledge To Vote ballot cards and a Pledge To Vote ballot box aim to get as many people as possible to make the pledge and place the ballot card in the Pledge To Vote ballot box
- SU notice boards locate and get sign off to pin event/campaign posters around the campus
- Social Media Post event details to social media one week/one day before the event. Post throughout the day of the event with photos and updates
- Selfie Print the pledge to vote poster in this pack and photograph students that have pledged to vote. Post photos to Facebook and encourage students to tag themselves
- Added Extras invite dance/ music soc to perform at the event to create a buzz and engagement
- **Local/On-Campus Businesses** can be approached to supply goodies to attract students to your stand





DLEDGE TO VOIL YesEquality.ie

Im Going to Vote Z



Steps to Setting up Your Campaign

Work Place Campaign:

- Link in with your Human Resources

 Department. Employee welfare is one of this department's responsibilities so they may be able to offer support
- **Gain permission from Building Services** or the relevant office to set up a stand. Choose a high traffic area like your staff canteen over lunchtime
- Ask for **permission to post details** of the campaign to your staff intranet

- In smaller workplaces ask **permission to circulate details of the campaign** by email
- Remember face to face works best so **start a discussion** with colleagues
- Organise a cake sale/ sponsored lunchtime walk to support the Yes Equality campaign and to build awareness. You can find details of how to donate here at the website www.yesequality.ie
- Provide details of **LGBT helpline numbers** and employee counselling services if available





Steps to Setting up Your Campaign

Public Space or Community Group:

- Pledge to Vote events can take place at **public spaces or with community groups** e.g.
 youth groups or at community centres or
 events
- Consider the best location for your event if a public event e.g. shopping centre or public street
- Gain permission from the relevant authorities e.g. shopping centre management or check with local Gardaí for public events, or for community events, with the relevant leaders, management or venue owners
- Recruit a team of volunteer staff

- **Arrange a staff briefing** in advance of the event to make sure that everyone is up to speed on key information and messages
- Pledge To Vote ballot cards and a Pledge
 To Vote ballot box aim to get as many
 people as possible to make the pledge and
 place the ballot card in the Pledge To Vote
 ballot box
- **Social Media** post event details to social media one week/day before the event. Post throughout the event with photos and updates
- Photo Ops if possible, arrange photo opportunities with well known people in your locality to promote the Pledge to Vote campaign and share pics on social media. Print the Pledge to Vote posters in this pack for a branded photo op







Check The Register!

Voting

Who can vote?

In a referendum to change the Constitution all Irish citizens who are resident in the State and over the age of 18 and on the register of electors are entitled to vote.

How to check the register.

If someone is not sure if they are registered to vote then they should check the register. This can be done at **www.CheckTheRegister.ie.** If they are not registered then they cannot vote in the referendum.

If someone is not registered. Don't worry – there is another opportunity

If someone is not on the register yet, there is still an opportunity to be added to the supplementary register of electors. It's a simple, straightforward process but it's essential that you carry out these steps so that you have the choice to vote in the referendum.

Once the legislation authorising the referendum is passed by the Oireachtas you will be able to apply to be added to a supplementary register. Keep an eye on our Facebook, Twitter and Ezine for more information about the timeline for the legislation and how to register to vote.

In order for someone to be included in the supplementary register they must fill out an application form **(RFA2)** while in the presence of a member of An Garda Siochana. The Garda must then sign, date and stamp the form. Remember that people may be required to show photo ID when signing this form. It can then be sent Freepost to the relevant local authority office. A full list is included below.

Application for getting on the supplementary register must be received by your local authority's registration office at least 15 days before polling day (remember this does not include Sundays, Good Friday or Public Holidays) in order to be considered eligible to vote in the referendum on civil marriage equality.

Application for inclusion in Supplement to 2015/2016 Register of Electors

Please Read The Notes Carefully Before Completing The Form

	Name (BLOCK LETTERS):					
	[Please include other details such as Snr., first name and surname living at the same		name or an initial if there is another	person with the same		
2.	Address (BLOCK LETTERS):					
3.	Daytime phone number:					
4.	Date of birth (see note 3):					
5.	When did you take up ordinary residence at the above address?					
6.	Where were you ordinarily resident imme					
7.	If you were ordinarily resident at any other address(es) since 1 st September 2014 (besides those given at 2 and 6), please give details:					
8.	Please tick ($\sqrt{\ }$) one box only to indicate whether you are:					
8.	. ,			_		
8.	a Citizen of Ireland		a British citizen			
8.	. ,					
 8. 9. 	a Citizen of Ireland a National of another EU State		a British citizen a National of a non-EU country			
	a Citizen of Ireland a National of another EU State (other than UK)	ate whether	a British citizen a National of a non-EU country			
	 a Citizen of Ireland a National of another EU State (other than UK) (a) Please tick (√) one box only to indicate formerly registered as an elector currently registered as an elector 	ate whether	a British citizen a National of a non-EU country r you are/were:			
9.	 a Citizen of Ireland a National of another EU State (other than UK) (a) Please tick (√) one box only to indicate formerly registered as an elector currently registered as an elector never registered as an elector 	ate whether E	a British citizen a National of a non-EU country r you are/were:	Coco noto 5)		

section 12(a) - note 6) or in the prese		ochána at your local Garda Station		
		•		
haliaya tha information I haya gunn	lied to be true and I apply to be inclu	uded in the Supplement to the		
believe the information I have supple Register of Electors.	led to be true and I apply to be men	uded in the supplement to the		
register of Electors.				
Signature of Applicant:		Date:		
Certificate of Identity				
(a) Please have this section complete	ed at a Garda Station by a member	of the Garda Síochána - see note		
I certify that I have satisfied myself as to the identity of the applicant who has signed section 11 in a presence or I certify that I have satisfied myself that the applicant who has signed section 11 in my presence				
	(first name)	(surname)		
Signature of Garda:		_		
Name (BLOCK LETTERS):		- Station Stamp		
Rank: C	Garda Number:	Station Stamp		
Telephone:	Date:	_		
Reason why form could not be con				
		Registration Authority		
Signature of Registration Authorit	ty official:	Stamp		
Name: (BLOCK LETTERS):		_		
Grade:	Date:			

Notes

PLEASE READ THE NOTES CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE FORM

Application for entry to the Supplement to the 2015/2016 Register of Electors

- 1. If you are qualified as an elector and your name is not on the 2015/2016 register of electors, you may use this form to apply to be included in a supplement to the register. Eligible electors whose names are included in the supplement will be entitled to vote at an election or referendum held during the lifetime of the register.
- 2. To be included in the supplement, you must be:
 - (a) 18 years of age (see note 3);
 - (b) ordinarily resident at the address at which you wish to be registered; and
 - (c) not already registered as an elector (except in the case of a change of address see 10 below).
- 3. In relation to 2(a) above, a person will be eligible for entry in the supplement to the register on or after the day on which the person reaches eighteen years of age including such day that falls within the period beginning on the last day for the receipt of applications and ending on polling day. It would be of assistance in considering an application from a person reaching 18 years if the form is accompanied by a copy of a birth certificate or similar document.
 - 4. A separate form must be completed and signed by each person applying for inclusion in the supplement. The form must be sent or delivered by the applicant directly to the registration authority. To avoid delay in processing your application, make sure to complete the form fully and return it by post or deliver it to the City or County Council for the area in which you live.

5. Two versions of the register

Since 2004, registration authorities are required to publish two versions of the register - the full register and the edited register.

The full register lists everyone who is entitled to vote and can only be used for an electoral or other statutory purpose.

The **edited register** contains the names and addresses of persons whose details can be used for a purpose other than an electoral or other statutory purpose e.g. for direct marketing use by a commercial or other organisation. If you do not want your details to be included on the edited register, you should tick ($\sqrt{}$) the **opt out box** at section 10 of the form. If you want your registration details to be included (i.e. available for non-statutory uses), you should leave the opt out box blank.

6. **Declaration/Certificate of Identity**

- (a) The declaration at section 11 of the application form must be signed in the presence of a member of the Garda Síochána at your local Garda station. If the Garda is satisfied as to your identify, they will sign, date and stamp section 12(a) of the form. If necessary, photographic identification may be required and you should bring some such identification and other supporting identification to assist the Garda.
- (b) If you are unable to attend your local Garda Station, the form may be witnessed at the offices of the registration authority and in such cases section 12(b) of the form must be completed. You must

- state, in writing, why you cannot attend your local Garda Station. Photographic identification and other supporting identification documentation should be brought to the registration authority.
- (c) If you cannot attend your local Garda station or registration authority offices due to physical illness or physical disability you must have section 12(c) of the form completed by a medical practitioner.
- 7. If you are applying after an election or referendum has been called, please note that the application must reach the City or County Council concerned before the fourteenth day (Sundays, public holidays and Good Friday excluded) before polling day in order to be considered for inclusion in the supplement for that election or referendum. Late applications will not be processed until after polling day.
- 8. You will be notified as quickly as possible of the ruling on your application. Where your application is refused, you will have the right to appeal against the ruling to the county registrar. The supplement will be published in the period immediately before the polling day at an election or referendum.
- 9. It is an offence to fail to give the registration authority or county registrar any information required for the purpose of their duties or to knowingly give false information.
- 10. If you are on the register of electors and have moved residence from one Dáil or local authority constituency to another you may apply for entry to the supplement. **Do not use this form: a separate form is available from your registration authority for this purpose (Form RFA3 Change of Address).**



County Councils

Carlow County Council, County Offices, Athy Rd, Carlow Ph: +353 (0)59 9170300, Fax: +353 (0)59 914 1503, Email: secretar@carlowcoco.ie

Cavan County Council, Franham St, Cavan Ph: +353 (0)49 437 8300, Fax: +353 (0)49 436 1565, Email: info@cavancoco.ie

Clare County Council, New Rd, Ennis, Co. Clare Ph: + 353 (0)65 682 1616, Fax: +353 (0)65 682 8233, Email: info@clarecoco.ie

Cork County Council, County Hall, Carrigrohane Road, Cork Ph: +353 (0)21 427 6891, Fax: +353 (0)21 427 6321, (check website)

Donegal County Council, County House, The Diamond, Lifford, Co. Donegal Ph: +353 (0)74 915 3900 , Fax: +353 (0)74 917 2812, Email: info@donegalcoco.ie

Dun Laoghaire / Rathdown, County Hall, Marine Rd, Dun Laoghaire Ph: +353 (0)1 205 4700, Fax: +353 (0)1 298 6827, Email: corp@dlrcoco.ie

Fingal County Council, County Hall, Main St, Swords, Co. Dublin Ph: +353 (0)1 890 5000. Email: info@fingalcoco.ie

Galway County Council, Áras an Chontae, County Hall, Prospect Hill, Galway
Ph: +353 (0)91 509 000, Fax: +353 (0)91 509 010,
E-mail: customerservices@galwaycoco.ie , gaeilge@cocogaillimh.ie

Kerry County Council, County Buildings, Rathass, Tralee, Co. Kerry Ph: +353 (0)66 718 3500, Fax: +353 (0)66 712 2466,

Email: info@kerrycoco.ie

Kildare County Council, Áras Chill Dara, Devoy Park, Naas, Co. Kildare Ph: +353 (0)45 980 200, Fax: +353 (0)45 980 240, Email: customercare@kildarecoco.ie

Where to Send the Register to Vote forms

Kilkenny County Council, John St, Kilkenny Ph: +353 (0)56 779 4000, Fax: +353 (0)56 779 4004, Email: info@kilkennycoco.ie

Laois County Council, Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise, Co Laois Ph: +353 (0)57 866 4000, Fax: +353 (0)57 862 2313. Contact Form (check website)

Leitrim County Council, Áras an Chontae , Carrick-on-Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Ph: +353 (0)71 962 0005, Fax: +353 (0)71 962 1982, Email: corporateservices@leitrimcoco.ie

Limerick City and County Council, Merchants Quay, Limerick Ph: +353 (0)61 407 120, Fax: +353 (0)61 407 435, E-mail: customerservices@limerick.ie

Longford County Council, Great Water St, Longford Ph: +353 (0)43 334 3300, Fax: +353 (0)43 334 1233, Email: info@longfordcoco.ie , eolas@monaghancoco.ie

Louth County Council, Millenium Centre, Dundalk, Co Louth Ph: +353 (0)42 933 5457, Fax: +353 (0)42 933 4549, Email: info@louthcoco.ie

Mayo County Council, The Mall, Castlebar, Co Mayo Ph: +353 (0)94 904 7600. Email List (check website)

Meath County Council, County Hall, Railway Street, Navan, Co Meath

Ph: +353 (0)46 909 7000, Fax: +353 (0)46 909 7001, Email: info@ meathcoco.ie

Monaghan County Council, Council Offices, The Glen, Monaghan Ph: + 353 (0)47 30500, Fax: +353 (0)47 82739, Email: info@monaghancoco.ie , eolas@monaghancoco.ie

Offaly County Council, Áras an Chontae, Charleville Rd, Tullamore, Co. Offaly Ph: +353 (0)57 934 6800, Fax: +353 (0)57 9346868, Email: webmaster@offalycoco.ie

Roscommon County Council, Courthouse, Roscommon Ph: +353 (0)906 63 2500, Fax: +353 (0)906 63 7108, Email: info@roscommoncoco.ie , customerservice@roscommoncoco.ie

Sligo County Council, Riverside, Sligo Ph: +353 (0)71 911 1111, Fax: +353 (0)71 914 1119, Email: info@sligococo.ie

South Dublin County Council, County Hall, Tallaght, Dublin 24 Ph: +353 (0)1 414 9000, E-mail: info@sdublincoco.ie

Tipperary Co Council, Civic Offices, Clonmel Ph: +353 (0) 76 106 5000, E-mail: customerservices@tipperarycoco.ie

Waterford City and County Council, City Hall, The Mall, Waterford Ph: +353 (0)76 110 2020, Fax: +353 (0)51 870 813, E-mail: contact@waterfordcouncil.ie

Westmeath County Council, County Buildings, Mullingar, Co Westmeath Ph: +353 (0)44 933 2000, Fax: +353 (0)44 933 2000, Contact Form (see website)

Wexford County Council, County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford Ph: +353 (0)53 919 6000, Fax: +353 (0)53 919 6055, Email: postmaster@wexfordcoco.ie

Wicklow County Council, County Buildings, Whitegates, Wicklow Ph: +353 (0)404 20100 , Fax: +353 (0)404 67792, Email: cosec@wicklowcoco.ie

City Councils

Cork City Council, City Hall, Anglesea St, Cork Ph: +353 (0)21 496 6222, Fax: +353 (0)21 431 4238, Email Directory (check website):

Dublin City Council, Civic Offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8 Ph: +353 (0)1 222 2222, Email: customerservices@dublincity.ie

Galway City Council, City Hall, College Road, Galway Ph: +353 (0)91 536 400, Fax: +353 (0)91 567 493, Email: customerservice@galwaycity.ie





Building our support base

We know that there are many supporters of equality out there but they do not know how to get involved. It is really important that we do all that we can to get people engaged at this stage and we would ask that you get as many people to pledge to vote as possible. There are several key ways to do this:

- The Yes Equality Facebook Page
- The Yes Equality Facebook App
- The Yes Equality website

Why marriage matters

Marriage is about two people who love each other and want to commit to each other. In a republic based on equal citizenship civil marriage should be open to all, including lesbians and gay men.

Love and Commitment

Civil marriage is a symbol of the love two people have for each other and the profound commitment they wish to make to each other. Being able to marry the person you love matters to lesbian and gay people and their families.

Equality & Fairness

Civil marriage should be open to all loving couples who wish to make such a commitment to each other.

Our Constitution

Our Constitution gives special status and standing to civil marriage, providing recognition, protection and dignity to all married couples. The referendum gives us a chance to extend this constitutional protection to lesbian and gay relationships, with all the rights and responsibilities, status, protection and dignity which that entails.

Civil Partnership

Civil partnership was a significant advance and couples across every county in Ireland have entered civil partnerships. However, civil partnership falls short of full constitutional equality. Only civil marriage equality can achieve this.

Progress for all

The referendum offers us all the chance to decide what kind of country we wish to live in. Extending civil marriage to gay and lesbian couples takes from no one and makes our society better, fairer and more inclusive for all





Tone and Language

We believe that the case for equal constitutional status for LGBT people is a powerful one.

Changing the constitution is an important decision. It is right that people would consider the issue and we must be welcoming of that discussion. We must always be positive and engaging to all who have questions to ask about why this is important. With this in mind it is critical that our supporters are at all times positive, engaging and understanding as we work to persuade people and address any questions they might have.

These questions may be around religion, children or the need for civil marriage when civil partnership for same sex couples has been legalised. We have included the key reasons for equal access to civil marriage in our literature and we will have a section on frequently asked questions on our website.

If you are asked a question that you are unsure about check our website or alternatively please do not hesitate to contact our offices and we will do our best to help. If you are asked a question which we haven't addressed in our material or on our website call us and tell us as it is crucial that we can develop responses to questions as they arise.





CONTACT INFORMATION



Campaign Contact Details

To contact the Yes Equality campaign contact info@yesequality.ie, 01-7030412, www.yesequality.ie or www.facebook.com/yesequality

Help and Support for LGBT people

There are many sources of support for LGBT people around the country, including on-campus welfare services and LGBT groups. Be aware that some people engaging with the pledge to vote campaign may also be coming to terms with their sexual orientation or gender identity, and may benefit from support. You can find information on local support services here http://lgbt.ie/get-support.aspx and the main Helplines are LGBT Helpline 1890 929 539 or Gay Switchboard Ireland at (01) 8721055.





THANK YOU





F YesEquality