

## **Statement on use of information provided to the Commission during CEDAW consultation**

The Commission would like to express its thanks to you for participating in our consultation process. Your contribution will be used to inform and enrich our report to the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). In some instances we may use anonymous quotes and/or specific words from your contribution in our report to provide the Committee with a flavour of experience of women living in Ireland.

The Commission will treat any information or documentation received during the consultation process as having been given in confidence and on the understanding that it will be treated confidentially, within the meaning of section 35 of the Freedom of Information Act 2014, and/or section 4(4A) of the Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003.

The Commission recognises that information or documentation provided to it (in whatever form) may give rise to obligations to disclose information under certain legislative provisions as set out below. These obligation may be subject to certain defences, exceptions or exclusions as set out in the relevant legislation. The relevant legislative provisions are as follows:

- section 19 of the Criminal Justice Act 2011;
- sections 2 or 3 of the Criminal Justice (Withholding of Information on Offences against Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012;
- section 9 of the Offences Against the State (Amendment) Act 1998;
- sections 8-13 of the Children First Act 2015.

The Commission will not actively record the personal details, such as names, addresses etc, of consultation participants. However, in light of the statutory obligations set out above the Commission recognises that instances may arise where the Commission cannot guarantee that information or documentation provided to it will not be disclosed to third parties in response to a request for access to records and/or access to personal data (including sensitive personal data), where such disclosure is required by law.

If participating in our consultation on CEDAW has raised any difficult issues for you, here are some services that can help:

[Women's Aid 24hr National Freephone Helpline](#): 1800 341 900

[Rape Crisis Helpline](#): 1800 778888

[Ruhama](#): (01) 836 0292

[Migrant Rights Centre](#): (01) 889 7570

[Irish Family Planning Association National Pregnancy Helpline](#): 1850 49 50 51