

# MONTHLY UPDATE ON ISSUES RELATING TO MOTHER AND BABY HOMES - SEPTEMBER 2017



An Roinn Leanaí  
agus Gnóthaí Óige  
Department of  
Children and Youth Affairs

## Announcement of facilitated consultation with former residents.

Minister Katherine Zappone is pleased to confirm the arrangements for the second facilitated consultation with former residents of mother and baby homes. The meeting will take place at the Clayton Silver Springs Hotel in Cork City on the 6th of October.

The Minister is aware of the strong interest in participating in this process and a second session has been organised so that more people will have an opportunity to have their say on issues of concern to them.

The format and themes of this second facilitated session will mirror those of the first meeting so priority for available places will be given to persons who did not attend the first event on June 30th.

Once again the meeting will be facilitated by Jim Halley and his team of expert facilitators so the discussions can be focused on hearing, interpreting and reporting the feedback from attendees.

Jim is a past Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitration and he is an internationally respected mediator and facilitator. The meetings will be held in private and will fully respect the right to confidentiality of all concerned.

The Clayton Hotel Silver Springs is located in Tivoli, less than 3km from Cork city centre & 11 km from Cork International Airport. Directions to the Hotel can be found on the Hotels website [here](#).

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Once again, attendance at the meetings will be organised on an expression of interest basis only to ensure the Department can appropriately plan and run an effective event. The expression of interest forms can be found on the Department's website [here](#). Expression of interest forms should be returned to the DCYA by September 14th .

The Department will endeavor to reimburse any reasonable travel costs incurred in attending this event. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to cover accommodation or other costs. We request that public transport should be used where possible and appropriate. The costs will be reimbursed as soon as possible after the event by electronic fund transfer. Details of what is required to claim for travel expenses can be found [here](#).

If you have any queries about the event, or require assistance in completing any of the forms, please contact us by phone at 01-6473200 or by email at [motherandbabyhomes@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:motherandbabyhomes@dcya.gov.ie)

## Tuam Expert Group Update

The Expert Technical Group is continuing in its work on the drafting of the technical report. Geophysical data that had been collected at the site in July continues to be processed and it is expected to be available for analysis in the coming weeks. The Group has further consulted with archaeological, anthropological and forensic specialists in DNA in order to assess the potential of any future analysis, and particularly the potential problematic issues. The Coroner for North Galway, Dr Val Costello, has also kindly been assisting with queries relating to the site.

The team met with the National Monuments Service, whom have advised on possible archaeological aspects relating to the environs of the site at Tuam. There have been various communications with the Argentine Forensic Anthropology Team, who are world leader in humanitarian forensic action and best practices in relation to community engagement.

## Useful Contacts

**Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes and certain related Matters**  
[www.mbhcoi.ie](http://www.mbhcoi.ie)

Confidential Freephone (ROI only): 1800 80-66-88

Confidential Freephone Outside ROI: +353-1-6445088

Email: [info@mbhcoi.ie](mailto:info@mbhcoi.ie)

### HSE information line

There is a telephone line available for people seeking details of support available to those affected by these issues. Those seeking such information may telephone the HSE National Information Line;

Low Call Telephone 1850 24 1850

### Mother and Baby Home Unit – Department of Children and Youth Affairs

[www.dcy.gov.ie](http://www.dcy.gov.ie)

Phone: 01-6473200

Monday to Friday 9.30am to 5pm

Email: [motherandbabyhomes@dcya.gov.ie](mailto:motherandbabyhomes@dcya.gov.ie)

Address: Department of Children and Youth Affairs,  
43-49 Mespil Rd, Dublin 4. D04 YP52  
FREEPOST F5055

### Galway County Council

[www.galway.ie](http://www.galway.ie)

Phone: +353 (0)91 509000

Email: [customerservices@galwaycoco.ie](mailto:customerservices@galwaycoco.ie)

Address: Áras an Chontae, Prospect Hill, Galway

Any person seeking adoption information and tracing information may wish to contact the following agencies:

### TUSLA (the Child and Family Agency) -

[www.tusla.ie](http://www.tusla.ie)

Phone: 01 7718500

Email: [info@tusla.ie](mailto:info@tusla.ie)

Address: Tusla – Child and Family Agency,  
The Brunel Building,  
Heuston South Quarter,  
Saint John's Road West,  
Dublin 8.

### The Adoption Authority of Ireland -

[www.aai.gov.ie](http://www.aai.gov.ie)

Phone: 353 1 2309 300

Address: The Adoption Authority of Ireland  
Shelbourne House  
Ballsbridge  
Dublin 4