



**Redress Focus Groups** - *Making Change Happen Together*

**Founder and Co-Founders:**

Roisin Gallagher, Brenda Joyce, Joy Beard, Claire McDaid

**Committee:**

**Founder & Chairperson:** Roisin Gallagher **Vice Chair:** Peter Fox **Secretary:** Karen Hamilton **Vice Secretary:** Geraldine Fitzpatrick **Treasurer:** Margaret Patton Plunkett **Volunteer Coordinator:** Libby Mimmagh **Social Media Coordinator:** Jess Harkin

---

## **VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT**

---

This Volunteer Agreement is a description of the arrangement between us 'Redress Focus Groups' and you \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, in relation to your volunteering with us. The intention of this agreement is to assure you that we appreciate your volunteering with us and to indicate our commitment to do the best we can to make your volunteer experience with us a positive, productive and rewarding one.

**We, 'Redress Focus Groups', agree to accept the volunteering services of: -**

**Name:**

## **Beginning on:**

### **The Volunteer Role(s) is/are:**

#### **1. Redress Focus Groups Vision Statement: -**

Redress Focus Groups envisions a community where property owners affected by the Defective Blocks Crisis in Donegal are empowered and supported in addressing the practical and emotional challenges we face. We strive for a future where property owners take the lead in their futures, our children's futures and the future of Donegal so that we regain confidence in our properties, find resolution to the issues, and rebuild our lives resiliently with renewed hope and security.

At Redress Focus Groups, we stand united with the defective block affected community, providing them with a supportive network, a platform for collective action, and a beacon of hope. Together, we work towards a future where justice is served, homes are safe, and the voices of those impacted by the Defective Blocks Crisis are heard and respected.

#### **2. Redress Focus Groups Mission Statement: -**

The mission of Redress Focus Groups is to empower and facilitate property owners affected by the Defective Blocks Crisis in Donegal. Through collaborative efforts, we aim to provide a platform for homeowners to bring forward and share experiences, knowledge, and resources, enabling them to tackle the 10 major practical and emotional issues they encounter. Our mission is to advocate for fair and comprehensive solutions, secure support services, and, in addition, aim to promote and support positive changes in policies and regulations that impact property owners and their families who have been affected by the Defective Blocks Crisis. By fostering a supportive community, we seek to provide a trusting and supportive place, empowering individuals, and promote the well-being and resilience of homeowners impacted by the Defective Blocks Crisis.

#### **3. 'The Redress Focus Groups' commits to the Volunteer to: -**

- a. Provide adequate information and training to meet the expectations as described in your Volunteer Role(s) description. The attached Volunteer Role description(s) provide(s) the details of the particular Focus Group(s) that you will be volunteering within.
- b. Define appropriate standards of our organisation, to communicate them to you and to explain what is required of you, as well as support and provide encouragement to help you to achieve the desired results.
- c. Treat you with respect and courtesy at all times.
- d. Be receptive to any comments and feedback from all our volunteers and to resolve in a fair and just manner any problems, grievances or difficulties which may be encountered while you volunteer with us.
- e. Value and recognise our volunteers as a significant resource in achieving the goals of our organisation.

- f. Provide you with a person of contact with whom you will be able to communicate throughout your role as a volunteer with us.
- g. Match volunteers' skills with roles to ensure that they are exploring their full potential.

#### **4. The Volunteer commits to the Redress Focus Groups the following: -**

- a. To fulfil my role as outlined in the attached Volunteer Role description(s).
- b. To follow the organisation's policies and procedures.
- c. To meet any volunteering commitments undertaken and to provide sufficient notice when not available, or able to meet these commitments, by making sure to liaise with the person of contact that has been provided to me.
- d. To help the organisation fulfil its services through volunteering within the framework and ethos of the initiative and being mindful not to duplicate information or resources.
- e. To collaborate where necessary with other members of the organisation, external organisations and groups, governmental departments and so on as needed.
- f. To keep the committee and relevant points of contact informed of progress, meetings etc.
- g. Committee representatives shall be present at meetings and involved in group activities in the interests of the organisation as and when deemed necessary.
- h. To maintain the confidentiality of the organisation's information, the confidentiality of information of any organisation, group, individual and/or department, or any person(s) affiliated with the organisation and any such groups and departments, during and after my volunteering role.
- i. To provide referees, if required and as agreed, who may be contacted and to agree to a GARDA Vetting being carried out if required and as agreed.
- j. To commit to the organisation for a minimum of 6 months.

#### **5. Volunteer Role Description and Agreement**

Volunteers are given one or more agreement(s) with description(s) which outline the activities, tasks and responsibilities of the specific role(s) that are to be undertaken by the volunteer. These documents are not legally binding nor are they a contract of employment or for paid provision of a service.

#### **6. Communication and Recognition**

Redress Focus Groups recognises the core role that volunteers fulfil within the organisation. It endeavours to communicate with volunteers with appropriate ways, for example meetings and email.

#### **7. Expenses: -**

Redress Focus Groups are an entirely volunteer run organisation which was formed in January 2023 by homeowners, founder Roisin Gallagher and co-founders Brenda Joyce, Joy Beard and Claire McDaid.

As such, as a volunteer joining our organisation, you will not receive any remuneration, benefits or other allowances.

## **8. Data Protection and Confidentiality**

Redress Focus Groups takes care to protect volunteer information as part of its data protection responsibilities in paper format and/or electronically. All such information is treated with accordance with the Data Protection Act (1998) and volunteers are entitled to inspect such information pertaining to their own involvement with Redress Focus Groups. Likewise, Redress Focus Groups expects volunteers to protect any personal or confidential information to which they may have access through their volunteering with Redress Focus Groups.

## **9. Professional Conduct and Integrity: -**

- a. Volunteers shall avoid any act which may bring Redress Focus Groups into disrepute or diminish the organisation and confidence of the public and stakeholders.
- b. It is the responsibility of volunteers to be aware of the social, legal and professional consequences of any act but which may be professionally, morally, legally or ethically questionable.
- c. The use of violence or abusive language/behaviour is unacceptable.

### **Please note:**

As a support network, Redress Focus Groups are not affiliated to or with any political party. We are here to support all property owners and their families, who are affected by the Defective Concrete Crisis.

Redress Focus Groups are not a political party nor do we promote a political party or candidate.

### **Consent for Image/Name/Audio**

Redress Focus Groups recognises the need to ensure the welfare and safety of all people taking part in any activity associated with our organisation. Redress Focus Groups will always notify you if a virtual (i.e. Zoom), in-person meeting, group meeting, and/or interview is being recorded.

#### **Image Consent Waiver:**

We require your consent to use photograph(s)/video(s) with your image in the following ways: publicity and/or information material for but not limited to leaflets, websites, magazines, newspapers, television, social media including but not limited to Facebook, 'X' (formerly known as Twitter), Instagram, LinkedIn etc., grant applications etc.

We will take all steps to ensure these images are used solely for the purpose(s) they are intended. If you become aware that these images are being used inappropriately you should inform us immediately.

I consent to having photographs/video containing my image used in the ways outlined above.

- Yes
- No

#### **Name Consent Waiver:**

(full name means first name and surname)

We require your consent to use your full name in the following ways: publicity and/or information material for but not limited to leaflets, websites, magazines, newspapers, television, radio, social media including but not limited to Facebook, 'X' (formerly known as Twitter), Instagram, LinkedIn etc., grant applications etc.

We will take all steps to ensure your full name is used solely for the purpose(s) it is intended. If you become aware that your full name is being used inappropriately you should inform us immediately.

I consent to my full name used in the ways outlined above.

- No
- Yes
- I consent to the use of my first name only.

**Audio Consent Waiver:**

We require your consent to use audio of you in the following ways: publicity and/or information material for but not limited to television, radio, social media including but not limited to Facebook, ‘X’ (formerly known as Twitter), Instagram, LinkedIn etc., grant applications etc.

We will take all steps to ensure your audio is used solely for the purpose(s) it is intended. If you become aware that your audio recording(s) is/are being used inappropriately you should inform us immediately.

I consent to my audio used in the ways outlined above.

- Yes
- No

I understand that images, audio, and names on printed and digital material, television, radio, as well as social media websites can be viewed throughout the world and not just in Ireland and that some overseas countries may not provide the same level of protection to the rights of individuals as EU/Irish legislation provides. I have read and understand all of the above and can ask Redress Focus Groups to stop using my image(s)/video/audio/name at any time. This will not apply to material already published. Redress Focus Groups cannot control or recall material that has already been published.

Are you over 18?

- Yes
- No

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Communications Consent:**

**I give permission for Redress Focus Groups to contact me directly via:**

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Landline: \_\_\_\_\_

**Acknowledgment: -**

You acknowledge that you have received and understand this agreement and agree to carry out your volunteering role in line with the required standards. You will also maintain confidentiality of any information received regarding the organisation during your volunteering role.

This agreement is not intended to be a legally binding contract between the volunteer and the organisation and is binding in honour only. Neither party intends any employment relationship to be created now or at any time in the future. This agreement may be cancelled at any time at the discretion of either party.

**Agreed to: -**

**Volunteer Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**On behalf of Redress Focus Groups:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_