

Bunreacht éirígí

Section One

PREAMBLE

Basing our philosophy of political organisation and activism on the firm belief that the people of Ireland, and indeed, the wider world, have the fundamental and inalienable right to economic, political and national self-determination and independence; and deriving, as this right does, from a recognition that all are born equal and worthy of liberty and an existence befitting the potential inherent in the fact of membership of the human race; and rejecting those ideologies that give rise to and justify the subjugation of one class, social grouping or nation by another, for the economic and political benefit of one group over the other; and resolving ourselves to struggle for the creation of a society based upon the principles of human solidarity and co-operation, wherein collective and individual rights, in their fullest senses, are secured and defended, we hereby adopt the following:

1.0 Name

1.1 The name of the organisation shall be éirígí.

2.0 Principles

2.1 The national territory of Ireland includes the island of Ireland, its waterways, airspace, islands and seas.

2.2 The right of the Irish people to the ownership of Ireland, and to the unfettered control of Irish destinies, is sovereign and indefeasible.

2.3 All people are born equal and free and are entitled, by right, to all those things necessary for them to fulfil their potential as human beings.

3.0 Objectives

3.1 To effect a British withdrawal from the occupied six counties.

3.2 To establish a thirty-two county Irish Socialist Republic based upon the principles of sovereignty, democracy, liberty, justice, equality, community and international solidarity.

3.3 To ensure, that in such a Republic, the right of every person to an equal share of the nation's wealth and wealth producing resources be guaranteed. Furthermore, each person shall be guaranteed, as of right, equal influence and control over all spheres of economic and political power in that same Republic.

3.4 To end all Irish involvement in those actions and alliances which infringe upon the sovereignty and independence of other nations and peoples and to replace such actions and alliances with ones based upon the principles of international co-operation and solidarity.

3.5. To promote the revival of widespread, everyday usage of the Irish language across Ireland, and to encourage a deeper understanding and appreciation of the role of Irish culture in contemporary Ireland.

4.0 Means

4.1 By the organising of effective political campaigns aimed at highlighting the injustice inherent in the joint system of capitalism and imperialism, and the promotion of a Socialist Republican alternative.

4.2 Through the widespread promotion of a Socialist Republican critique of contemporary Ireland and the wider world.

4.3 Through the building of alliances with other groups and individuals, both nationally and internationally who share objectives similar to those of éirígí.

4.4 Through the contesting of elections where the contesting of such elections is deemed to advance éirígí's objectives. Decisions relating to the contesting of elections and participation in institutions to which members are elected shall be made by the membership at Ard-Fheis or Ciorcal Aitiúil.

5.0 Membership

5.1 Based upon the principals of universal equality, membership of éirígí shall be open to any person over sixteen years of age, who agrees with the principles of éirígí, who is willing to work towards the achievement of éirígí's objectives, and to abide by éirígí's code of conduct and its attendant disciplinary proceedings.

5.2 Membership of éirígí can be granted by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta alone.

5.3 Membership of éirígí can be revoked by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta alone, following the implementation of éirígí's disciplinary procedures as laid out in section two of this constitution.

5.4 An Rúnaí Ginearálta shall be responsible for maintaining an accurate list of all members.

5.5 Members of éirígí cannot be members of other political parties.

5.6 Members of éirígí cannot participate in the elected institutions based in Westminster or Stormont.

6.0 Structures

6.1.0 **An Ard-Fheis**, which is the ultimate authority of éirígí, shall meet on an annual basis. All members of éirígí shall be entitled to attend and vote at An Ard-Fheis.

6.1.1 An Ard-Fheis shall have the power to adopt or alter any éirígí policy or strategy.

6.1.2 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta and all individual members shall have the right to submit motions and proposals for inclusion on the clár of An Ard-Fheis. Such

motions and proposals must be submitted to An Ciorcal Náisiúnta not less than twenty eight days prior to the date of same.

6.1.3 The clár for the annual Ard-Fheis, which shall include the text of all proposed motions, policy or strategy proposals, proposed amendments to the constitution and nominees for national positions shall be made available to all members not less than twenty-one days prior to the date of same

6.1.4 An Ard-Fheis shall elect An Cathaoirleach (Chair), Leas-Chathaoirleach (Vice-Chair), An Rúnaí Ginearálta. (General Secretary), Cisteoirí (Treasurers) x 2, An tOifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí (Public Relation Officer), An tOifigeach Ballraíochta (Membership Officer) and An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) to serve on An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

6.1.5 It shall be the responsibility of An Ciorcal Náisiúnta to convene, and make all arrangements necessary for, An Ard-Fheis.

6.1.6 A minimum of fifty six days notice of the time, date and location of An Ard-Fheis shall be provided to all members.

6.1.7 An extraordinary Ard-Fheis may be convened where An Ciorcal Náisiúnta or not less than one third of the entire membership support a motion calling for the convening of same. Such a motion must include the reason(s) for the convening of an extraordinary Ard-Fheis.

6.1.8 A minimum of twenty one days notice of the time, date, location and clár of an extraordinary Ard-Fheis shall be provided to all members.

6.2.0 **An Ciorcal Náisiúnta**, which is collectively tasked with implementing all decisions taken by An Ard-Fheis and with the day to day running of éirígí, shall meet not less than once every six weeks.

6.2.1 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall consist of An Cathaoirleach, Leas-Chathaoirleach, An Rúnaí Ginearálta Cisteoirí (x2), An tOifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí (Public Relations Officer), An tOifigeach Ballraíochta (Membership Officer), An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) plus a maximum of four co-options and Cathaoirlaigh of all Ciorcail Áitiúla.

6.2.2 A minimum attendance of one third of the members of An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall be required to constitute a quorum.

6.3.0 **Ciorcail Áitiúla** shall be established within a defined geographic area and be tasked with developing éirígí within that area.

6.3.1 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta alone shall have the authority to establish and disestablish Ciorcail Áitiúla.

6.3.2 Each Ciorcal Áitiúil shall elect An Cathaoirleach, Rúnaí and Cisteoirí (x2) on an annual basis.

6.4 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall have the authority to form **Departments** to focus on specialized and clearly defined areas of work.

7.0 Decision Making

7.1 Recognising the importance of collective decision-making within the context of revolutionary struggle every effort shall be made to achieve the highest possible levels of participation in éirígí's internal decision making processes.

7.2 Recognising the potentially divisive nature of simple-majority voting every effort shall be made to reach consensus on all proposals prior to the taking of votes.

7.3 Every member shall have an equal vote on major issues of policy and strategy.

7.4 All decisions in relation to major issues of policy and strategy shall use the decision-making process outlined in section two of this constitution.

8.0 Amendments to the éirígí Constitution

8.1. Amendments to 'Section One' of the éirígí Constitution can only be made by An Ard-Fheis. Notice of proposed changes to 'Section One' of the éirígí Constitution must be made available to all members not less than twenty one days prior to the meeting of An Ard-Fheis. Amendments to 'Section One' of the éirígí constitution shall require a majority of two-thirds support from those members voting at An Ard-Fheis.

8.2 Amendments to 'Section Two' of the éirígí Constitution can only be made by An Ard-Fheis or by the membership voting at meetings of Ciorcal Áitiúil. Notice of proposed changes to 'Section Two' of the éirígí Constitution must be made available to all members not less than twenty-one days prior to the meeting of An Ard-Fheis or relevant Ciorcal Áitiúil meeting. Amendments to 'Section Two' of the éirígí constitution shall require a majority of two-thirds support from those members voting at An Ard-Fheis or Ciorcal Áitiúil.

Section Two

1.0 Membership

1.1.0 Membership of éirígí is granted following a six-month probationary period.

1.1.1 Probationary membership is granted where An Ciorcal Náisiúnta is satisfied that the applicant is genuine, of good character, and that he/she subscribes to the socialist republican principles & objectives of éirígí.

1.1.2 Probationary members are not eligible to vote at An Ard-Fheis, An Ciorcal Náisiúnta or Ciorcal Áitiúil or hold any position within éirígí's structures.

1.1.3 In exceptional cases where two existing, non-probationary, members of éirígí are willing to act as referee's for an applicant An Ciorcal Náisiúnta has the power to reduce or waive said applicant's probationary period.

1.1.4 An appeal can be made by any probationary member who has been refused full membership. This appeal has to be made in writing, no later than 14 days after the decision has been communicated in writing to the individual who has been refused membership. This appeal will be dealt with by a three-person panel nominated by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta at its next meeting.

1.1.5 During the course of their probationary period all members are expected to attend and participate in the 'New Members Induction Programme'.

1.2.0 Members who fail to participate in party activities or structures for a period greater than six months will be deemed to be lapsed members.

1.2.1 In exceptional cases An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall have the power to extend the period after which an individual's membership will be deemed to have lapsed.

1.2.2 Lapsed members are not eligible to vote at An Ard-Fheis, An Ciorcal Náisiúnta or Ciorcal Áitiúil or hold any position within éirígí's structures.

1.2.3 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta alone shall have the authority to determine when individual membership has lapsed.

1.3 A copy of all protocols relating to recruitment and membership shall be made available to all members by An Rúnaí Ginearálta.

2.0 Structures

2.1.0 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall establish a committee tasked with organising the annual Ard-Fheis not less than 84 days ahead of the deadline for An Ard-Fheis.

2.1.1 All votes at An Ard-Fheis relating to amendments to the constitution and éirígí policy and strategy shall take the form of a show of hands with every member present entitled to vote.

2.1.2 Nominations for election to the positions of An Cathaoirleach (Chair), Leas-Chathaoirleach (Vice-Chair), An Rúnaí Ginearálta (General Secretary), Cisteoirí (Treasurers), An tOifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí (Public Relations Officer), An tOifigeach Ballraíochta (Membership Officer) and An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish Language Officer) can be made by individual members. All such nominations must be received not less than twenty-eight days prior to the date of the annual Ard-Fheis.

2.1.3 All members shall be informed of the names of those standing for election not less than twenty-one days prior to the date of An Ard-Fheis.

2.1.4 The election of An Cathaoirleach (Chair), Leas-Chathaoirleach (Vice-Chair), An Rúnaí Ginearálta (General Secretary), Cisteoirí (Treasurers), An tOifigeach Poiblíochta (Publicity), An tOifigeach Ballraíochta (Membership) and An tOifigeach Gaeilge (Irish language) shall take the form of a secret ballot with every member present at An Ard-Fheis entitled to vote.

2.2.0 For a vote on a motion convening an extraordinary Ard-Fheis to occur the motion must first have the support of ten named members.

2.2.1 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall ensure that all members are informed of a motion convening an extraordinary Ard-Fheis at least seven days in advance of the meeting of Ciorcal Áitiúil where a vote on said motion is to take place.

2.2.2 A simple majority shall be sufficient to carry a motion calling for an extraordinary Ard-Fheis where not less than two thirds of the total membership takes part in said vote.

2.3.0 The membership shall have the authority to recall An Ciorcal Náisiúnta, or individual members of same.

2.3.1 For a vote on a motion of recall to occur the motion must first have the support of a minimum of ten named members.

2.3.2 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall ensure that all members are informed of a motion of recall at least fourteen days in advance of the meeting of Ciorcal Áitiúil where a vote on said motion is to take place.

2.3.3 A simple majority shall be sufficient to carry a motion of recall where not less than two thirds of the total membership takes part in said vote.

2.4 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall have the authority to appoint up to four co-options to An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

2.5 In exceptional cases where An Cathaoirleach of a Ciorcal Áitiúil is unable to attend meetings of An Ciorcal Náisiúnta a substitute may attend in their

place. Such a substitute shall be elected by the membership of the Ciorcal Áitiúil.

3.0 Elections

3.1 The membership shall have the authority to decide on all major strategic issues relating to elections and elected institutions.

3.2.0 The membership shall have the power to recall any member who is also an elected representative.

3.2.1 For a vote on a motion of recall to occur the motion must first have the support of a minimum of ten named members.

3.2.2 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall ensure that all members are informed of a motion of recall at least fourteen days in advance of a meeting of Ciorcal Áitiúil where a vote on said motion shall take place.

3.2.3 A simple majority shall be sufficient to carry a motion of recall where not less than two-thirds of the total membership takes part in said vote.

3.3.0 Where a member is also an elected representative said member shall take direction from éirígí on all matters relating to their role as an elected representative.

4.0 Decision Making

4.1. Voting on major issues of policy and strategy shall take place at An Ard-Fheis or Ciorcal Áitiúil.

4.2.1 Where the Ciorcal Áitiúil mechanism is used for decision-making in relation to major issues of policy and strategy the following model shall be used.

Step 1: An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall draft proposal.

Step 2: Proposal shall be circulated to all members not less than fourteen days prior to the Ciorcal Áitiúil meeting convened for the purpose of discussing proposal.

Step 3: An explanatory presentation in support of the proposal shall be given within each Ciorcal Áitiúil.

Step 4: Questions relating to the detail of the proposal shall be taken and answered.

Step 5: The proposal shall then be discussed and debated with areas of contention identified and possible amendments suggested.

Step 6: An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall, if appropriate, amend proposal to address areas of contention.

Step 7: Where amendments are made to the original proposal An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall circulate amended proposal to all members not less than fourteen days prior to the Ciorcal Áitiúil meeting convened to vote on proposal.

Step 8: Following explanation of amendments, if any, members vote on the amended proposal within Ciorcal Áitiúil meetings convened for the purpose of voting on amended proposal. Members shall have the option of supporting the proposal or registering a strong objection to the proposal.

Step 9: An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall be responsible for collating votes from all Ciorcail Áitiúla.

- Where more than half of all voters register a ‘strong objection’ to the proposal, the proposal shall be deemed not to have passed and shall be abandoned.
- Where less than one third of all voters register a ‘strong objection’ the proposal shall be deemed to have been passed.
- Where more than one third, but less than one half, of all voters register a ‘strong objection’ to the proposal the proposal shall be deemed not to have passed and shall be the subject of a reconciliation committee.

Step 10: Where a proposal becomes the subject of a reconciliation committee An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall convene a committee to identify further possible amendments to the proposal. Such committees shall consist of a representative selection of those who support and have strong objections to the proposal. Suggested amendments are forwarded to An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

Step 11: An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall make further amendments, if appropriate, to a final draft.

Step 12: Where further amendments are made to the proposal An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall circulate final proposal to all members not less than fourteen days prior to the Ciorcal Áitiúil meeting convened for final vote on proposal.

Step 13: Following explanation of amendments, if any, members vote on the final proposal within Ciorcal Áitiúil meetings convened for the purpose of voting on final proposal. Members shall have the option of supporting the proposal or rejecting the proposal.

Step 14: An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall be responsible for collating votes from all Ciorcail Áitiúla.

- Where more than half of all voters support the proposal it is deemed to have passed.

- Where more than half of all voters reject the proposal it is deemed not to have been passed and shall be abandoned.

4.2.2 All votes within Ciorcail Áitiúla relating to major issues of policy or strategy proposals shall take the form of a show of hands.

4.2.3 A minimum participation of one half of the entire membership shall be required to constitute a quorum for the purpose of the adoption of any major policy or strategy proposal.

4.2.4 All members shall have the right to petition An Ciorcal Náisiúnta on any issue at any time. An Ciorcal Náisiúnta shall respond to all such petitions within 56 days.

5.0 A Code of Conduct for éirígí

5.1 Introduction

For a Code of Conduct to be actionable and enforceable it is essential that political activists appreciate that their behaviour and conduct need to be seen in a holistic context. Our actions must be viewed in terms of not only the behaviour itself, but also in terms of the impact it may have in a wider sense upon the group we represent.

It is essential also that the behaviour and conduct of personnel be seen as a reflection on the extent to which we have or have not politicised ourselves in a truly revolutionary way. In particular, the behaviour expected of revolutionary political activists must be viewed in the context of a desire to replace behaviours reflective of a dying social order with those of a coming order of a more just & humane type. In this sense a Code of Conduct is aspirational and directly appeals to the members' revolutionary sense of propriety and justice with regard both to our behaviour and conduct and how others should be treated.

Where appeals to a sense of propriety and justice are insufficient, and as an adjunct to this Code of Conduct, there are formal disciplinary procedures to deal with and investigate suspected and actual breaches of group discipline.

5.2 Capitalism & Behaviour

The task of constructing a new system based upon the socialist principles of solidarity, co-operation and collective community action etc., necessarily requires that activists firstly understand something of the factors that influence human social relations and behaviour.

A materialist perspective on the nature of human motivation and behaviour states that the manner in which the individual in any given society relates to others can be understood primarily in terms of the underlying values of that very society. No-one is immune from the influence of the social circumstances within which they were born and live.

By way of illustrating this connection we need only identify some of the defining characteristics of the capitalist system. These include amongst others, those of accumulation, competition, exploitation and individualism. These in turn provoke in the individual the expression of an underlying set of behaviours that mirror the fundamental principles of capitalism. Greed, competition, covet-ness, conflict, discrimination, envy, lack of respect for others, and suspicion etc. are prime examples of these behaviours. These signify, as Connolly termed it, the existence of a state of “social cannibalism” whereby individuals are by their very actions figuratively (if not directly and literally) devouring one and other.

The central point of what has been said so far is that people for the most part behave according to the economic, political and social values of the society within which they live. Therefore, behavioural change will only really occur on a wide scale in any qualitative sense when society is sufficiently modified to the extent that it reflects a new set of economic, and by extension social, values.

5.3 *Towards a New Social Order*

Political activists of the left have to greater or lesser extents distinguished themselves from the generality of people in so far as they have acknowledged the desirability, and perhaps necessity, of a fundamental change in political, social and economic relations.

There is an onus on those who would seek to lead or be part of a movement for radical social change to endeavour to reflect, in terms of their behaviour, the qualities of character of a type that Ché Guevara described in his essay “Man and Socialism in Cuba”. For instance:

“Let me say, with the risk of appearing ridiculous, that the true revolutionary is guided by strong feelings of love. It is impossible to think of an authentic revolutionary without this quality. This is perhaps one of the great dramas of a leader; he must combine an impassioned spirit with a cold mind and make painful decisions without flinching. Our vanguard revolutionaries must idealise their love for the people, for the most hallowed causes, and make it one and indivisible”.

The sentiments expressed here capture the essential qualities required of the revolutionary and highlight the need for us as political activists to reflect in our behaviour the characteristics of the new order we seek to aid in creating.

It is the duty of all revolutionary political activists to strive to reflect all that is good in people; the activists of a movement for revolutionary change must by their very actions strive to embody the most honourable and noble of human characteristics.

In the face of the hypocrisies and contradictions thrown forth by the predacious system of capitalism, we must come to, in many respects, represent the type of men and women that a future just society will produce.

5.4 *Revolutionary Political Activism & Behaviour*

It is crucial that we acknowledge the fact that those who represent a political message are seen as being the embodiment of that very message. In light of this it is of paramount importance that what we as individuals & political activists say and do be consistent.

The way in which a political movement is viewed is as much to do with how it is perceived as it is to do with the content of its political programme. Any group of activists that wishes to be a long-term contributor to the political life of the nation needs to have both the respect of those it seeks to attract to its number and potential supporters. This can only be achieved by virtue of our conducting ourselves in a manner that does not ape the reactionary values of the system we seek to replace.

When we declare ourselves in favour of a society that values all people as being intrinsically equal and worthy of full and deep participation in the life of the nation, we must ourselves at all times reflect this in our conduct towards other people.

By this is meant, for instance, that there can be no place in a genuine movement for revolutionary socialist change for any expressions of sexism, racism, sectarianism, chauvinism or a sense of superiority in relation to others. All of these behaviours are emblematic of a form of social relations that is fundamentally and inherently unjust and oppressive.

It is essential that the reputation we are ascribed by virtue of our words and deeds is one that does not diminish our capacity to both attract new members and supporters. What we say and do must always enhance our ability to grow and attract support. By necessity therefore, it is crucial that we are cognisant of the fact that we are representatives of the organisation and the political message it espouses **at all times**.

Members of éirígí, in our dealings with those we seek to influence, must at all times be disciplined, mature and of a general demeanour which communicates political and personal earnestness and integrity. We are the contact point for not only the political message but also the *nature* of the group.

When we speak to other political activists of the need for a broad political coalition for social change, we must impact upon them, again, not only with in terms of our message but also in terms of our individual and collective behaviour.

Members should always conduct themselves in relation to others in accordance with the principles of justice, respect and a desire to see right done by and to all people. Therefore, members must never engage in behaviours that are abusive, exploitative of others or in anyway contradict the political philosophy espoused by the group.

If we are to be successful in our endeavours we will need the respect and support of a large section of the population. This we will only achieve through being viewed as people who are worthy of being worked with and supported.

In this regard, again we must be above the reproach of the public through consistently practicing a revolutionary ethic.

As activists we must at all times strive to avoid the charge of hypocrisy; when we speak of the need for such grand ideals as liberation, equality and justice etc., we necessarily need to always seek to live up to those very same ideals, both in our personal and political lives.

By endeavouring to live our ideals we shall be well placed to influence others and show in concrete terms that another way of living and relating to one and other is possible. When we and others prove that another system is necessary we will have by our very actions and general conduct hopefully given some expression as to the form that a more humane way of socially relating to one and other may take.

6.0 Disciplinary Procedures

6.1 Any group that seeks to affect revolutionary change within society must ensure that its own membership serve as ambassadors for the group and by extension its analysis. There can be no place for individual hypocrisy within a revolutionary struggle. In this regard the need for internal disciplinary procedures is an unfortunate necessity where an individual fails to honour their own commitment to revolutionary struggle.

The procedures below are designed to protect éirígí while also upholding the individuals' right to natural justice. The circumstance under which an individual may be subject to disciplinary procedures will be where their actions are alleged to have brought éirígí into disrepute, or where their actions are alleged to be in contradiction to the core values and ethos of éirígí. These core values and ethos are contained within the éirígí code of conduct and other éirígí documentation.

The procedures below are brief in nature and are designed to provide a transparent and fair system for dealing with internal difficulties. éirígí could not attempt to legislate for every imaginable possibility and must therefore be guided by common-sense and a desire to always deliver natural justice.

6.2.0 Where An Ciorcal Náisiúnta is made aware of a potential breach of acceptable behaviour by a member an initial inquiry panel consisting of two members of éirígí will be appointed by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

6.2.1 Where the initial inquiry concludes that the nature of the alleged breach is such that a full investigation is warranted a disciplinary panel of three individuals (none of whom will have been a member of initial inquiry panel) will be appointed by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

6.2.2 Where the inquiry panel or the disciplinary panel conclude that the nature of the breach is so serious as to warrant the immediate suspension of the member against whom the allegation have been made both shall have the power to suspend the membership of individual members.

6.2.3 The panel will interview all individuals relevant to the alleged breach and gather any other relevant information.

6.2.4 The individual against whom an allegation of breach of acceptable behaviour has been made shall have the opportunity to refute the allegation and to call on others to support and/or represent their case.

6.2.5 The disciplinary panel shall come to conclusions on whether they believe the allegations to be substantially true or false. Where the allegations have been found to be substantially true the panel shall recommend sanction to be taken. Such sanction may take the form of verbal cautions, written warnings, suspensions or expulsion.

6.2.6 All recommendation of sanction from inquiry panels will be brought to An Ciorcal Náisiúnta who can choose to accept or reject the recommendations.

6.2.7 An Ciorcal Náisiúnta cannot overturn the findings of a disciplinary panel with regard to the truth or falsehood of an allegation, nor can they impose a sanction higher than that recommended by the disciplinary panel.

6.2.8 An individual has the right to appeal either the findings of the disciplinary panel or sanction imposed. In this scenario a three person panel (none of whom sat on either the relevant inquiry or disciplinary panel) will review both the information that had been at the disposal of the original disciplinary panel and any additional relevant information. This appeal panel shall have the power to overturn the decision of the original disciplinary panel and to reduce (but not increase) the sanction imposed by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta.

6.3.0 In the case of all appointments to all panels every effort shall be made to ensure that the panels are composed of individuals who were not directly involved or related to the allegations being made.

6.3.1 Every effort shall be made to ensure that all panels are composed of individuals whose previous relationship with the individual before the panel would not lead them to undue bias.

6.3.2 All members of panels shall be instructed by An Ciorcal Náisiúnta to be guided by a desire to ensure that natural justice is fulfilled and to treat the individual before them with neither fear nor favour.