## Invitation for expressions of interest to participate in a Collaborative Forum of former residents of Mother and Baby Homes and those with comparable experience in a County Home

The Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Katherine Zappone, T. D. invites expressions of interest from former residents of Mother and Baby Homes and those with comparable experience in a County Home for membership of a Collaborative Forum. Family members of former residents and individuals providing related supports or advocacy are also eligible to apply for membership.

It is intended that majority membership will comprise of former residents of these institutions.

The establishment of the Forum is a direct response to the theme of "nothing about us without us" which emerged from the consultations with former residents of these institutions and their advocates. The Forum aims to support, facilitate and empower former residents to actively contribute to decisions on matters of concern to them and their families.

The Minister has published a Charter for the Forum which sets out its general functions and provides a framework for the Forum's programme of work which is available on our Departments website.

If you wish to be considered for appointment to the Forum, please complete and submit an application form clearly marked as "Collaborative Forum Applications" to the address below. Receipt of your application will be acknowledged by return.

By Post: Department of Children and Youth Affairs

43-49 Mespil Road FREEPOST F5055

Dublin 4

By E-mail: CollaborativeForum@dcya.gov.ie

Application forms and all relevant documentation are available to view and download on the Department's website at www.DCYA.gov.ie. A hard copy of all documents can be forwarded to you directly by contacting the Department of Children and Youth Affairs at Tel: 01 6473200.

If you would like assistance in completing the application form, please contact us at 01 6473200.

Closing date for applications is Wednesday 30th May 2018 at 5 pm.

The Collaborative Forum is separate to the work of the independent Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes and Certain Related Matters.

