

Depaul Complaints Procedure – relating to Fundraising and Communications complaints from the public, supporters and potential supporters

Depaul supports people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Depaul operates as one charity but is registered as two separate legal entities in the Republic of Ireland (ROI) and Northern Ireland (NI). We have registered charity status in both jurisdictions.

Depaul shares close links with other members of the Vincentian Family and the Saint Vincent de Paul Society but we are a separate charity.

At the forefront of Depaul is our values;

- We celebrate the potential of people
- We put our words into action
- We aim to take a wider role in civil society
- We believe in rights and responsibilities

Our Vision is that every person should have a place to call home and a stake in their community

Our Mission is to offer homeless and disadvantaged people the opportunity to fulfil their potential and move towards a positive and independent future.

Handling Feedback and Complaints

Depaul is committed to ensuring that all our communications and dealings with the general public and our supporters are of the highest possible standard.

We are committed to listen and respond to the views of the general public and our supporters so that we can continue to improve.

Depaul welcomes both positive and negative feedback. Therefore we aim to ensure that:

- It is as easy as possible to make a complaint to Depaul
- Any communication that clearly expresses dissatisfaction with our operations and calls for a response is treated as a complaint
- We will treat complaints as serious no matter the correspondence method i.e. telephone, email, fax, letter.
- We will deal with all complaints promptly, politely and with respect.
- We will respond to all complaints in accordance with the complaint either by providing further information or an apology if a mistake has been made.
- We will learn from complaints and apply all learning, we will also monitor them and report these to our Board

If you have feedback or a complaint – Step One

If you do have a complaint about any aspect of our work, you can contact Depaul by email on depaul@depaulcharity.net

You can also contact Depaul in writing or by telephone to;

Republic of Ireland Central Office (01) 4537111, Holy Cross College, Clonliffe Road, Dublin 3.

Northern Ireland Central Office (028) 90647755 Unit 6, 449 Antrim Road, Belfast, BT15 3BJ

In the first instance, your complaint will be dealt with by our Fundraising and Communications Department in either Northern Ireland or Republic of Ireland dependant on the jurisdiction the complaint relates to.

Please give us as much information as possible and let us know how you would like us to respond to you, providing relevant contact details.

If you complain in person or over the phone, we will try to resolve the issue there and then. Similarly, if you complain by email or in writing we will always acknowledge your complaint within 5 working days of receipt, and do everything we can to resolve it within 14 working days. If this is not possible, we will explain why and provide a new deadline.

If you have feedback or a complaint – Step Two

If you do not feel your complaint has been adequately resolved we will refer your complaint to our Chief Executive Officer who will acknowledge your complaint within 5 working days of receipt, and do everything they can to resolve it within 14 working days. If this is not possible, they will explain why and provide a new deadline.

What if the complaint is not resolved?

If you are not happy with our response, you may get in touch again by writing to the Depaul Ireland Chairperson of the Board John Murphy. The Chairman will ensure that your appeal is considered at Board level and will respond within two weeks of this consideration by Board members.

We take the issue of transparency and accountability very seriously at Depaul.

Our Central offices are open 5 days a week Mon- Fri from 9.00 am to 5.00 pm, each day and closed on bank holidays.

Our Charity Registration details are

Depaul Ireland Ltd.-- Company Registration No. 357 828 Charity Registration No. 20048938
CHY14753

Depaul Northern Ireland Ltd.-- Company Registration No. N1054106 Charity Registration
No.102995 (XR87991)