

Rainbow Caucus Constitution

December 2025

Adopted as amended by all present on **09 December 2025.**

Vision

The vision of the Caucus, to be known as the Rainbow Caucus is to promote the achievement of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex+ (LGBTI+) equality within the parliamentary community and society by promoting inclusion and equality for all.

Mission

The mission of the Caucus is to work purposefully in promoting and advocating for initiatives that address issues affecting the LGBTI+ Community in the parliamentary community and the wider Irish society.

Values

The values of the Caucus are equity, equality, diversity and inclusion.

Membership

The Caucus will comprise members and former members of the Houses of the Oireachtas who wish to join it, and who adhere to the aforementioned values.

Officer Arrangements and Work Programme

The members will invite nominations from the membership for the positions of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Nominations for these positions will require a proposer and seconder. In the event of more than one candidate seeking a position members of the Caucus will vote using secret ballot.

It will be the responsibility of the Chairperson to consult members and draw up an annual work programme to be approved by all members, call meetings, and keep members informed of the work of the Caucus. The work programme will include a range of activities including, parliamentary activities, the organisation of and attendance at conferences, seminars and events relevant to the business of parliament, the development of links with other parliamentary caucuses, LGBTI+ organisations and parliamentary bodies.

The Caucus will be supported by a secretariat provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, this is currently provided by the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Unit of the Service. Communications support,

including social media management, where appropriate, will be provided by the Service.

The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson will carry over from the end of the parliamentary term and until new officers can be nominated in the new parliament.

Representing the Caucus at events would require attendance at least 50% of meetings in the 12 months preceding the decision to attend.

Meetings

The Caucus will meet at least annually to receive a report for the previous year and approve the annual work programme. It is expected that the Caucus would meet on a quarterly basis.

Notice period for all meetings will be no less than 1-2 weeks.

The quorum for meetings is 3 members.

The Chairperson and secretariat will meet more frequently as required. Minutes of meetings, decisions taken, actions agreed, and relevant documents will be kept and circulated to all members.

Decisions will be arrived at by consensus but where this is not possible, decisions will be made through voting of those present at the meeting.

Constitution change

This Constitution sets out the structure and rules of the Rainbow Caucus. The Constitution can be changed by consensus at a meeting of full members.

Funding

The Caucus will be accountable to the Houses of the Oireachtas Commission for any funding it may receive from that source. Funding is provided to support the parliamentary activities of current members of parliament set out in the agreed work programme. Any expenditure will be auditable under the normal rules which apply.