

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND LAW REFORM
AN ROINN DLÍ AGUS CIRT, COMHIONANNAIS AGUS ATHCHÓIRITHE DLÍ
RECEPTION AND INTEGRATION AGENCY
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Circular 1/08

To all Centre Managers


182/939/2008

Re: Distribution or display of party political leaflets, posters or circulars

It has come to the attention of the Reception and Integration Agency (RIA) that party political circulars are being sent to managers in certain centres with a request that they be distributed to residents. These circulars concern political stances being taken in relation to various issues in the asylum/immigration area.

Residents are entitled to their own political views and are, of course, free to communicate with political representatives. However, an accommodation centre must be politically neutral. In the same way that Public Service offices operate in a politically neutral environment, so also must accommodation centres be free from any party political associations.

To maintain the politically neutral environment in asylum centres under contract to RIA, centre managers must ensure that party political leaflets, posters or circulars are not displayed or circulated. If such documentation is received through the post, it should be returned to the sender accompanied by a copy of this circular.


Noel Dowling
Principal
RIA

18 July, 2008