

## contact

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### Safe Home office hours:

Monday to Thursday:

9.00am to 5.00pm

Friday:

9.00am to 4.00pm

**Thinking**  
of returning or moving to  
**Ireland?**

Get in touch with us!

Safe Home Programme CLG  
trading as Safe Home Ireland  
Charity No: 20049119  
Company Reg No: 351678

## follow us



## Welcome to our latest edition of the Safe Home Ireland Newsletter

We hope you are enjoying the summer so far and that the weather is nice wherever in the world you are located? Here in Ireland, it seems summer has decided to take a little break... but we're hopeful it will return soon.

We want to share some news snippets with you this month instead of using our standard template!

## Date for Your Diary – Launch of New Website



We will be hosting a Stakeholders' Day on **Monday, 22nd September 2025** at the **EPIC Irish Emigration Museum**, Dublin and we would be pleased to welcome your attendance at this special event.

*This event will be multi-faceted:*

- Launch of our **NEW Website**,
- **Meet our team** (staff, board, friends, Ambassador of Safe Home Ireland)
- Bring together a wide range of our **stakeholders and supporters**
- Hear from a **range of speakers** connected with our work

The day will also mark a **celebratory moment**, as we reflect on 25 years of Safe Home Ireland's work! We will share more details in our next e-bulletin but for now .. save the date!

Until our next edition, we hope you all have a wonderful summer from the Safe Home Ireland team

## Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade – Diaspora Strategy Consultation



The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has launched a comprehensive consultation process to inform the development of the Government's new **Diaspora Strategy**.

As part of this process, they are eager to hear from **Irish communities overseas** and those who have **recently returned to Ireland**. Your insights and experiences are vital to ensuring the new strategy addresses the real needs of the Irish diaspora and remains responsive to evolving circumstances.

DFAT are inviting people to share their views through their online consultation portals, these can be accessed via the following links:

- [Global Irish Survey for Individuals](#) (Deadline for completion: 31 August 2025)
- [Global Irish Survey for Organisations](#) (Deadline for completion: 31 August 2025)
- To submit a Global Irish Survey Position Paper, please send it to the email below by 31 August 2025: [GIS2025@thediasporainstitute.com](mailto:GIS2025@thediasporainstitute.com)

Both surveys are anonymous and will take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

There is also an opportunity to complete a paper survey or if you would like to submit a letter with your views. Contact Safe Home office for more information if you would like to contribute in this way

### We want to share news of the Inclusion of 'Returning Emigrants' in Galway County Council's Housing Allocation Scheme (HALS)

Safe Home Ireland warmly welcomes the recent amendment to Galway County Council's Housing Allocation Scheme (HALS) 2025, which now formally recognises and supports the housing needs of older Irish-born emigrants approved via Safe Home Ireland as a distinct group within the Council housing allocations policy. This amendment ensures that those who once left Ireland, many under difficult circumstances, are treated fairly and equitably within housing policy and welcomed back to Ireland with dignity and support. **It is important to note that the inclusion of these amendments does not afford preferential treatment but ensures equal treatment with other vulnerable groups.**

We also want to extend our sincere gratitude to Galway County Council and to Cllr Dr Evelyn Parsons, who has championed this motion from the outset. As a returned emigrant herself, Cllr Parsons brought lived experience abroad, deep understanding and unwavering commitment to the issue. Her advocacy and leadership were instrumental in bringing this important policy change to fruition.

**We look forward to engaging with local authorities nationwide to promote similar policy change for returning Irish emigrants in housing policy across Ireland.**

**Finally**, we are taking a short break to facilitate staff annual leave for our small but impactful team! Our office will be closed from **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> August (bank holiday in Ireland) to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August**. We will be back fully refreshed on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> August from 9am!

