

## **Cairde**

**Strabane Republican Ex-Prisoners Group**  
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12 DEC 2007

To Whom it may concern

Please find enclosed feedback from Cairde Concerning Bill of Rights Workshop which was held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2007 in Rural College Draperstown.

Chairman  
John Mc Crory

*John Mc Crory*

BILL OF RIGHTS  
FORUM

21 JAN 2007

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## *Feedback from Cairde*

### Freedom of Religion:

1. Everybody should have the right to choose their religion and the freedom to practice it.
2. Wearing religious symbols is all right as long as it does not annoy other religions.
3. The conflict between religion and other rights should never happen.

### Freedom of Political Belief and Expression:

4. Freedom of political belief and expression should be stated clearly in the Bill of Rights.
5. The right to peaceful protest should be included and stated clearly.

### Marching, Flags, Emblems and Murals:

6. All sides should be treated equally with respect for each other and come to agreement on marches.

### Language Equality Issues:

7. All languages should be treated equally and funded by government.
8. Languages should not be used as a bar to employment.
9. People have the right to learn any language, funded by government as a right.
10. There are more Irish language schools each year and this is something the government will have to look at.

### Ex-Prisoners Issues:

11. Political ex-prisoners face discrimination every day in seeking work, mortgages and everyday life. This has to change. All records should be wiped clean.

### Victims Issues:

12. All victims should be treated equally, regardless of religion.
13. We have a need for support services.
14. Everybody has the right to the truth.
15. Everyone has a right to the truth.
16. Restorative justice has a part to play.

### Social Rights Issues:

17. All areas should have the right to a say in planning.
18. To be safe in your own home is a right.
19. We need adequate policing, which we do not have at present.

37. Our elderly people should be better looked after, health-wise and money-wise (pensions). Especially when winter takes a heavy toll on the elderly.

Traffic Issues:

38. With so much traffic, are our roads able to cope? A lot are not and there are more cars every year.

Access to Affordable Housing:

39. This should be a right for everybody. Right now there is a big housing list in all cities and towns. Access to affordable housing should be in a Bill of Rights.

Water Tax:

40. All water should be free and this should be included in a Bill of Rights.