

Minister Hogan,
Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government
Custom House Quay
Dublin 1

Dear Minister Hogan,

The Donegal Democrat has had a very good working relationship with Donegal Women's Network (DWN) for the past fifteen years. A weekly feature entitled 'Women's Lives' has been submitted by the Editorial Group of DWN during this time.

The women in Donegal place great trust in this women community- led organisation and often share very personal stories. 'Women's Lives' provides a voice for women from diverse backgrounds and cultures in Donegal. It highlights the reality of their lives that enables the reader to gain a better understanding of the many challenges that women face as well as raising awareness on the issues and concerns for women and their families in Donegal.

I have attended a number of their AGM.s and had the opportunity to meet and hear first -hand how DWN has supported and engaged with women from throughout the county. We will never know the true impact that 'Women's Lives' has had on the readers and the women whose lives have been highlighted however from feedback it has enriched, informed and challenged many.

As Editor of the Donegal Democrat I believe that DWN has played an absolutely vital role in the Donegal community. It is crucial that their work on behalf of women is allowed to continue.

Yours sincerely

Michael Daly,
Editor in Chief
Donegal Democrat