



Cllr. Niamh Kennedy
Member of Donegal County Council

Croaghlin,
Killybegs,
Co. Donegal.

15/07/2014

Dear Minister Hogan,

I am writing to express my concern about the future of Donegal Women's Network. Over the past year I have engaged with the Network and its work with women in highlighting the right for equal political representation for women.

I have gained significant understanding of the gender gap in political representation in Ireland and my confidence in addressing this issue at local level has increased through the work of the Network and the 5050 North West Group.

"Here in Ireland the rights of women have improved greatly since we first joined the then EEC in 1973, but the goal of full equality remains a work in progress." *EU Commission, Irish Women.*

I urge you to honour the commitments made by successive governments to equal rights for women, therefore, funding for the National Collective of Community Based Women's Networks needs to be ringfenced. The work of the network is valuable and nobody else is doing it.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Niamh Kennedy', written over a horizontal line.