



L I Centre Limited
Registered Company Number 8221421
Registered Charity Number 1149787

Resolution Number 2 (Special Resolution) presented at the Annual General Meeting of the London Irish Centre Charity on Monday 14 May 2018. **Carried:** 56 in favour, 3 against, no abstentions.

The Board of Trustees of the London Irish Centre Charity propose that Object 2.5 in the Articles of Association be rescinded:
"2.5 (to) advance the Christian faith for the public benefit by encouraging and facilitating the practice of religion particularly by the provision of facilities and amenities in such ways as may be thought fit".

Background

When the merger of the London Irish Centre and Irish Charitable Trust was negotiated, the Articles of Association had to be revised and the relevance of this object was discussed; it was part of the then set of London Irish Centre articles but had no corresponding object in the Irish Charitable Trust articles. The lawyers advising recommended keeping this object as it was a historical goal of the charity, reflecting the fact that when the London Irish Centre was set up in 1954 it was established and run by Catholic clergy, as was the Irish Charitable Trust, set up in 1969. The clergy have not been involved in the governance and operation of the charity for some years now, nor has the Centre done anything to encourage and facilitate the practice of religion. The merger took place and the current Charity was set up in 2013.

Reasons for making the change

The arguments for removing the object now are:

The Charity does nothing to achieve this object and nothing has been done for at least 15 years.

The Charity's mission is to be the heart of the Irish community in London, and if it is to succeed in that mission then it needs to reflect the diversity of that community, including the fact that the Irish are of many different faiths or of none.

To be as inclusive as possible in the support the Charity offers to the vulnerable members of the London Irish community (Object 1), particularly survivors of institutional abuse, the Charity should remove Object 5.

The Charity does not have resources to achieve this object.

In its strategy and operation, the Charity is fully committed to Objects 1 to 4 and 6 as its work demonstrates and this has been the case for many years now. These form the new set of objects – see next section.

Complying with Charity Commission regulations

Before a resolution such as this is presented to the Members to vote on, it

must be seen and scrutinised by the Charity Commission. This has been done and the Commission replied:

"Thank you for submitting the application to change your charity's objects. Your request has been successful and you now have the formal consent from the Charity Commission under s.198(2)(a) of the Charities Act 2011 to amend the charity's objects to read:

THE OBJECTS OF THE CHARITY ARE, FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, AND INCLUDING FOR THOSE PERSONS WHO ARE FROM THE IRISH COMMUNITY: 1 TO RELIEVE AND COMBAT POVERTY, DISTRESS, FINANCIAL HARDSHIP, AND SICKNESS;

2 TO RELIEVE THOSE IN NEED BY REASON OF YOUTH, AGE, ILL HEALTH, DISABILITY, UNEMPLOYMENT OR OTHER DISADVANTAGE;

3 TO PROMOTE IRISH ART, CULTURE AND HERITAGE FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT;

4 TO ADVANCE EDUCATION FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT IN IRISH CULTURE AND LANGUAGE;

5 TO ADVANCE ANY SUCH OTHER PURPOSE BEING EXCLUSIVELY CHARITABLE ACCORDING TO THE LAW OF ENGLAND AND WALES AS THE TRUSTEES MAY FROM TIME TO TIME DETERMINE."

Dermot Murphy, Chair of the Board of Trustees