



## **Training on housing law & homelessness, including related social welfare law**

Since our establishment, MLRC has worked in partnership with many different organisations to advance the cause of access to justice for homeless people and those at risk of homelessness. To assist in this aim we provide training on housing law and homelessness, including related social welfare law, to advocates working or volunteering in the field of homelessness.

The following outlines the MLRC training options and the standard topics covered. Where possible we recommend the full day training, particularly for groups of 20+ as there is more scope for discussion. Training can be held at your office or depending on availability we can host the training at the Wisdom Centre, Sophia Housing, 25 Cork Street, Dublin 8.

### **Option 1**

7 hours full day training session, 9.30 a.m. - 4.30 p.m.

Cost is €1,300 for up to 12 participants, €110 for each additional participant up to a maximum of 30.

Additional charge of minimum €120 applies if training is held outside Dublin

Participants on the full day training will be provided with the MLRC training manual and all topics will be covered:

Introduction to MLRC

Casework undertaken by MLRC

Background legal principles:

- Freedom of information
- Data protection
- Legal aid
- Fair procedures
- European Convention on Human Rights

Overview of housing law including a review of the law re:

- The housing list and priority on the housing list
- Homelessness
- Rent
- HAP
- Standards of housing and the duty of maintenance
- Anti-social behaviour and estate management
- Evictions
- Equality

Case studies  
Conclusion

### **Option 2**

3.5 hours training session, morning (9.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.) or afternoon (2.00 p.m. - 5.30 p.m.)  
Cost is €700 for up to 10 participants, €70 for each additional participant up to a maximum of 25.

Additional charge of minimum €120 applies if training is held outside Dublin

Participants on the half day training will be provided with the full MLRC training manual and the following topics from the manual will be covered in the training session:

- Introduction to MLRC
- Fair procedures principles
- The housing list and priority on the housing list
- Homelessness
- Rent
- HAP
- Standards of housing and the duty of maintenance
- Anti-social behaviour and estate management
- Evictions
- Equality
- Case studies

### **Option 3**

2 hour session

Cost is €480 for up to 8 participants, €60 for each additional participant up to a maximum of 15.

Additional charge of minimum €120 applies if training is held outside Dublin

We suggest four topics to be selected to be covered in the session

Our training on housing law is delivered by one of the MLRC solicitors. MLRC is the only law centre and organisation in Ireland that works exclusively on housing and homelessness matters. Our solicitors are specialised in this niche area and MLRC solicitors are up to date and knowledgeable on current issues arising in accessing homeless services and social housing and the applicable legal framework.

MLRC has a comprehensive training manual, which is regularly updated, including a specific section on issues arising with respect of homelessness. This reflects recent changes to the law in case law in respect of housing and homelessness. The manual provides a resource at the training for attendees and an ongoing resource following on from the training. The manual covers all topics listed above in considerable detail.

MLRC delivers the training with the assistance of a power point presentation. Our method includes reliance on the training materials but also integrates case studies and group work to assist attendees in identifying relevant issues and addressing them. We also promote an interactive session and attendees are encouraged to ask questions and to engage in the session.

In 2018, we provided legal support to over 100 organisations and training to over 160 individuals, including frontline volunteers, workers and professionals. MLRC has trained staff and volunteers of many local and national agencies, including:

- Focus Ireland
- Simon Community
- Sophia Housing
- ICON
- Crosscare Advocacy Service
- Office of the Ombudsman for Children
- Solicitors at A&L Goodbody
- Local Authority Staff
- Multiple Citizens Information Services
- DePaul
- Salvation Army
- Local & National Politicians and staff
- Various Traveller Action Groups
- Irish Refugee Council
- HSE
- Irish Human Rights & Equality Commission
- Threshold
- Various Community Groups

We would be delighted to discuss your organisation's training needs

If your organisation would like further information, please contact [events@mercylaw.ie](mailto:events@mercylaw.ie) or use the contact form provided.