

Good afternoon,

I wanted to share a brief update on the progress of the development of the National Centre for Research and Remembrance. Earlier today, the Taoiseach and I updated Government on how this landmark project is advancing. We provided an update on developments across a number of areas, including the construction works, governance arrangements, and the ongoing work to develop the repository of records that will be a key part of the Centre. I am personally very pleased to note the expansion of the Steering Group to include survivor members, as well as the ongoing development of draft policy proposals for the records repository, which I intend to bring to Government later this year and publish for public consultation.

Restoration works on the historic structures at the Centre are underway, in preparation for the main works which are expected to begin next year. The Special Advocate for Survivors of Institutional Abuse has requested a video of the ongoing construction work so that survivors are kept informed and this will be made available to you soon at www.gov.ie/nationalcentre. The National Centre is currently expected to be ready in 2030.

With warm regards and good wishes,

Norma Foley,
Minister for Children, Disability and Equality