



SICAP

Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme

Counting you in for SICAP supports and services

When you register for SICAP supports you will be asked questions about yourself and how we can best help you; this includes your ethnicity. This leaflet explains why we are collecting information about ethnicity and how it will be used to provide services that suit your needs, for example, employment, education and other services.

1. What is an ethnic group?

Everybody has an ethnicity and belongs to an ethnic group. An ethnic group is made up of people who share some or all of the following:

- ➔ Culture
- ➔ Religion
- ➔ History
- ➔ Language
- ➔ Come from the same place

Ethnicity is not the same as nationality. Nationality can refer to the country in which you were born but it is often used to mean citizenship like the question in the national census.



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An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála, Pobail agus Rialtais Áitiúil
Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government



2. Who is being asked this question?

Everyone. No matter who you are or where you come from, you will be asked this question when you register for a SICAP service.

3. Why should I answer this question?

By answering this question, you will help us:

- Make sure people are treated equally and no group is excluded
- Provide supports and services that best suit your needs
- Record your ethnicity correctly
- Make sure SICAP is funded to provide services to people

4. What does ethnicity have to do with the services I am looking for?

Information on ethnicity is important to make sure that we can offer the most appropriate supports and services to meet the needs of all groups.

5. Will the information be kept confidential?

Yes, this information will be kept confidential and any personal information will not be shared outside of this service.

This **information is confidential** which means that no one will be able to identify you. **We will not share your information** with other government staff or officials, for example, social welfare, Revenue, etc. Information will not be used to find out your immigration status and will not be reported to the INIS.

6. What if my ethnicity is not listed or I belong to more than one ethnic/cultural group?

You can choose the **'Other'** box and tell us your ethnic/cultural group(s).

7. Can I ask staff to decide what is my ethnic group?

No. You are the only person who can decide your ethnicity. However, if you are unsure a staff member can help you.

8. What will happen if I don't answer this question?

A staff member will provide a consent form for you to sign at the start of the interview so that this information can be collected. It is up to you whether you answer this particular question.

However, answers to this question can help us to support people from different ethnic backgrounds and make sure they are treated equally. This information will also make sure that resources for the service continue to be provided.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please ask a member of staff.

LOCAL CONTACT DETAILS: