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Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) Releases Manifesto for a Psychologically Healthier Ireland

Ireland will elect a new Government in February 2020. This is an opportunity for each political grouping in Ireland to have, at the core of their manifestos, policies that will work towards achieving a Psychologically Healthier Ireland.

The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) fully supports the existing Healthy Ireland initiative of the Irish Government, though it believes that a Psychologically Healthier Ireland initiative needs to prioritise and include other areas not embedded within the existing initiative. The PSI calls on the different political parties to consider placing these recommendations at the core of their political manifestos and programmes for Government. These policies are informed and shaped by extensive psychological evidence and expertise that seek to improve the everyday lives of the citizens of Ireland.

Each of the political manifestos should contain actionable and measurable commitments that focus on:

1. Housing / Homelessness;
2. Education;
3. Access to Psychological Care;
4. Climate Change;
5. Direct Provision;
6. Sport & Exercise.

PSI President Mark Smyth says: *"We need a new Government that is committed to improving the psychological welfare of its citizens. We don't need election promises, we need evidence-based, actionable plans that address the structural inequalities such that are impacting on our citizens now. Our most basic human needs of housing, education, and a habitable planet must be addressed if we are to achieve another most basic but crucial psychological need, hope"*.

ENDS.

For further information, or to arrange an interview, please contact:

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To note:

- **See the full Manifesto [here](#)**
- The Psychological Society of Ireland (PSI) is the learned and professional body for psychology in the Republic of Ireland. Established in 1970, the Society currently has almost 3,000 members;
- The PSI is committed to maintaining high standards of practice in psychology and to exploring new and innovative ways of furthering psychology.