**Minister Frances Fitzgerald, T.D, Minister for Justice and Equality**

Frances Fitzgerald was appointed as Minister for Justice & Equality on the 8th May 2014 and has been actively involved in delivering the Government’s programme of justice reform. Prior to that she was the first Minister for Children and Youth Affairs in Ireland and lead the establishment of Tusla, the new Child and Family Agency.

Frances is TD for Dublin Mid West, and was previously a TD for Dublin South East for 10 years. She was Leader of the Opposition in the Irish Senate from 2007 to 2011.

Prior to her election to the Dáil, Frances served as Chair of the National Women’s Council of Ireland, where she initiated and served on the second Commission on Women, and chaired the Employment Sub-Committee. She held the first conference in Ireland on Women and Decision Making and championed the cause of equality proofing mechanisms.

Frances also led a number of high profile health campaigns and was Vice Chair of Europa Donna, the European breast cancer campaign.