Human rights commission issues statement following anti-immigration protests at Citywest

Following multiple protests at Citywest reception facility where some Garda agents were injured, the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission (IHREC) issued a statement:

"IHREC expresses deep concern for the wellbeing of the child at the centre of this case. This is now a matter for An Garda Síochána, who must be allowed to carry out their work and ensure that justice follows its proper course.

We also express concern about the safety and welfare of those seeking international protection in Citywest and across Ireland. Every person has the right to feel safe here, yet fear is growing within these communities as hate-driven incidents increase.

This should be a time for unity and reflection on how we protect all children, not a moment that leaves more young people frightened to walk to school because of anti-migrant violence outside their homes, over the last two nights.

Everyone deserves safety in their home, whether that home is a house or an international protection centre. Citywest remains a temporary home for children and families awaiting decisions on their applications, and they deserve our compassion, dignity and respect.

The violence directed at An Garda Síochána is extremely concerning. Were it not for their efforts over recent nights, the situation could have been far worse.

Now is the moment for communities to stand together and reject the divisive hate being fuelled online. We need solidarity, not fear. Political leaders must demonstrate leadership and courage in safeguarding our most vulnerable communities; every person deserves safety and protection."

Source(s)

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- Irish Human rights and Equality Commission | Coimisiún na hÉireann um Chearta an Duine agus Comhionannas (23 October, 2025), [Commission Statement on Citywest], https://www.ihrec.ie/news-press/commission-statement-on-citywest

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