



## Environmental Pillar

### **A Presidential vision for a more sustainable, equitable and environmentally resilient Ireland**

The President articulates the vision and themes of their Presidency to the public and seeks to focus attention on the issues and problems that are important in our shared civic life.

The climate and nature crises affect us all. As the representative of the people of Ireland, at home and abroad, the President, through speeches and actions, could support and encourage new ideas for shaping Ireland's future, particularly in the areas of climate, nature and the environment.

The Environmental Pillar is calling on the new President to offer a vision for a more sustainable, equitable and environmentally resilient Ireland.

We believe the new President should:

- Advocate for climate and nature – by using the power of the presidency to constantly highlight the climate crisis and nature loss in speeches, ceremonial events, and public statements.
- Inspire social and community action – by championing examples of community-led sustainability and climate adaptation from across Ireland.
- Convene national conversations – by hosting dialogues, roundtables or public forums at Áras an Uachtaráin on climate justice, biodiversity, intergenerational fairness and the Wellbeing Economy.
- Promote environmental education and values – by using the President's influence in schools, universities and youth programmes to cultivate environmental citizenship and lifelong planetary stewardship.
- Represent Ireland as an environmental leader – by positioning Ireland internationally as committed to global climate and justice goals, encouraging solidarity and ambition among nations.
- Encourage cross-party and societal cooperation in Ireland – by using the President's unifying role to bring together leaders, civic groups and sectors to promote shared climate resilience and shared responsibility and long-term thinking.

- Protect the Constitution – by using constitutional powers, if needed, to refer any legislation with environmental or social-rights impacts to the Supreme Court for review, ensuring national action aligns with constitutional values.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Karen Ciesielski". The script is cursive and fluid, with a small dot at the end of the last word.

Karen Ciesielski  
Coordinator Environmental Pillar