

WRC eComplaint Portal - Step by Step User Guide

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Advantages of New Form

- Far easier to access. Available on all desktop/laptop browsers, as well as all mobile devices.
- More intuitive experience for users, with clearly labelled areas.
- Separate Employment Rights and Equal Status forms.
- Save as Draft functionality to allow for completion of Form at a later time.
- Document upload facility, allowing complainants to upload relevant documentation at the time of form submission.
- Eircode integration for easy address completion.
- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 compliant, allowing for ease of use for those with accessibility needs.

Points of Note on New Form

- As with all of our forms, this new Form should only be completed for individual complaint applications. For applications with multiple complainants, separate forms will be required.
- Save as Draft functionality saves the form and ends the application sessions. To restart the session, you must retrieve the draft from the email link that is sent to you.
- The new Form is up to date with all new legislation.
- The existing PDF form will no longer be accepted after a period of 4 weeks following on from the public launch of the new Form. Please do not try and complete an application after this time with the PDF, as the underlying network connections will be disabled, meaning the complaint will not go through.
- The Form will have an Irish language version, available on request to the WRC.

Portal Home Page - Guidance Notes

When you click through to the portal on the <u>WRC website</u> you are presented with the Guidance Notes for the portal. This page gives you useful notes about completing an application as well as some important points regarding the various aspects of a complaint application. There are links to both the Employment Rights and Equal Status complaint forms at the top of the page and at the bottom of the notes. There is no difference between clicking on an Employment Rights Complaint at the top of the page and by clicking on the Employment Rights link at the bottom of the notes. Both links will go to the same location. The same is true for Equal Status Complaint links



Guidance Notes for Completion of e-Complaint Form

The WRC is an independent body and is not in a position to give legal advice. The information contained in the complaint form is not to be treated as advice for either party. Do not rely on information contained in the form in place of advice. It is recommended that you read the form in its entirety before completing the online form.

When should you use this Form?

This complaint form should be used to make complaints to the Workplace Relations Commission in relation to alleged contraventions of employment, equality, equal status and certain industrial relations legislation.

How to make a complaint?

This is an e-Complaint Form. Simply fill in the details required and use the 'Submit' button. Your complaint will then be submitted electronically in a secure and confidential manner to the Workplace Relations Commission. See below for further details.

Complaint Form Layout

When submitting an application, complainants will be presented with a number of pages across the top of the application. These pages will be different for Employment Rights and Equal Status complaints. Below is an image from the Employment Rights complaint pages:



Employment Rights Complaint

Below is an image showing the pages from the Equal Status Complaint:



Equal Status Complaint

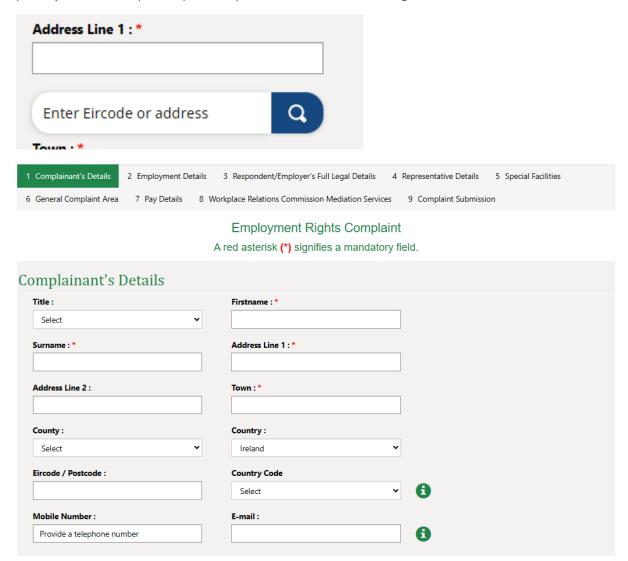
The main difference between the two complaints is that there is no need for complainants to enter Employment or Pay Details, as they are not relevant to the complaint.

How to submit an Employment Rights Complaint

Complainants Details

The first page on the Employment Rights application is for the Complainant Details. Some of these fields are mandatory in order to continue with your application. Mandatory fields are marked with a *.

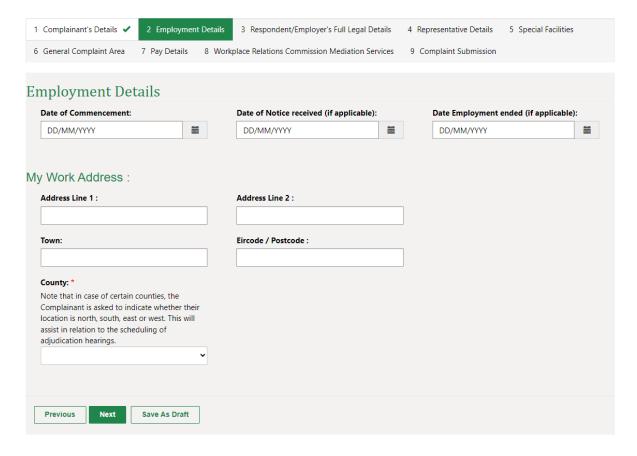
Clicking on the Address Line 1 field will bring up an Eircode Finder. It is recommended that you put in your Eircode (where possible) in order to save time filling in Address fields.



NOTE: In order to use the Save as Draft field at a later stage of the application, you must complete the 'Country Code', 'Mobile Number' and 'Email' fields. Please ensure that you are contactable on the number and email provided. If you are filling out this form as a representative of someone else, please ensure that you put your contact details in these fields.

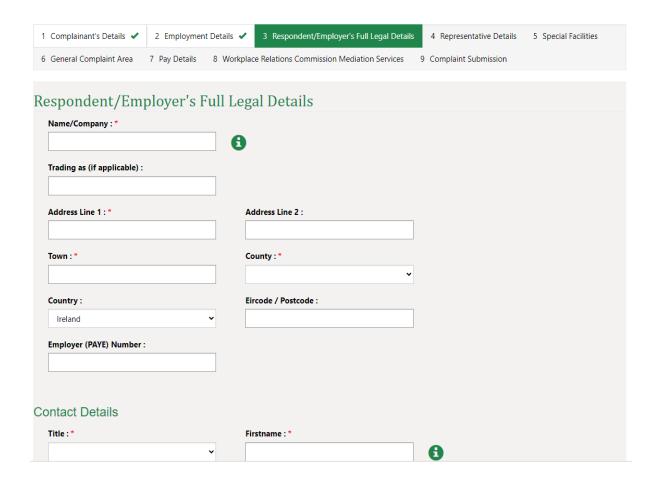
Employment Details

In the Employment Details section, a complainant needs to enter all the details relevant to their employment. For particular complaints, the information in these fields will be very important. However, only the County field is a required field in this section. The reason the County field is needed is that hearings will be scheduled taking into account the information in that field. Please be careful to include the correct Employer's County in this field.

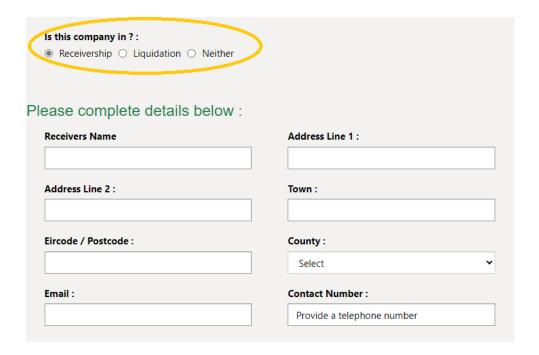


Respondent/Employer's Full Legal Details

It is important for any complainant to include as many details as possible as possible about the Respondent/Employer. There are numerous mandatory fields to be completed on this page, including the Main business activity/sector. Eircode functionality is present on the Address Line 1 field.



There are extra hidden fields in this section that will appear if the Receivership or Liquidation option is selected on the 'Is this company in?' question:



While the field is not mandatory, selecting Yes to the question of 'Will you have representation?', will allows you to enter information into the Representative Details section of the application.



Selecting No or leaving this field blank will result in that section of the application disappearing from the list of sections at the top of the page. This reduces the number of sections down to 8 instead of 9.

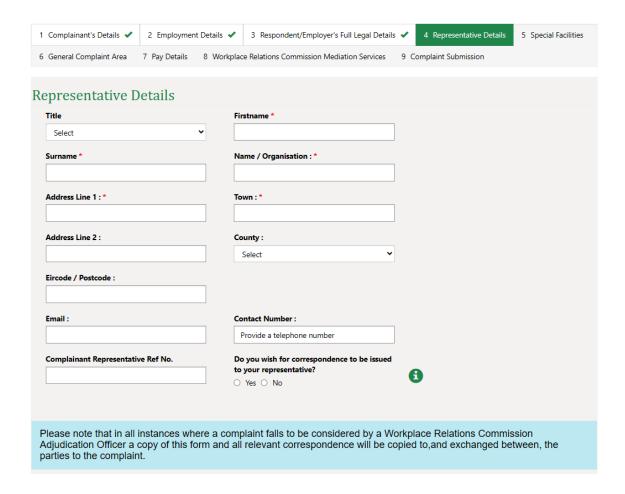


NOTE: The question marked as 'Do one or more of your complaint(s) relate to a contravention of the Transfer of Undertakings Regulations?' will also prompt another hidden section (Transferor Details) to appear. It's important to note that if Yes is selected to this question, more mandatory fields need to completed in order to progress the application to the next section.

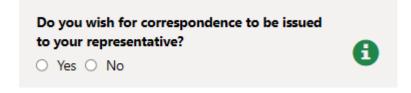
	processed ag	sfer of undertaking and other specific compaints, Jainst both named respondents(the Transferee and	
Do one or more of your complaint(s Regulations? No Pes) relate to a	contravention of the Transfer of Undertakings	8
lease provide details belo	w for yo	ur previous employer (Transferor)	:
Name/Company: *			
		1	
Trading as (if applicable) :			
riauring as (ii applicable) .			
Address Line 1 : *			
Town:*		Address Line 2 :	
Eircode / Postcode :	,	County: *	
		Select ~	
Date of Transfer : *		Contact Number :	
DD/MM/YYYY		Provide a telephone number	
Is the head office address different f	rom	Employer (PAYE) Number :	
above ? :			
	~		
Main business activity (and a sec			
Main business activity/sector : *			
Select	~		

Representative Details

If Yes is selected to the 'Will you have representation?', the next section for a complainant to complete will be the 'Representative Details'. This follows a very similar structure to other sections, with Eircode functionality in the Address Line 1 field.

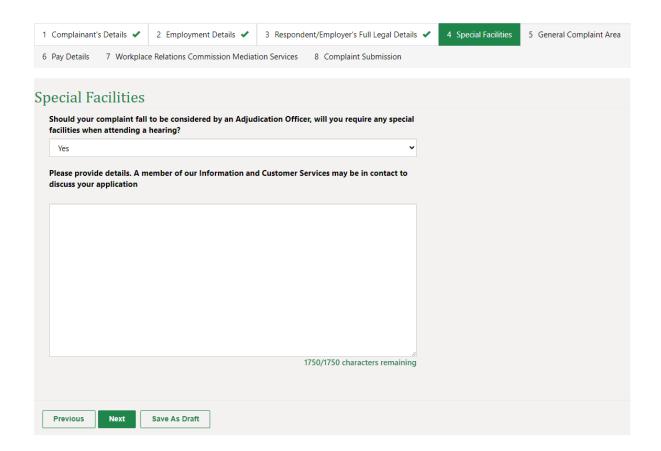


NOTE: This section contains the question 'Do you wish for correspondence to be issued to your representative?'. If you select Yes to this question, all further correspondence will be issued to both the complainant and the nominated representative. This does not apply to a Draft of the application, which can only go to one recipient.



Special Facilities

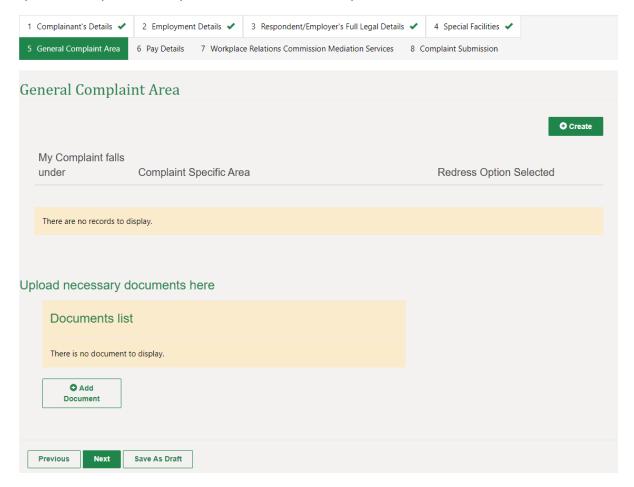
The Special Facilities section of the application allows for a complainant to fill in any details regarding extra needs they may have. If a complainant requires translation services to be involved, this is the area to enter those details. There are no required fields within this section.



General Complaint Area

Within the General Complaint Area, you'll find the ability to submit all specific complaints that are relevant to your application. Alongside this, you will also be able to upload any supplementary documentation for your application.

In order to create a new specific complaint, click on the 'Create' button. This will take you to the Specific Complaints area (covered in the next section).



NOTE: In order to create multiple specific complaints, you need to first Submit your specific complaint and be brought back to the General Complaint Area. From here, you can click on the 'Create' button again to create another specific complaint.

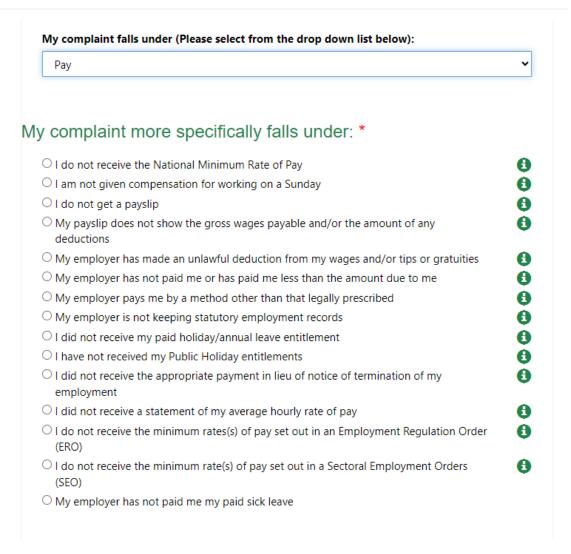
Once you have added a specific complaint, you can edit the complaint or delete it entirely using the drop-down options to the right of the complaint.



Specific Complaints

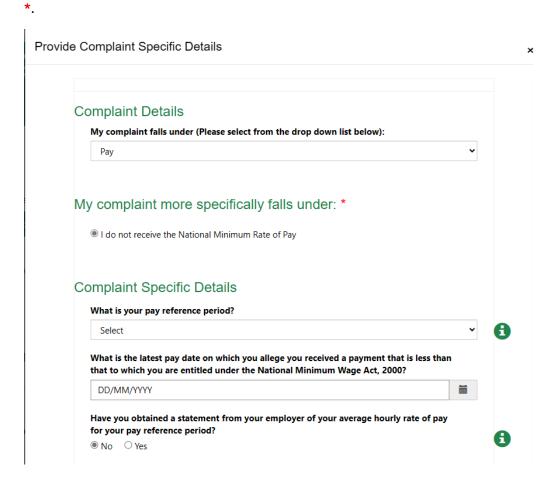
Within the Specific Complaints section, you choose the complaint type using the dropdown options menu. Once selected, you are presented with a number of options relevant to that complaint type.

Create

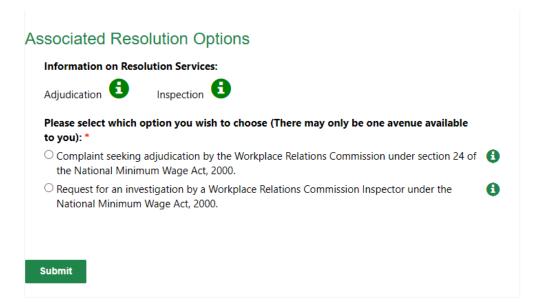


Depending on your selection, you may be presented with further questions that need to be answered in order to submit that complaint. Below is an example of the questions that are available to answer when submitting a Pay complaint type with the specific complaint of 'I do not receive the National Minimum rate of pay.

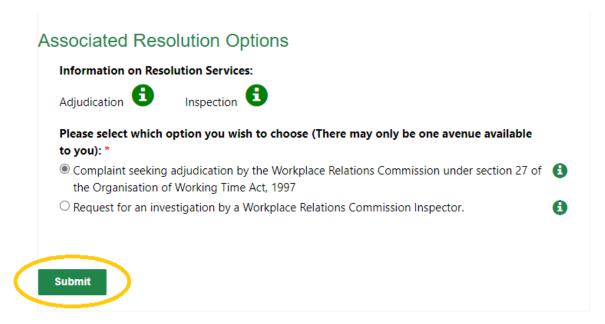
Note: Not all of these questions will be mandatory. Any mandatory questions will be marked as



The final thing that needs to be done when submitting a complaint will be to select the appropriate Redress or Resolution option for your complaint. In some cases, you will be given the opportunity to select an Adjudication or an Inspection resolution option. This is dependent on the type of complaint being submitted. Some of them will only have one of these two options.

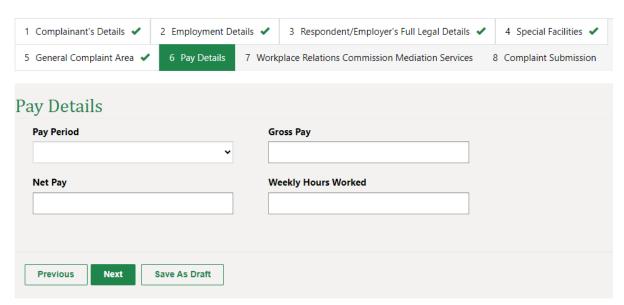


In order to submit that specific complaint to your application, you need to select 'Submit' at the bottom of the page.



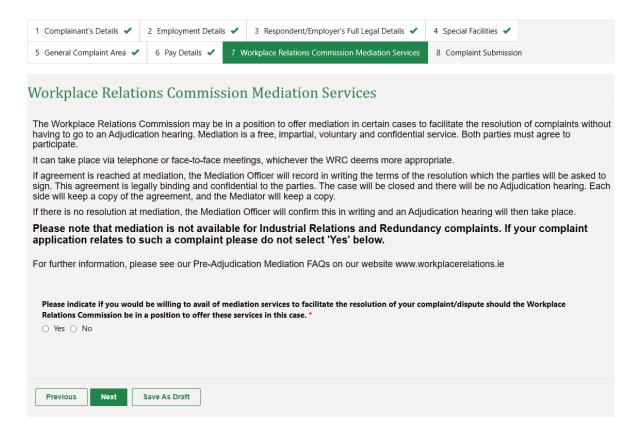
Pay Details

In the Pay Details section, a complainant needs to enter any information regarding their pay, if it is relevant to the complaint they are making. This section again is not mandatory, and only needs to be entered where it is relevant.



Mediation Services

The WRC offers mediation services where it is applicable to the complaint being made. The Mediation Services section of the complaint application form provides information on this and there is then a required field for all complainants to complete. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the application, this field needs to be completed. However, Mediation Services can only be provided where it is applicable to the type of complaint.

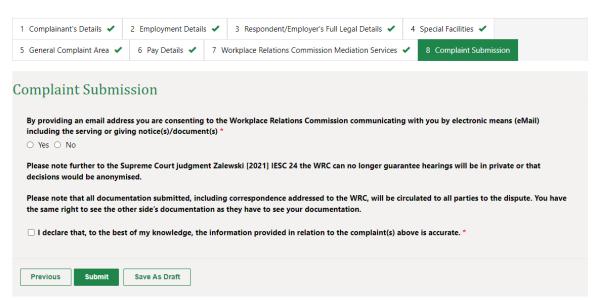


Complaint Submission

The final page of the complaint application is seeking consent from complainants to be contacted by email. If No is selected here, all future correspondence will be by post only.

A declaration is also required to confirm that the information in the form is accurate.



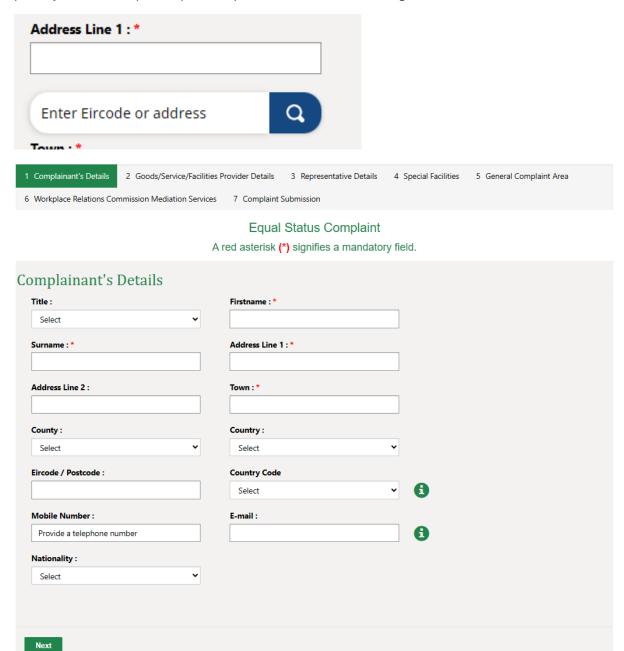


How to submit an Equal Status Complaint

Complainants Details

The first page on the Equal Status application is for the Complainant Details. Some of these fields are mandatory in order to continue with your application. Mandatory fields are marked with a *.

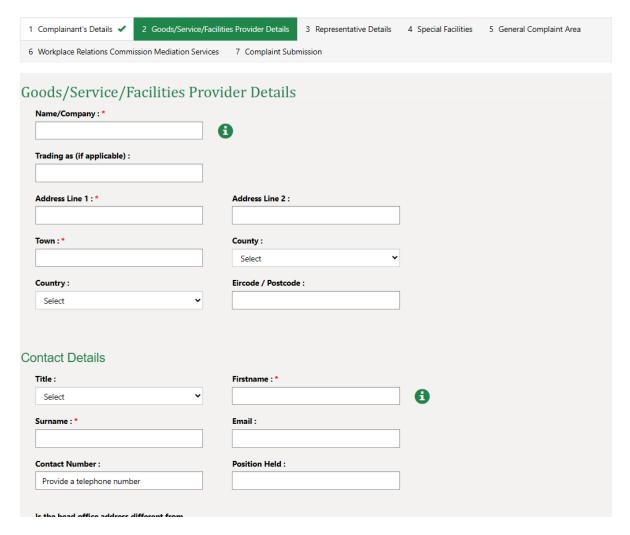
Clicking on the Address Line 1 field will bring up an Eircode Finder. It is recommended that you put in your Eircode (where possible) in order to save time filling in Address fields.



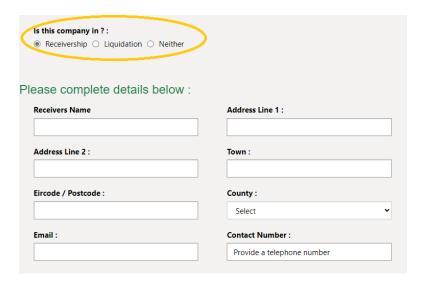
NOTE: In order to use the Save as Draft field at a later stage of the application, you must complete the 'Country Code', 'Mobile Number' and 'Email' fields. Please ensure that you are contactable on the number and email provided. If you are filling out this form as a representative of someone else, please ensure that you put your contact details in these fields.

Goods/Service/Facilities Provider Details

In this section, a complainant needs to enter all the details relevant to their Goods, Service or Facilities provider they are seeking to take a complaint against. For particular complaints, the information in these fields will be very important. However, only the County field is a required field in this section. The reason the County field is needed is that hearings will be scheduled taking into account the information in that field. Please be careful to include the correct County of the Goods, Service or Facilities Provider in this field.



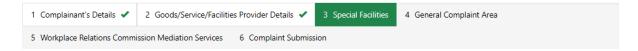
There are extra hidden fields in this section that will appear if the Receivership or Liquidation option is selected on the 'Is this company in?' question:



While the field is not mandatory, selecting Yes to the question of 'Will you have representation?', will allows you to enter information into the Representative Details section of the application.

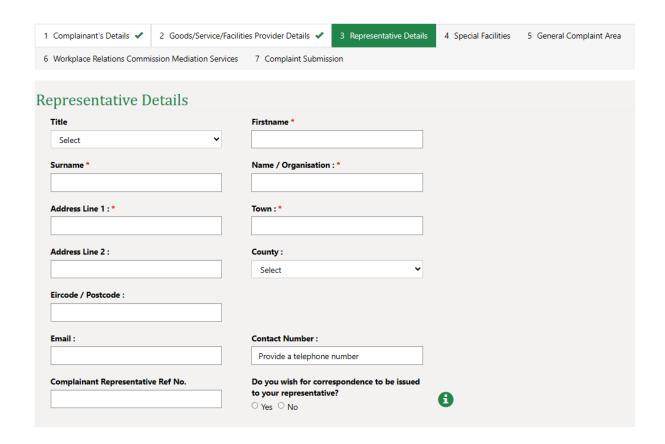


Selecting No or leaving this field blank will result in that section of the application disappearing from the list of sections at the top of the page. This reduces the number of sections down to 6 instead of 7.

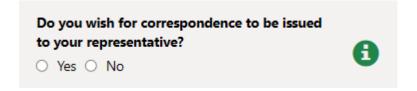


Representative Details

If Yes is selected to the 'Will you have representation?', the next section will be for a complainant to complete will be the 'Representative Details'. This follows a very similar structure to other sections, with Eircode functionality in the Address Line 1 field.

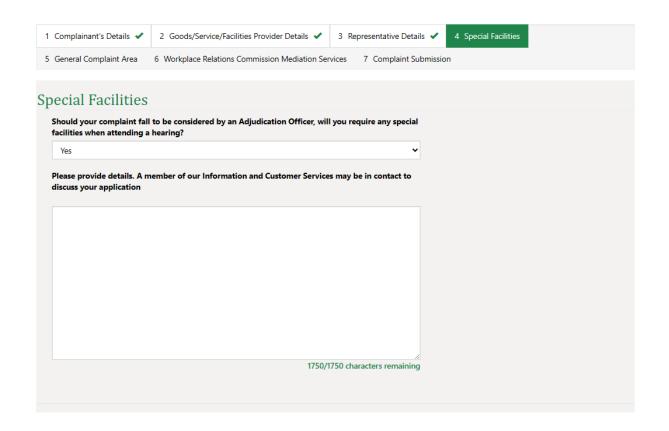


NOTE: This section contains the question 'Do you wish for correspondence to be issued to your representative?'. If you select Yes to this question, all further correspondence will be issued to both the complainant and the nominated representative. This does not apply to a Draft of the application, which can only go to one recipient.



Special Facilities

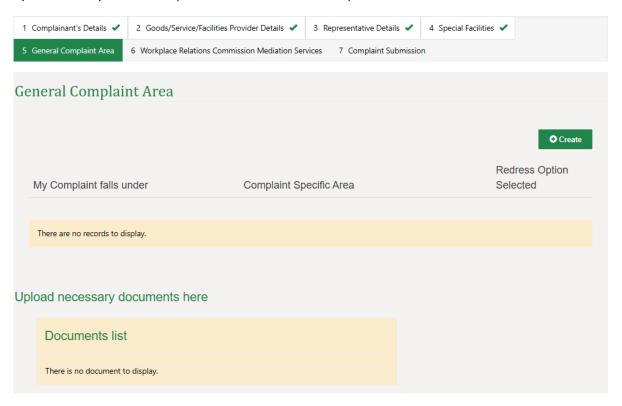
The Special Facilities section of the application allows for a complainant to fill in any details regarding extra needs they may have. If a complainant requires translation services to be involved, this is the area to enter those details. There are no required fields within this section.



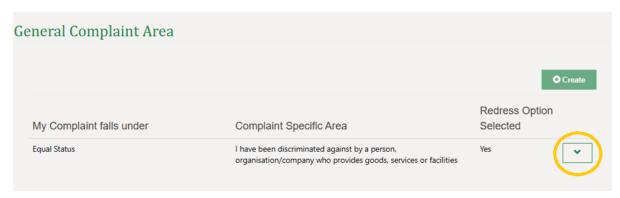
General Complaint Area

Within the General Complaint Area, you'll find the ability to submit specific complaints that are relevant to your application. Alongside this, you will also be able to upload any supplementary documentation for your application. In the case of an Equal Status complaint, there will be only one complaint option available.

In order to create a new specific complaint, click on the 'Create' button. This will take you to the Specific Complaints area (covered in the next section).

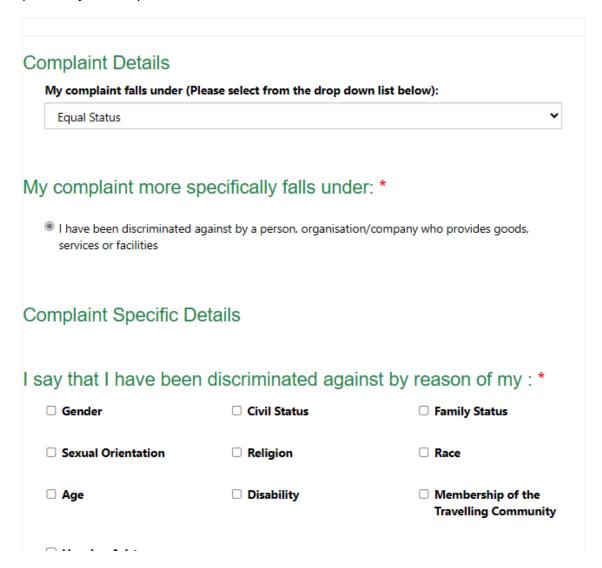


Once you have added a specific complaint, you can edit the complaint or delete it entirely using the drop-down options to the right of the complaint.



Specific Complaints

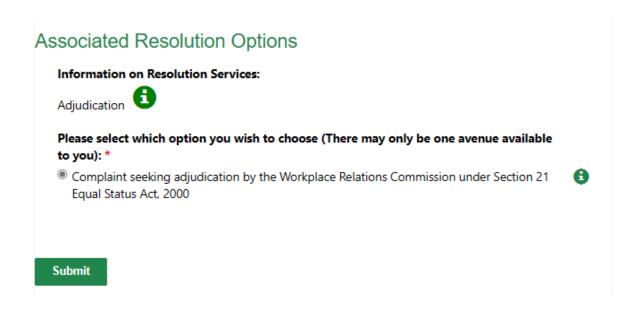
Within the Specific Complaints section, for an Equal Status complaint you will be just given that option for your complaint.



You will then be presented with further questions that need to be answered in order to submit that complaint. Above is an example of the questions that are available to answer when submitting an Equal Status complaint.

Note: Not all of these questions will be mandatory. Any mandatory questions will be marked as *.

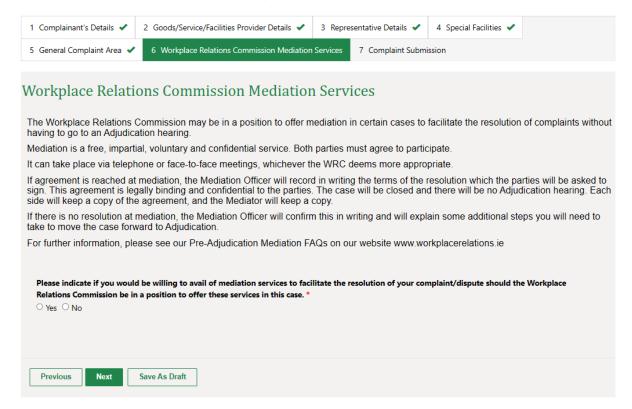
The final thing that needs to be done when submitting a complaint will be to select the Resolution option for your complaint.



In order to submit the specific complaint to your application, you need to select 'Submit' at the bottom of the page.

Mediation Services

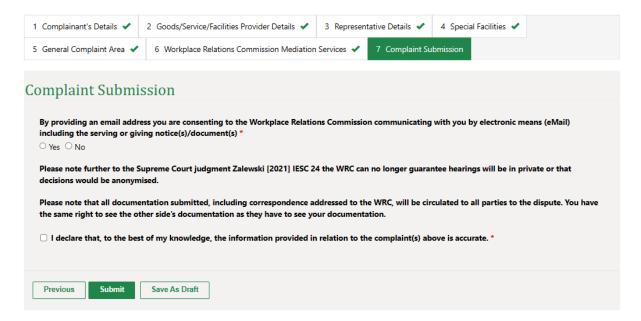
The WRC offers mediation services where it is applicable to the complaint being made. The Mediation Services section of the complaint application form provides information on this and there is then a required field for all complainants to complete. Unfortunately, due to the nature of the application, this field needs to be completed. However, Mediation Services can only be provided where it is applicable to the type of complaint.



Complaint Submission

The final page of the complaint application is seeking consent from complainants to be contacted by email. If No is selected here, all future correspondence will be by post only.

A declaration is also required to confirm that the information in the form is accurate.

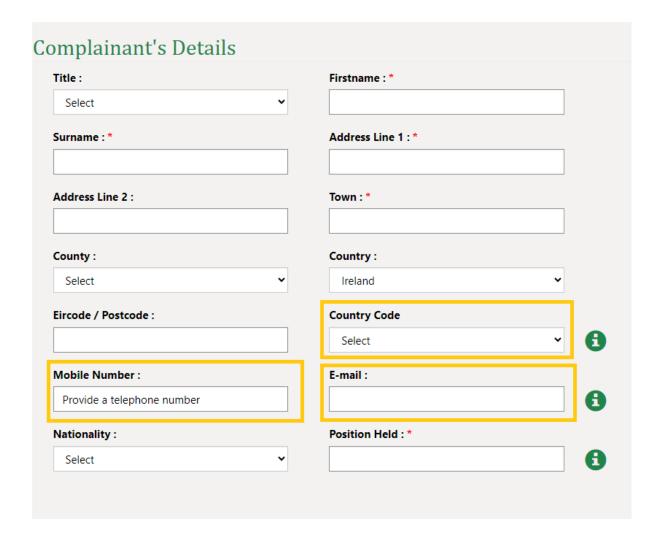


Save as Draft Functionality

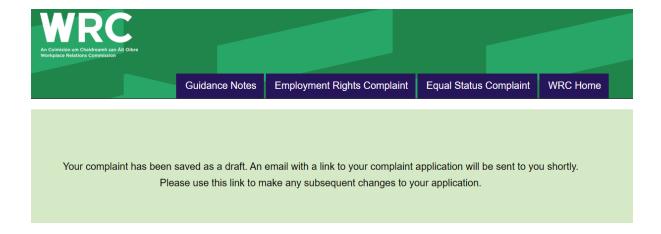
The Save as Draft functionality is one of the most prominent new features for the WRC online complaint form. It allows user to pause the completion of their application form and return to it from a link that is emailed to the complainant.

In order to be able to save your application as a draft, the following 3 fields needs to be completed on the 'Complainants Details' page of the application form. These are

- Country Code
- Contact Number (soon to be renamed 'Mobile Number')
- Email Address



Once the application has been saved, this ends the current application session, and the following message will appear.



In order to restart the application, the complainant needs to be click on the link that is emailed once they have saved the draft (please allow up to 20 minutes to receive the email). See below an example of the email.

Dear Test Name,

We would like to inform you that your WRC complaint form has been saved as a draft on our website.

To continue filling out the complaint form, please click on the following link:

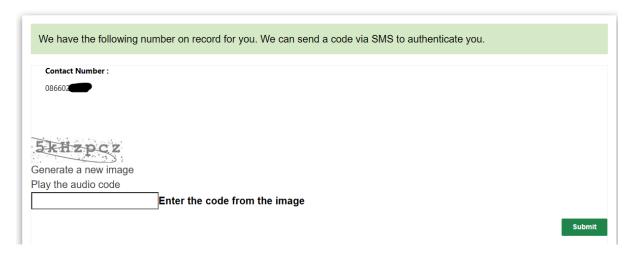
https://ecomplaint.workplacerelations.ie/verification/?id=3e9b500d-c89a-ef11-8a6a-000d3aba4ef5

The link will be valid for the next 30 days from the date it was created. Once you are ready to submit the complaint, please ensure that you complete all the mandatory fields before submitting it.

Please Note: This is a one-time only link. Please do not attempt to retrieve this link a second time. You must save your application again if you wish to pause it. Sincerely,

WRC Team

Once you click on the link, the complainant will be asked to authenticate themselves using the mobile number they entered in the Complainants Details page of the application. The first page of the authentication screen looks like the following:



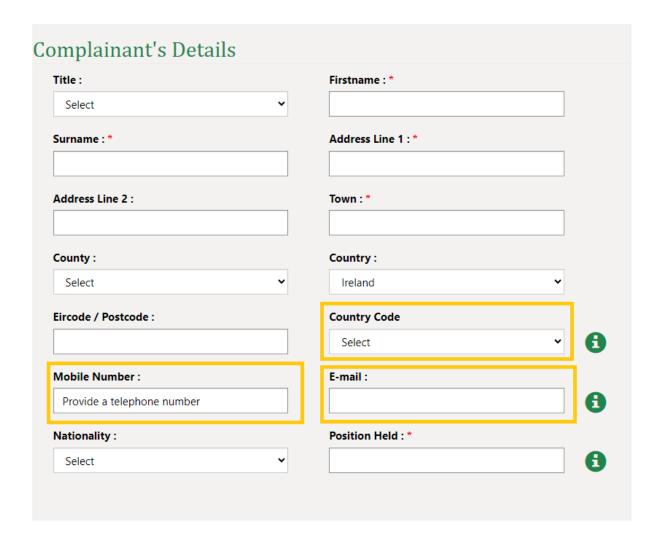
The code that is required on this page is to ensure no automated bots are attempting to access your data. Once this page is verified, a code is texted to the mobile number entered on the 'Complainants Details' page.



If the code is successfully entered, the application is loaded back into the web browser.

Notes:

- Please be aware that the link in the email is the only way to retrieve your draft. This can also only be done once. This is due to the fact that the new complaint form is built using Microsoft Power Pages and involves the use of 'Session IDs'. For the purposes of protecting personal data, these Session IDs are unique and can only exist in one place a given time. So when the user retrieves the application from the link, the session is restored back into the web browser, and has gone from the email link. In order to get a new Save as Draft link, the complainant will need to resave the application from the web browser.
- If you are completing this application on behalf of someone else, please ensure to put your contact details into the 3 fields highlighted on the Complainants Details page below. Doing this ensures that you will be send the 'Save as Draft' link, and that you will be able to retrieve the application. Under the 'Representatives Details' page of the complaint form, there is an option for communications to go to both the Complainant and the Representative. However, for the Save as Draft links, it can only be sent to one location (as explained in the point above), to the email entered in these highlighted fields.

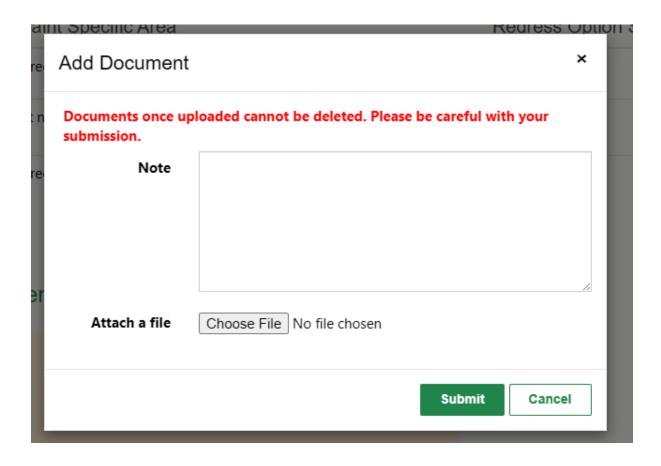


Document Upload Functionality

Another of the features of the of the new online complaint form, is the ability to upload supporting documents at the same time as completing the Complaint Application.

In order to do this, you need to go to the 'General Complaint Area' section of the application. From here, select 'Add Document'. This will take you to a information window where you can browse for the document and upload it.

NOTE: Once a document is uploaded, it can't be deleted. Please be aware of this when uploading.



The following file types are allowed:

- Office files .docx, .xlsx, .pptx
- .pdf
- .txt
- Image files, .jpg, .jpeg, .png

Compressed files .zip etc. are not allowed to be uploaded. Video files, Recordings and executable files are not allowed to be uploaded by this method.

If you need to present such files you can discuss how this will be facilitated with the WRC Case officer assigned to your case.