

NORTHSIDER

Parliamentary Report of Deputy Tommy Broughan

VOL. 24 NO. 2

THANK YOU!

Dear Constituents,

A heartfelt thanks to each of the 11,565 of you who voted for me in the 2016 General Election. By giving me your first or high preference vote you ensured that I took the third seat of five in the hotly contested, new constituency of Dublin Bay North.

I am delighted and honoured to have been re-elected to the 32nd Dáil and to be in a position once again to rigorously pursue issues of national and local importance in our parliament on your behalf. My canvassing team and I were touched and humbled by the responses we got on the doors and the kind well wishes for my campaign.

My decision to stand against austerity and leave the Labour Party when they went into coalition with right-wing Fine Gael in 2011 has been vindicated and many of you expressed this to me throughout our meetings.

The clear message that we need change and a fairer Ireland was evident and I look forward to upholding that mandate as I represent you in Dáil Éireann.

As always, I am anxious to know your concerns and would like to hear your views on local and national issues. Please don't hesitate to get in touch or meet me at one of my weekly information clinic meetings.



TOMMY BROUGHAN TD



Tommy at Darndale Arts Week with Lord Mayor Criona Ní Dhálaigh, James Harpur & Linda Hayden

NEW DEPT. OF HOUSING, PLANNING & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

During Government formation negotiations, Deputy Broughan called for urgent action on housing and homelessness. An Oireachtas Committee on Housing and Homelessness was set up and is currently completing a report for Dáil Éireann due by the 17th of June 2016. Deputy Broughan welcomes the establishment of a full Ministry of Housing and Planning and also made a submission to the Oireachtas Committee outlining some of his recommended solutions.

Almost 20 years ago, Deputy Broughan first proposed a full Department of Housing and supported the leading homeless charities' call for a dedicated senior Minister for Housing with a seat at Cabinet. The most recent data from the Department of the Environment showed that there were 1,994 children in 955 families in emergency accommodation around the country during the week of March 21st to 27th, with 839 families and 1,723 children

in Dublin alone. Many of these children and parents are from Dublin Bay North. Indeed mothers and families from Dublin Bay North have taken action into their own hands and have set up support and advocacy groups such as the North Dublin Bay Housing Crisis Committee. Also Erica Fleming, a brave and articulate young mother from Deputy Broughan's constituency, organised a gathering of solidarity (#sidebyside) in the city centre on Easter Sunday during the 1916 centenary celebrations.

Deputy Broughan has repeatedly put forward multi-faceted solutions to Government which could be implemented immediately, if the political will was there. Only cross-party collaborative action and commitment, led now by a Senior Minister at Cabinet level, will ensure any improvement in housing supply this year. Deputy Broughan has urged this new Minister, Simon Coveney, to declare a Housing Emergency and wishes him well with these endeavours.

I N D E P E N D E N T

NEWS FROM AROUND DUBLIN BAY NORTH

The “Great Wall” of Clontarf: In February 2016, a report by independent expert, Dr Jimmy Murphy, recommended that the sea wall height could be reduced by 10cm-20cm. Dr Murphy found that the planned height of 4.25m as flood protection for 200 years was “appropriate” but that 200 years was “an extreme value” and that lowering the height of the wall should still provide flood protection for 50 years. The report stated that the lower height “should only be applied at locations where the visual amenity is most affected as agreed between DCC and local groups.” Deputy Broughan awaits further updates from the Council following Dr. Murphy’s report.

Darndale: Deputy Broughan recently attended the very successful launch of the new art gallery at the Darndale Belcamp Village Centre during #ArtsWeek. Well done to all involved and for the great levels of artistic talent displayed.

Donaghmede: During canvassing, Deputy Broughan noticed, and was informed of, a number of traffic, road maintenance and lighting issues in various estates around Donaghmede. He has since been in contact with the Council on these which included the large pothole on **Grange Road** and traffic lights at the junction of **Grange Abbey Grove** and **Grange Road**, Dublin 13.

Donnycarney: In late spring, the book ‘Donnier’ was launched by the Donnycarney Community and Youth Centre. The author and illustrator, Pat Liddy, launched the book in **Le Chéile**. This is a wonderful achievement for the centre and a lovely tribute to all the residents of the historic parish of Donnycarney.

Raheny: Deputy Broughan attended the **CFRAM Flood Risk Assessment** and Management Programme display of flood maps in Raheny Library and he continues to liaise with the City Council on flood risk issues.

DCC & FCC Developments: 68 social housing units in the **Thornwood Development, Beaumont**, have been purchased by Túath Housing Association and will be allocated this summer. They will consist of 16 x 2-bed apartments, 6 x 3-bed duplexes, 36 x 3-bed houses and 10 x 4-bed houses. A handover of 7 refurbished blocks at **Priory Hall** is expected by DCC in June 2016. DCC has also announced the resumption of the **Financial Contribution Scheme** whereby applicants may sell their property to the City Council or on the open market and in return for a financial contribution to the Council, from the net proceeds of the sale, they are rehoused in senior citizen accommodation. Fingal Manager, Mr Paul Reid, also reports that under the **2016 Incremental Tenant Scheme**, tenants in designated Council owned houses will be able to apply to buy their homes subject to the conditions of the Scheme set out in Part 3 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2014. Dublin City Council now runs the **Placefinders** service which works directly with estate agents and landlords to source properties for HAP tenants (information@placefinders@dublincity.ie or 01-2226955).

Clongriffin Taking in Charge (TIC): In response to representations for local constituents for the completion of the long promised TIC road surfacing works in Clongriffin, DCC Area Management was unable to give a timeframe for necessary top surface works. Deputy Broughan has asked DCC Management and Planning Enforcement to pursue the matter with current and former developers.

Primary Care Centre in Edenmore: Local HSE management have reported to Deputy Broughan that they are progressing the provision of a Primary Care Centre in Edenmore through the HSE’s Primary Care Operational Lease Mechanism. Following expressions of interest, the HSE has selected a preferred provider through a 3-stage selection process and a planning permission application is expected later this year.

Edenmore Boxing Club: Deputy Broughan has strongly supported proposals to ensure the further development of the outstanding Edenmore Boxing Club with DCC Area Management and the new Tánaiste, Minister Frances Fitzgerald.

Kilbarrack Coast Community Programme (KCCP): Deputy Broughan has asked Minister Simon Harris, Tánaiste Frances Fitzgerald and the Area HSE Manager to support a funding request from KCCP for a Dual Diagnosis Specialist for the terrific KCCP service at Greendale Rd., Dublin 5.

Doldrum Bay, Howth: On behalf of Howth Peninsula constituents, Deputy Broughan has asked Irish Water and Fingal County Council to act urgently on ongoing discharges of sewage at Doldrum Bay, Howth exacerbated by structural defects in an existing sewer. An engineering study completed in November 2015 refers to a number of onsite pumping treatment and options (including connecting to the Sutton/Ringsend gravity network) but the estimated timeframe (to 2019 or later) seems unacceptable.

Baldoyle Racecourse Community Garden: Deputy Broughan congratulates the Community Garden Committee and all its participant gardeners for their wonderful garden at The Coast which opened in Mid-April.

Urgent Dredging of Howth Harbour: Since the General Election, Deputy Broughan has again urged that the draft dredging report sanctioned by Minister Coveney be acted on as soon as possible. The harbour hasn’t been dredged since 1982 and these works are critical for the fishery and leisure craft users of the harbour. An interesting, recent, socio-economic survey of Howth Fishery Harbour was carried out by BIM and may be read at <http://trutzhause.eu/deprivation-index/area-profiles/>.

Clonsaugh Sewerage Plant: The Irish Water Project Manager of the proposed Greater Dublin Drainage facility in Clonsaugh has reported to Deputy Tommy Broughan that he is progressing all the licence applications and EIS environmental studies necessary for a Planning Application he hopes to submit to An Bord Pleanála by the end of 2016 or early next year.

Marino Traffic Update: Brian Ave. and St Declan’s Terrace were listed on Stage I of the Traffic Advisory Group April report for traffic calming measures and solutions following representations by Deputy Broughan.

Programme of Traffic Road Works – North Central 2016: The 2016 traffic works programme includes traffic calming improvements at Vernon Ave., Clonsaugh Rd., Thornville Rd. and Drive, Greenwood Walk, Gratton Lodge, Ashcroft, Ardlea Rd., Haverty Rd., Edenmore Ave., Elton Drive, Marino Crest., Beaumont Woods, Millbrook Rd. and Ave., Temple View Ave. and Kilmore Close with pedestrian signals proposed for Howth Rd./All Saints Rd. and Collins Ave. East/Killester College.



Tommy and Tony Morrison at unveiling of Irish Citizen Army plaque at Baldoyle

DUBLIN BAY NORTH PLANNING FILE

Aviation Fuel Pipeline from Dublin Port to Dublin Airport: In late April, An Bord Pleanála approved the 14.4km and 200 mm diameter fuel pipeline along Alfie Byrne Rd., Clontarf Rd., Howth Rd., Copeland Ave., Malahide Rd., the R139 (N32) and the old Clonsaugh Rd. to the airport at Corballis Rd. Deputy Broughan strongly supported the safety and environmental concerns of residents living close to the pipeline. The granting of permission is subject to 33 conditions and the “strategic importance” of the growth of Dublin Airport and the current “nature of aviation fuel technology” are given as key reasons for approval. But the permission contains no discussion of any alternative and safer route from the coast to the airport which might be located well away from family homes.

Bayside Shopping Centre: In late February, Fingal gave permission for a redevelopment of Bayside Shopping Centre to include the demolition of some existing retail/commercial units and 3 duplex residential units and the construction of 7,600 sq. metres of mixed retail and services development, 8 apartments and 161 carpark spaces.

Belmayne/Clongriffin: In April, Cairn Home Properties applied to build 94, 2/3 storey houses at **Parkside**, Belmayne. Gannon Properties sought permission in April to build 98 houses and 15 apartments in **Belltree** and **Park Street**, Clongriffin and the same company was earlier granted permission for 84 apartments and duplexes at **Main Street** and Park Street, Clongriffin.

Parsis at Santa Sabina: On March 8th last, Fingal County Council granted permission for the development of 71 apartments, 10 houses and an underground carpark on a 1.6 ha. site at Santa Sabina, St. Dominic’s School and Convent Complex, on Greenfield Road in Sutton. Deputy Broughan supported local constituents’ concerns regarding the density, height and access proposals for this development.

Fingal Draft Development Plan 2017-2023: Deputy Broughan originally completed a submission on the Fingal Development Plan 2017-2023 in early 2015 and has now contributed to the subsequent draft plans. Issues highlighted by Deputy Broughan were the sustainable completion of the North/South Fringe, including much needed housing, public transport and strategies to address climate change.

The Glen, Watermill Road, Raheny: On March 21st, An Bord Pleanála refused permission for a 4 storey, 40 apartment development to the Churchtown Trust at the Brethern’s Meeting Room, The Glen, Raheny, Dublin 5. **St. Joseph’s, Grace Park Road, Dublin 9:** In March, An Bord Pleanála granted permission to CTN Developments on the St. Joseph’s 5.6 ha. site for 125 houses, 41 apartments, a crèche and a 1 ha. park.

Techrete, Teeling Site, Howth: An appeal has been lodged with An Bord Pleanála in relation to a Glenkerrin Homes proposal of 150 houses, 50 apartments and commercial units. In his own submission, Deputy Broughan supported local constituents’ concerns on the density of the proposed development, the height, visual and traffic impact of the development, and the lack of attention paid to Howth’s unique drainage issues.

Carmelite Convent, Grace Park Road/Griffith Ave: In March, Grelis Ltd. received permission for 101 residential units and a 4 storey, 69 bed nursing home on lands of the former Carmelite Convent, Grace Park Road, Drumcondra.

Belcamp College, Malahide Road: Planning permission has been applied for by Gannon Properties for the development of a large number of houses, apartments and shops at the former Belcamp College, Malahide Road, Dublin 17. Deputy Broughan has made a submission requesting Fingal County Council to invigilate the proposal carefully for the sake of future residents, on the grounds that among other things, it is in close proximity to the Dublin Airport flightpath and the proposed Greater Dublin Drainage Sewerage Plant.

Sybil Hill Road, Raheny: Deputy Broughan has supported his constituents’ appeal to the proposed development by MKN at Sybil Hill Road, Raheny. The developers have now proposed the construction of 76 new dwellings.

Borg at Thormanby Road, Howth: In March, Fingal granted permission for 4, 5-bed, 2 storey homes on a 0.7 ha. site bounded by the Old Tramline, Kitestown Rd. and Thormanby Woods. **Crekav at Balscadden Road, Howth:** An appeal to An Bord Pleanála was made in February against Fingal’s refusal to Crekav-Landbank Investments for 9x3 storey homes on lands south of the old Edros community centre site at Balscadden Road.



Tommy speaking in Dáil Éireann on Crime

TOMMY IN THE DÁIL

While negotiations took place over 70 days for the formation of a Government of the 32nd Dáil, Tommy outlined his priorities in **Housing, Health, Disability, the abolition of Irish Water and the setting up on a Commission of Investigation into the Stardust Tragedy**. Tommy met with both Enda Kenny, leader of Fine Gael, and Michael Martin, leader of Fianna Fáil, and confirmed that he would not be supporting a Government which did not reverse the draconian cuts of the austerity years. He indicated his preference for a left-led grouping of **Right2Change** candidates who represented the majority of the electorate and those who have equality at the heart of decision making rather than the needs of an elite few. However, there has been great talk of reform and more inclusive working of Dáil Éireann and it is hoped that Tommy will have more speaking time and opportunities to participate during Leader’s Questions, motions, legislation, etc.

Tommy submitted a paper to the new Ceann Comhairle in advance of the first meeting of the **All-Party Forum on Dáil Reform** on the need to establish an **Estimates (Budget) Committee** for Dáil Éireann. Tommy also recently spoke during the **Statements on Housing and Homelessness** and again called for urgent action on this growing crisis. He also continued his support for the **Right2Change** movement by voting for Independent, Deputy Maureen O’Sullivan, for Ceann Comhairle. Tommy also spoke on the possibility of a ‘Brexit’ during the **Statements on EU/UK Relations** in Dáil Éireann where he highlighted the need for urgent EU reforms. He also strongly condemned Fine Gael’s plans to cut €12million from the mental health budget during **Statements on Mental Health** in late April. Tommy sharply criticised outgoing Minister Kelly during **Statements on Irish Water** for his farcical handling of the water charges debacle and called again for the abolition of Irish Water and its charges. He spoke on the need to properly resource An Garda Síochána in the fight against criminal gangland activity during **Statements on Crime**. When the Government was finally decided in early May, Tommy criticised Fianna Fáil and a small group of former Independents for returning **Fine Gael to government** when the electorate overwhelmingly voted for change.



Tommy with Fergal Smyth, Cystic Fibrosis Ireland



Tommy with Mike McKillen at PARC's election manifesto

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Deputy Broughan has strongly condemned the outgoing government's cut of €12m from the Mental Health Budget. The 2014 OECD study 'Making Mental Health Count – the Social and Economic Costs of Neglecting Mental Health Care' states that up to 1 in 2 people will experience a depressive illness in their lifetime. It is therefore imperative that the appropriate resources are available to people in a timely manner when a crisis occurs. Previous replies to Parliamentary Questions (PQs) by Deputy Broughan confirmed huge numbers on mental health waiting lists for 3 months plus. Another PQ reply later confirmed that the waiting list for the age-appropriate treatment through the Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) was 3,000 children, of which approx. 400 were waiting more than 12 months. This is particularly worrying when Ireland has the fourth highest rate of suicide among 15-19 year olds in Europe. The €12million cut was apparently ring-fenced for recruitment which then did not take place within a specified time-frame. There are reportedly up to 700 HSE mental health posts vacant and an approximate 1,000 new recruits needed to fill vacancies that exist and are arising.

SCHOOL LEAVER SERVICES FOR CITIZENS WITH AUTISM IN DBN

Many concerned parents have been in touch with Deputy Broughan for access to appropriate school-leaver placements for their children. Parents feel that no preparation has been made for those young adults who will still require specialised support when they move outside of a school setting. Unfortunately, due to the continuous cuts to Disability Services and the apathy of the Fine Gael/Labour Government, service providers, such as Gheel Autism Service, were unable to provide places for school leavers in 2015. This meant that young adults had their routines and relationships disturbed and in some cases have regressed because of this. According to replies in 2015 to Parliamentary Questions by Deputy Broughan, the Government provides approx. €1.5 billion to the Disability Services Programme in funding through the HSE's National Service Plan for 2015. An additional €6 million was allocated in 2015 "to provide day places for an estimated 1,400 young people finishing school and rehabilitative (life-skills) training". Deputy Broughan has requested information on the current numbers requiring such support and the projected numbers for the next 5 years and also recently met with HSE representatives to support these parents and young people.

Getting in Touch

Tommy Broughan T.D.

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Visit: www.tommybroughan.com

Meet: Tommy at his regular information clinics in Dublin Bay North

Every **MONDAY**

11.00 a.m. BESC Offices, Darndale Village

2nd / 4th **FRIDAY**

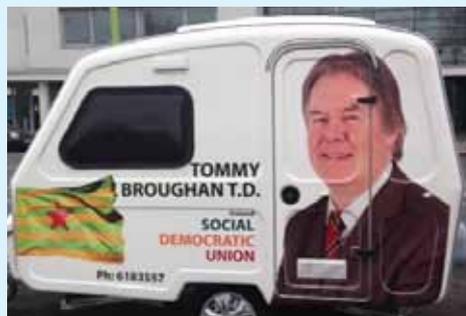
7.00p.m. Concorde, Edenmore Shopping Centre
7.30p.m. Foxhound Inn, Greendale Shopping Centre
8.15p.m. Marine Hotel, Sutton
9.00p.m. Abbey Tavern, Howth (By Appointment)

Every **SATURDAY**

10.15 a.m. Clonshaugh Shopping Centre
11.30a.m. Donaghmede Shopping Centre
1.15p.m. Bayside Shopping Centre

1st/ 3rd **SATURDAY**

2.00p.m. Racecourse Inn, Racecourse S.C., Baldoyle



**On
your
side,
always**

CONTACTS FOR OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

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HAVE YOUR SAY

I strongly believe it is important that I keep in touch with you so that I know your concerns and thoughts about local and national issues affecting you. I would be grateful if you would contact me on any matter of concern to you by phone or email.

www.tommybroughan.com

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