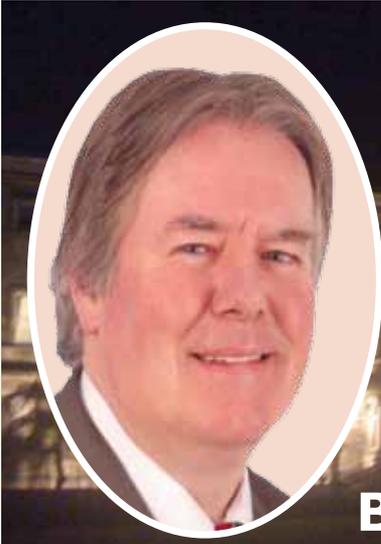


NORTHSIDER

Parliamentary Report of Deputy Tommy Broughan

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BEST WISHES FOR 2017

• TOMMY BROUGHAN T.D. AND THE DÁIL AT CHRISTMAS



*Beannachtaí
na Nollag agus
Athbhliain faoi Sheán
is faoi Mhaise daoibh
go léir. I would like
to extend my very
best wishes to all of
my constituents in
Dublin Bay North for
2017.*

BUDGET 2017 - A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

In Deputy Tommy Broughan's pre-Budget submission to Ministers Noonan and Donohue, he called for the Government to end the continued suffocating application of the EU Budgetary Rule with its Expenditure Benchmark, Convergence Margin and Debt Rule which combine to continue the austerity-era cap on Government expenditure. Deputy Broughan expressed his surprise that Fianna Fáil spokespeople did not co-present Budget 2017 with Fine Gael Ministers as this was clearly a Fine Gael/Fianna Fáil coalition Budget.

As a member of the Dáil Select Committee on Budgetary Oversight, Deputy Broughan has been contributing to preparations for Budget 2017 since the inception of the 32nd Dáil. Deputy Broughan put forward a number of revenue raising measures in his own pre-budget submission including an increase in the stamp duty on shares from 1% to 1.5%; that Section 110 and other tax avoidance loopholes should be closed so that the

effective rate of Corporation Tax is actually 12.5%; increasing Revenue Commissioner personnel by an additional 200 audit and compliance staff; and introducing the Vacant Site Levy Tax immediately in 2017.

While welcoming the partial restoration of some benefits in Budget 2017 (in particular the €5 increase for pensions and social protection payments) and measures introduced intending to ease the cost of living on citizens and families in Ireland (e.g. the Single Affordable Childcare Scheme). Deputy Broughan highlighted many areas where much more could have been done. For example, he suggested that the increased pensions and benefits should commence on January 1st 2017, that prescription charges could have been abolished entirely, that the Christmas Bonus could have been restored in full and that capital expenditure should have been significantly increased.

HAP & THE HOUSING LIST

Deputy Broughan has long been critical of the government's reliance on the private rented market to provide social housing. The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is now being heralded by Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Simon Coveney, as the answer to Ireland's Housing and Homelessness crisis.

Minister Coveney aims to have 84,000 households in HAP tenancies by 2021. HAP is intended to replace Rent Supplement for households with a long term housing need as it allows persons to work full-time (up to 30 hours per week) and earn an income; they then pay a differential rent depending on their income.

HAP differs from RAS (Rental Accommodation Scheme) in that, while the Local Authorities pay rent directly to the landlord they are not party to the tenancy in any other way.

Deputy Broughan is representing large numbers of constituents who have been on the social housing list for a long number of years, and/or are currently experiencing homelessness and being accommodated in hotel/b&b rooms. Homeless HAP is currently being piloted in Dublin and there remains some confusion around what this means for an applicant's status on the Local Authority Housing Lists. If an applicant accepts a HAP tenancy their housing need is considered to have been met and they are taken off the housing list. They can, however, request to be placed on the transfer list. Minister Coveney has given a Ministerial Policy Direction on this, that households placed in HAP tenancies maintain their priority on the transfer list. But how this translates into practice remains to be seen. Deputy Broughan continues to call for major local authorities to directly build the tens of thousands of desperately needed social housing units.

NEWS FROM AROUND DUBLIN BAY NORTH



Tommy with Dublin Bus drivers

'Brickfield', Baldoye: A number of concerned constituents were in contact with Deputy Broughan in late September following a motion tabled to rezone the land at Brickfield to residential. Constituents in Sutton Park & Baldoye stressed that this land is a polder and regularly floods. Following numerous representations by the Deputy, local residents and other councillors this motion was withdrawn.

Streamville Park: Deputy Broughan received a number of complaints about alleged dangerous and disruptive motorbike and quadbike racing taking place regularly in Streamville Park. Deputy Broughan made representations to the Council on the matter and also raised it at the local policing forums.

Fairview Park: Tommy received complaints about the level of rubbish in Fairview Park and contacted the Parks Department of DCC to request an urgent clean-up.

Youthreach Kilmore Rd: The essential Youthreach service is currently located in the old St. John of God's Secondary School on Kilmore Road. Reps of Youthreach contacted Deputy Broughan when they learnt that after a 5 year tenancy, the building was sold and they are expected to vacate the premises. Deputy Broughan has made strong representations for the service to remain in Coolock.

Edenmore Boxing Club: Deputy Broughan is continuing to assist Edenmore Boxing Club in trying to source suitable, permanent accommodation. He has been liaising with DCC officials and welcomed its commitment to working with the important club in finding a solution.

Howth Junction DART station: Deputy Broughan welcomed Irish Rail's decision to overhaul the lifts at Howth Junction DART station during Nov. He had made a number of representations on the issue as the lifts were very often malfunctioning leaving those commuters with mobility issues, travelling with young children and luggage, stranded. Deputy Broughan hopes that there will be no further disruptions to lift services at this busy DART station.

Howth: Deputy Broughan continues to support the calls for the Howth Harbour and Maritime Museum at the former Mariners Hall. He is also continuing with strong representations to Irish Water on the clean-up and protection of Doldrum Bay.

Kilbarrack: Deputy Broughan recently supported the residents' petition to have a playground placed in Kilbarrack, Foxfield. He is also continuing strong representations for the important Kilbarrack Coast Community Programme (KCCP) service for sufficient funding and resources.

St. Gabriel's Parish Dollymount: Deputy Broughan was delighted to be present at the 60th anniversary celebration of St. Garbriel's Church and parish at Dollymount and Clontarf early in the autumn.

Education Matters: A review of Deis schools is currently ongoing in the Department of Education and Skills and Deputy Broughan has made strong representations for **St. Joseph's CBS primary school, Fairview.**

Northside Counselling Service: Deputy Broughan has made strong representations to the Minister for Health for the vital Northside Counselling Service which has endured a 46% cut in funding over the past 5 years but demand for the service has grown.

Policing Plan Submissions: Deputy Broughan made submissions to both the Raheny and Coolock Garda Stations' Policing Plans 2017. In both, he highlighted anti-social and criminal behaviour in parks and amenity areas, intimidation and hassle of individual households, domestic violence and the policing of Howth/Sutton/Baldoye/Bayside at night.

Taking in Charge at Beaupark, Clongriffin: Clongriffin developer Gannon Homes has committed by spring 2017 to a programme of remedial works including footpath and kerb repairs, gully cleaning, laying a road wearing course and parking bay repairs to enable taking in charge approval for Beaupark, Hoey, Railway streets and adjacent roads.

Sutton and Howth Flood Relief Schemes: Following an engineering report, Fingal Council expects to invite tenders for construction of the Offington Flood Relief Scheme in spring 2017. A Preliminary Report for the Howth Flood Relief Scheme has been prepared by Byrne Looby PH McCarthy Consulting Engineers and recommends alleviation and flood avoidance measures in a few other areas of the peninsula at risk of pluvial flooding.

Fingal County Council Budget 2017: Fingal expects to spend almost €216 million in 2017 with just over a quarter of this spent on housing, almost 20% each on environmental services and recreation and amenity services and 11% on Roads and Traffic. Over €38 million was the government target for Local Property Tax in 2017 in Fingal. Fingal is permitted to retain 80% of this target locally and following an 15% reduction in the LPT rate by Fingal Councillors, just under €25 million is available to fund Budget 2017 (with half spent on Housing).

Social & Affordable Housing in Dublin City & Fingal: The North Fringe region which includes Belcamp, Balgriffin, Belmayne, Clongriffin, Baldoye and Portmarnock has been identified as a major urban housing delivery site in the Rebuilding Ireland strategy and there is currently planning permission for 10,000 homes in Fingal. Dublin City Council's Social Housing Targets for 2015/2017 include 3,347 homes but only 35 units of Local Authority Housing are being delivered in New Priory between 2016 & 2018, with 35 homes in Buttercup, Darndale to be completed by the end of 2016. Developments at Bunratty Road (62 units), Belcamp (30 units), Ayrfield (15 units), Clongriffin (84), Oscar Traynor Road (195) and other locations are targeted for 2018, 2019 and beyond.

Traffic Matters: Deputy Broughan recently requested that **Kincora Court** be reviewed for the installation of speed ramps and this has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG). Residents from **Hollybrook Rd., Clontarf**, requested an extension of pay and display and permit parking and this has also been referred to TAG. Deputy Broughan also requested that double yellow lines be provided near the DART station on **Briarfield Rd** following concerns from local residents but this has not so far been referred to TAG. Deputy Broughan also contacted Fingal County Council to request that road repairs be carried out at **Thormanby Lawns & Dungriffin Rd, Howth**. A pedestrian crossing is recommended by DCC across **Ardlea Road** at the junction with **Kilmore Road**. Deputy Broughan's representations for additional traffic calming measures at **Conquer Hill Road, Kilbarron Park and St. Declan's Terrace** were not recommended recently by the Traffic Advisory Group. Deputy Broughan continues to request a Traffic Warden for **Marrsfield Ave.** extension at Educate Together and St. Francis of Assisi Primary Schools, Belmayne.

DUBLIN BAY NORTH PLANNING FILE

Hollybrook New Homes: Hollybrook New Homes applied to develop 234 apartments (including 157 two-beds) at Marrsfield Ave., Clongriffin in late October. The six blocks of these apartments will be 5 & 6 storeys high.

Dunmull Ltd. at Clare Village, Malahide Road: Dublin City Council sought additional information on this proposal for a 6/7 storey, 161 bed nursing home facility and 2/3 storey retail store at this location in October last.

Cairn Homes Properties at Parkside, Belmoyne received permission for 94 new terraced and semi-detached houses in October.

Coralvale Ltd. at 52, 54, 56, 58 Station Road, Raheny applied for permission in mid-October to build 71 apartments in a 4/6 storey block. Deputy Broughan has made a submission to Dublin City Council strongly supporting the concerns of Ashcroft Estate at the height, density and planned access through Ashcroft of this proposal.

Beaumont Lodge Nursing Home at the former St. John of God School, Kilmore Road: In September, permission was sought for a 224 bed nursing home with access onto Kilmore Road and St. John's Court (with the old school to be demolished).

Gannon Properties at Block 17, Station Square, Clongriffin: Deputy Broughan made a submission on behalf of Clongriffin residents at the latest proposal for this 'landmark' building at Clongriffin Town Centre on September 1st. last. 139 apartments and 5 retail units are now proposed in a building rising from 6 to 16 storeys.

LDC Developments at 121, 123, 125, 127 Malahide Road, D.3: This proposal in August is to demolish 121, 123 & 125 Malahide Road and replace with 6 houses and one 3-storey building with a duplex home over a commercial unit.

Crekav at St. Mary's (former Christian Brothers), Dublin St., Baldoyle: In early October, An Bord Pleanála granted permission for 9 apartments and duplex units and 17 three-bed 3 storey houses at the former retirement home.

Deanscastle at the former Lighthouse Bar, Church St., and 1/2 Howth Terrace, Howth: Permission was sought in early October for 8 two storey residential units on this site.

Joint Statutory Receivers at the Coast, Baldoyle: In September, an application was made for 550 homes (including 379 apartments) and 1585 Sq.metres of commercial space in 13 blocks ranging from 2 to 6 storeys high with access via Longfield and Red Arches Roads. The 16 ha. site is Growth Area 1 of the Baldoyle/Stapolin LAP 2013-2019.

Musgraves (SuperValu) at Sutton Cross: An Bord Pleanála granted permission in September for the demolition of No.15 Howth Road, a new vehicular exit onto Howth Road and reconfiguration and extension of SuperValu car park to 304 spaces.

Parsis at Santa Sabina, Greenfield Road, Sutton: In August last, An Bord Pleanála granted permission for 81 dwellings in 4 three storey apartment blocks with 10 houses.



Tommy at Tus Nua Artane



Tommy with Independent colleagues in the Dáil

TOMMY IN THE DÁIL

The Dáil was recalled early to discuss the **European Commission ruling on the Apple Tax** owed to Ireland. Tommy spoke in the Dáil on the need for the Government to accept this money and use it for the people of Ireland. Tommy welcomed the long-awaited **Road Traffic Bill 2016** and its measures for the introduction of drug-testing and mutual recognition of drivers' licences with the UK. During oral **parliamentary questions with the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government**, Simon Coveney, he challenged the Government's over-reliance of the dysfunctional private rented market in its feeble attempts to address the housing crisis through the **Housing Assistance Payment (HAP)**.

Mid-October brought the opportunity for Tommy to speak on **Budget 2017** and while he, of course, welcomed the many restorations for Social Protection payments, Childcare Scheme and other increases, he criticised the Government for not introducing a Financial Transaction Tax and the lack of investment in third level education for example. During Leaders' Questions, Tommy asked the Taoiseach about **Road Safety** and highlighted the increasing number of tragic deaths on Irish roads in comparison to 2015. During oral **parliamentary questions with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform**, Paschal Donohue, Tommy asked about Ireland being **Brexit-ready**. He also asked about the newly established **Public Service Pay Commission** and its timeframe for delivering reports. Tommy also enquired about the funding that was allocated in Budget 2017 for the **Capital Programme** and the need to increase this as spending is barely keeping pace with depreciation.

Tommy spoke on the **Planning and Development (Amendment) Bill 2016** which provides for the establishment of a Planning Regulator as was a key recommendation of the **Flood Mahon Tribunal**. He, of course, called for this regulator to be fully and completely independent of government. During oral **parliamentary questions with the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade**, Charlie Flanagan, Tommy asked about the State's response to the atrocities in **Aleppo and Syria**. He also spoke on the **Finance Bill 2016** and re-iterated the Government's failure to address the **Housing and Homelessness crisis**. Tommy supported his fellow Independent colleague, Joan Collins' Private Member's Bill on **Water in Public Ownership**, spoke on the **Social Protection Bill 2016** and questioned the **Minister for Finance on 2016 tax revenue**. He also raised the operation of **JobPath** at question time.

INCREASED AIRCRAFT NOISE POLLUTION

A number of constituents were in contact with Deputy Broughan regarding increased instances of aircraft noise pollution in areas of Dublin Bay North, particularly in the early mornings. Deputy Broughan has been in regular contact with representatives from the Dublin Airport Authority (DAA) regarding plans for the new North Runway, for maintenance plans for the existing runway and also in trying to ascertain the changes in flight paths bringing more aircraft over areas of Dublin Bay North. The DAA have held a number of public consultations and also have a dedicated complaints page on their website at <https://www.dublinairport.com/about-us/-community-affairs/noise-complaint> or you can call 1 800 200 034.



Tommy with Dog's Trust CEO, Mark Beazley and Maui

PUBLIC SERVICE PAY COMMISSION WELCOMED

Deputy Broughan welcomed the establishment of the new Public Service Pay Commission and the appointment of Kevin Duffy as Chair of the Commission. While it is, of course, not a sufficient response in the unravelling of FEMPI legislation and austerity measures, it is a step towards that and therefore must be welcomed. Of course, given the recent unrest across the public sector, any report by the Commission may be superfluous. Deputy Broughan has also supported calls for the re-establishment of an Employer-Labour Conference as existed prior to the Social Partnership.

A DOG IS FOR LIFE

Deputy Broughan recently visited Dog's Trust and met with the CEO, Mark Beazley and other representatives to discuss animals' rights and what policies should be introduced to further protect animals in Ireland and those exported from Ireland. Deputy Broughan has since asked a number of parliamentary questions to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine and also the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government (as Local Authorities are charged with inspecting dog breeding establishments and other such regulation). If you are thinking of getting a dog this Christmas please be sure that you are ready for the responsibility and commitment that this entails.

Getting in Touch

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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 MONDAY

12.15pm Le Chéile, Donnycarney

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., Baldoye



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.

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