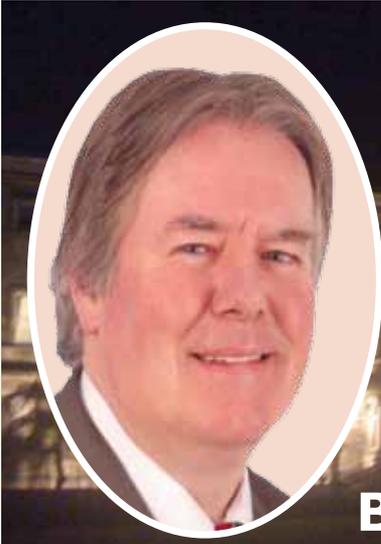


NORTHSIDER

Parliamentary Report of Deputy Tommy Broughan

VOL. 25 NO. 4



BEST WISHES FOR 2018

- 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
2018.*

CONTINUED UNDER-FUNDING OF HEALTH

Deputy Broughan has consistently been calling for increased resources for our health services, not just for A&E and hospital care but also for primary care centres, GP care and home care packages. Budget 2018 saw an additional €685 million, including 2017 carryover expenditure, allocated to the Department of Health but the net increase of new funding may, at best, be just €100 million (to a €14.6 billion budget).

At Budget 2018, Deputy Broughan welcomed the allocation of €55 million to the National Treatment Purchase Fund (NTPF), the €40 million for primary care and the small reduction in prescription charges. However, he remains concerned that the seasonal upsurge in hospital visits and admissions this winter will again put our health services under terrible stress as the Fine Gael/Fianna Fáil administration continues to ration vital health services. The most recent October figures show that there were 684,800 people on hospital waiting lists around the country. This was an increase of approximately 6,000 on the September figure.

Deputy Broughan is often contacted by constituents awaiting hip operations, knee operations or ophthalmology services, people with cataracts whose sight is going, and people who have diabetes and who are fearful of losing their sight, etc. Deputy Broughan had called for at least another €300 million for these acute services to bring Ireland's figures up to some kind of OECD norm. Deputy Broughan welcomed recent confirmation from Beaumont Hospital that it had offered nursing positions to all 59 graduates. He was disappointed, however, to receive information from the HSE stating that in mid-October, in CHO Area 9 (Dublin North City and County), there were 839 people on a waiting list for home help hours.

Each small step in the right direction in the Health Service seems like a drop in the ocean for the resources needed for a modern health system. For more information on the work that Deputy Broughan does on this important issue please check out his website at www.tommybroughan.com.

DRIVE SAFELY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Road Safety is an area of policy that Deputy Broughan has striven to improve throughout his years in Dáil Éireann. Previously as a Transport Spokesperson, he had the opportunity to meet with many advocates in this area and has long supported campaigners working to end the tragic loss of life on our roads. Through their work in this area, civil society group PARC (Promoting Awareness Responsibility and Care on our roads), Deputy Broughan and others have exposed loopholes in road safety legislation and discrepancies in the implementation and enforcement of same.

A recent area of study has been in Serious Injuries in Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs) and Trinity's Dr Jack Short has found that serious injuries in RTCs are under-reported and are a huge cost to the

State and society. Deputy Broughan has always believed that Ireland should strive for the Scandinavian 'Vision Zero' road safety policy which looks towards eliminating fatalities or serious injuries on our roads and he hopes that modern technology will also help us achieve this. Deputy Broughan recently spoke on and strongly supported the Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2017, which seeks to strengthen drink driving legislation, providing for a 3 month automatic disqualification from driving, for anyone caught driving over the legal limit.

For more information on the Road Safety Authority's campaign against drink-driving see www.drinkdriversdestroylives.ie.

I N D E P E N D E N T

NEWS FROM AROUND DUBLIN BAY NORTH



The Family 'Hub' at Greencastle Rd., Coolock

Edenmore Boxing Club: Representations have been continuing to assist Edenmore Boxing Club to source an appropriate permanent facility.

Kilbarrack Coast Community Programme (KCCP): Deputy Broughan remains in contact with representatives from KCCP and is working to support them in continuing their vital community services.

Oscar Traynor: There is a dedicated website set up by DCC outlining plans and progress for the development of the lands at the Oscar Traynor site. The website is www.oscartraynor.ie and contact details are also available there.

DBN DART Stations: Deputy Broughan was in contact with David Franks, the CEO of Irish Rail, regarding the lift at **Clongriffin DART Station** and requested urgent repair. Deputy Broughan also made representations on behalf of constituents who were concerned about the lighting around **Kilbarrack DART Station**.

Youth Unemployment: At the end of September, there were 10,548 under 26's in receipt of Jobseeker's Allowance for more than 12 months and 6,799 under 25's are signing on at Intreo Offices around Dublin. Almost 700 of these are in Dublin Bay North.

Rockfield Park: Deputy Broughan made representations to DCC requesting that a playground be installed at Rockfield Park. The Deputy requested that funding be allocated for this park in the 2018 City estimates.

Glin Sport Centre and Gym: The Deputy contacted DCC in relation to the sports centre and the gym which has been closed down for some time. The Deputy requested that the gym be reopened to the public as soon as possible.

Bayside Shopping Centre: The redevelopment of Bayside Shopping Centre has begun and may take up to two years to be completed. For more information on the planning permission granted you can search online at www.fingalcoco.ie/planning-and-buildings/ planning numbers F15A/0436 and F16A/0433.

DCC & FCC Age Friendly Initiatives: Deputy Broughan has requested a report from both Local Authorities on the progress of Age Friendly Initiatives around Dublin Bay North and in particular in Donaghmede, Raheny, Killester, Artane and Marino.

DBN Heritage Centre: Deputy Broughan is supporting the Dublin North Bay Tourism Group in its call for the establishment of a Heritage Centre in the constituency. Deputy Broughan has made representations to DCC on the matter. He has also supported a Dublin Dockland's Heritage Centre and a Maritime Museum for Howth.

Darndale Village Centre: The CEO of the Darndale Village Centre, Ms Linda Hayden, was in contact with Deputy Broughan to raise concerns about changes in how the Senior Alert Scheme (SAS) is being administered. Previously Community Development Groups were also permitted to install social alarms and Minister Ring replied to Deputy Broughan that community groups could continue this vital work as sub-contractors.

Beaumont Hospital: After the horrific fire in London during the summer, Deputy Broughan began raising questions about the safety of the cladding used in our higher rise buildings and in particular our hospitals. A PQ reply from the HSE stated that "preliminary indications would suggest that the cladding is not combustible". It went on to state that an expert group was determining evaluation methods and that a full evaluation of health facilities would take place under those parameters.

Dublin Bay: The Dublin Bay Biosphere Biodiversity Conservation and Research Strategy (2016 – 2020) contains a range of actions and research on flora and fauna in the biosphere (including Baldoyle Bay and Ireland's Eye) available from DCC and FCC. Deputy Broughan was also again informed that plume emissions data from the chimney stacks at the Dublin Waste to Energy incineration is available at www.covantadublin.ie and on DCC's website.

Fingal Budget: In November, Fingal County Council adopted the 2018 budget of €227 million which is an increase of €11.3 million on 2017. There is promised extra expenditure on housing, road and street works, parks and open spaces, services to citizens and communities. Commercial Rates are being increased by 2% yielding nearly €2.5 million and the Local Property Tax (LPT) discount for householders is being cut to 10% (thus increasing LPT by 5%) yielding nearly €2 million.

Phenylketonuria (PKU): Deputy Broughan was contacted by a number of concerned constituents regarding the Kuvan medical treatment for PKU, which is a rare genetic disorder that affects a person's metabolism. Deputy Broughan made representations to the Department of Health and also raised PQs with Minister Harris and was informed that the HSE's assessment of Kuvan is continuing.

Aer Lingus Pensions: Deputy Broughan supported his colleague Deputy Clare Daly and constituents affected by the anomalies discovered in the allocation of the Aer Lingus Pension Second Scheme. Deputy Broughan attended a briefing in Leinster House and followed up with strong representations on behalf of scheme members. He directly contacted the Pensions' Authority, the Pensions' Ombudsman, the Trustee (Irish Pension Trust) and also Minister Regina Doherty.

Rickshaws & Street Closures: Many taxi drivers have been in contact with Deputy Broughan over the past year worried about the growing number of rickshaw drivers and the lack of health and safety regulation for them and their passengers. Deputy Broughan continues to question Minister Ross on the matter. While the upcoming completion of the Luas Cross City works is very welcome, taxi drivers have also been in touch with Deputy Broughan to highlight the lack of communication to them from the National Transport Authority (NTA), DCC and Transdev (Luas). Deputy Broughan has made strong representations on the matter in support of taxi drivers.

Traffic Matters: Deputy Broughan requested that a 'Children Crossing' sign be erected at the entrance to **Grangemore Rise**, Donaghmede. Deputy Broughan has also asked that double-yellow lines be installed at the residents' side of the road at **Briarfield Villas**. The footpath surrounding manholes at **Bayside Crescent** was left in a bad state of disrepair and Deputy Broughan made representations for urgent repairs at this location. Deputy Broughan contacted DCC regarding a possible filter light at **Springdale Rd./Harmonstown Rd.** following emails from local residents. Deputy Broughan requested that a yellow box be placed at **Kilbarrack Rd.** at the entrance to **Kilbarrack Parade Industrial Estate** and the request has been referred to the Traffic Advisory Group (TAG). Also referred to TAG were Deputy Broughan's representations for possible double-yellow lines at **Grangemore Drive**.

Police Reform: The Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland, established in May 2017, is currently accepting submissions from the public on how policing in Ireland should be changed. The deadline for submissions is the 31st of January 2018 and more information is available on the website www.policereform.ie.

DUBLIN BAY NORTH PLANNING FILE

Station Road, (adjacent Ashcroft Estate), Raheny, Dublin 5: An Bord Pleanála has decided to grant permission to Coralvale Ltd. for an apartment block containing 71 apartments. Deputy Broughan had made lengthy submissions on the height and density of this proposal to DCC and An Bord Pleanála with regards to this proposal.

Gannon Homes at Blocks 25, 26, 27 Marrsfield Crescent, Clongriffin Dublin 13: On the 6th April 2017, an application was submitted for 167 apartment units, over three blocks, Block 25, Block 26 and Block 27, at Marrsfield Crescent, Clongriffin, Dublin 13. It is proposed that Block 25 will consist of 48 units and be 7 storeys in height, Block 26 will contain 71 units over 14 storeys and Block 27 will consist of 48 units over 6 storeys. Deputy Broughan made a submission on behalf of residents. DCC granted permission on Nov 16th with Blocks 25 & 26 reduced to 6 storeys.

Silveroak Blackbanks Ltd. at Blackbanks Garden Centre, 754 Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin 5: DCC has granted permission to Silveroak Blackbanks Ltd. for a new 4 storey building consisting of 'a maximum of 41 apartments only' and decided that the new garden centre proposals are to be 'omitted in their entirety'.

Cairn Homes at Parkside, Belmayne, Dublin 17: This proposed development comprises of 94 2-3 storey 3 & 4 bedroom houses and includes a mixture of semi-detached and terraced houses. DCC has requested that the planners also submit a compliance submission in relation to this development extending the growing Parkside estate in Belmayne, Dublin 13.

Sutton Park School, St Fintan's Road, Sutton, Dublin 13: Permission was granted by FCC on 24th October 2017 for the change of use of the existing boarding house to pre-school & Montessori facilities. The permission includes an extension of the first floor within the existing building, additional car parking spaces and improvements to roads.

Murdock's Builders Merchants, Kilbarrack Industrial Estate, Kilbarrack Parade, Dublin 5: Retention is being sought for alterations to the previously approved builders' merchant yard. These alterations include the use of the rear yard for external storage of building materials, the provision of five metal racking storage units and alterations to the current opening hours to 7.00am to 6.00pm on weekdays and 8.00am to 1.00pm on Saturday. Deputy Broughan submitted an observation on this plan in strong support of local residents' concerns.

Lands formerly part of Santa Sabina Dominican College & Convent Complex, Greenfield Road, Sutton, Dublin 13: On 9th October 2017 a new application was lodged for a residential development consisting of 96 dwelling units. The proposed development will contain four apartment blocks, three storeys in height, and will provide 86 apartments, 10 semi-detached houses and a separate crèche.

Carra Shore Hotel (Dublin) Ltd. Stockhole Lane/Clonshaugh Road, Clonshaugh, Co. Dublin: On 28th March 2017, FCC granted permission on the above application. Subsequently, an appeal was lodged in April 2017 and a decision to refuse permission was made by An Bord Pleanála on 3rd October 2017. The proposed development was to comprise of a 427 bedroom hotel development which would range in height from 7 to 10 storeys.

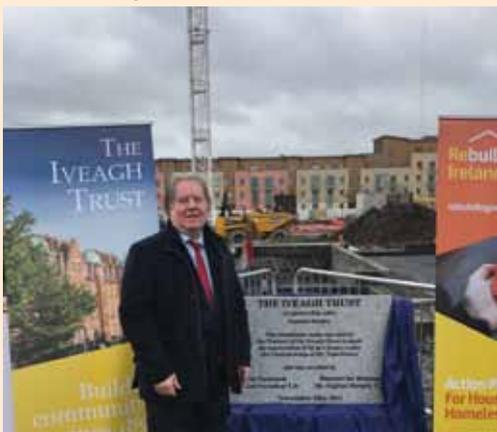


Tommy chairing the 32nd Dáil

TOMMY IN THE DÁIL

In the Dáil autumn session, Tommy spoke on a Topical Issues Debate alongside Deputy Clare Daly on the **Aer Lingus IASS Pension Scheme (the 'Second Scheme')**. He supported a motion calling for **correcting pension inequity** arising from changes to contribution bands in 2012. Tommy also supported the **Motion on Tracker Mortgages** and strongly condemned the behaviour of banks and mortgage lenders on this matter. He specifically asked for the Minister for Finance to confirm that the AIB pre-2006 cohort be included in redress and compensation. During **Leaders' Questions**, Tommy raised the issue of **Community Policing**, in particular referencing the increasing instances of anti-social and criminal behaviour around various areas of **Dublin Bay North**. He called for greater resources to be made available in order to increase the number of Community Gardaí on the beat every day.

Tommy took part in the Topical Issues Debate on the **industrial dispute at Irish Rail** and called on the Minister for Transport to urgently intervene. Tommy supported the Sinn Féin Motion on **Standards in the Private Rental Sector** following the harrowing RTÉ Investigates Programme 'Nightmare to Let'. He also spoke in support of Deputy Gino Kenny's **Cannabis for Medicinal Use Bill**. Tommy asked Taoiseach Varadkar to consolidate all **Road Traffic Law** into a single piece of easily understood and enforceable legislation. Tommy spoke strongly in favour of the **Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2017** which introduces automatic disqualification from driving for 3 months for anyone over the legal alcohol limit (between 50mg and 80mg BAC). He also spoke in favour of the **Multi-Party Action Bill 2017** to provide for multi-party or class actions in the Irish legal system. Tommy asked the Minister for Health to again support treatment available for **citizens with PKU** during priority questions.



Tommy at the Iveagh Trust, Clongriffin



Tommy at his regular Donnycarney clinic



Tommy at **CAGED** Animal Welfare Press Conference



Tommy on the Irish Rail Dispute

DISAPPOINTING DECISION ON STARDUST

On November 7th, the Government released Judge Pat McCartan's report on whether to recommend a new Commission of Investigation into the Stardust Tragedy of 1981. Deputy Broughan was deeply disappointed to see that Judge McCartan did not recommend a new Commission and has requested that the Minister for Justice and Taoiseach meet with the Stardust Relatives' and Victims' Committee.

In January of this year, Deputy Broughan brought a motion to Dáil Éireann calling for the establishment of a new Commission of Investigation into the inferno which tragically took 48 young lives on St. Valentine's Night almost 37 years ago. His motion was supported by Independents4Change, People Before Profit, Solidarity, Sinn Féin, the Labour Party, the Social Democrats and other left Independents. Minister of State Finian McGrath unfortunately supported the Government's amendment to the motion which led to Judge McCartan reviewing evidence and making his recent recommendation that no new Commission is needed. Deputy Broughan expressed great disappointment with the report and sadness that Minister McGrath and his government did not support a Commission of Investigation at last.

INCREASE COMMUNITY POLICE

Deputy Broughan has been receiving increasing calls and visits regarding an upsurge in anti-social and criminal behaviour in areas of Dublin Bay North (e.g. joyriding, vandalism of public facilities including DART and Irish Rail stations, intimidation of citizens, dangerous use of quads and scramblers, burglaries, graffiti etc.). Deputy Broughan called for new Community Policing Teams to be put in place quickly, for them to be properly resourced and visible and for community organisations to be given increased supports to help combat this behaviour.

During Leaders' Questions, Deputy Broughan blamed this government plus the last two austerity governments for slashing Garda numbers, leading to decreases in Community Policing Units. In Garda R & J districts of DMR North Division in 2016, covering DBN and most of Dublin Fingal constituencies, there were just 202 and 160 Gardaí respectively. The J district alone lost nearly 60 Gardaí since 2009/2010. In 2015, Minister Fitzgerald informed Deputy Broughan that there were only 45 Community Gardaí available in DBN Garda Stations and in 2016, this number was further reduced to 40.

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**

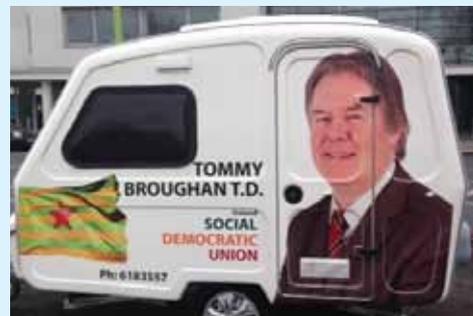
7.00p.m. Concorde, Edenmore Shopping Centre
7.30p.m. Foxhound Inn, Greendale Shopping Centre
8.15p.m. Marine Hotel, Sutton
9.00p.m. Abbey Tavern, Howth (By Appointment)

Every **SATURDAY**

10.15 a.m. Clonsaugh 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**

0612

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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