

NORTHSIDER

Parliamentary Report of Deputy Tommy Broughan

VOL. 27 NO. 2



TOMMY BROUGHAN TD

JUST TRANSITION ESSENTIAL FOR 2030- 2050 CLIMATE TARGETS

It is essential that fair and just climate transition policies will be pursued following the Dáil's motion to declare a climate emergency. Key elements of the government's response include implementing the 42 priority recommendations of the report on Climate Action and working to decarbonise transport, agriculture, energy and housing. The deplorable record of Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Greens, who have all been in Government since 2007, shows that Ireland has much to do simply to catch up. A key government proposal is to quadruple the price of carbon, but little attention is paid to households in fuel poverty and the huge impact on all citizens of increased transport and energy costs. Any such increases must be offset by significantly higher wages and benefits or direct carbon tax dividends paid to every citizen.

FINE GAEL IS BAD FOR OUR HEALTH

In 2007, Enda Kenny, promised to end the "scandal of patients on trolleys" yet, in May, with Fine Gael in Government for over 8 years, there were 9,000 people on trolleys. In early June, there were over 556,000 people on outpatient waiting lists according to the National Purchase Treatment Fund with 768,000 patients in all on 9 public hospital waiting lists. Deputy Broughan has consistently tried to find out the true state of waiting times for people, particularly in the North Dublin area and CHO Area 9 (Community Healthcare Organisation).

There are many specialities with debilitating waiting lists, one of which is ophthalmology, which had 6,361 people waiting for more than a year and 17,515 people in total. Over 2,300 of these were in the Dublin North Central area. Speech and Language services are the worst affected with almost 38,500 people waiting for an appointment and next is physiotherapy with over 35,000 people waiting. Beaumont Hospital has one of the busiest A&E Departments in the country and we still await a new A&E facility. There are huge numbers of children awaiting an assessment of needs under the Disability Act in CHO 9 also and we recently saw that mental health services had been suspended in Kilbarrack West due to staffing issues. Timely access to healthcare should not be based on a geographical lottery, nor on an ability-to-pay system. **Deputy Broughan has long called for a single-tier, national health system and believes that we must implement Sláintecare in full by 2025.**

CONTINUING FG/FF HOUSING FAILURE



Tommy with his Motion on Homelessness

There are more than 10,000 homeless people across the country. At the end of April 2019, there were 6,584 homeless adults, with 4,401 of those in Dublin and the vast majority in the 25-44yrs age group. During that time there were 1,729 families and 3,794 children also being held in homeless accommodation. 1,284 of these families with 2,769 children were in Dublin. Fine Gael's 'Rebuilding Ireland' programme is simply not working and now there are shocking plans to introduce 'co-living' hostel type accommodation with shared living and kitchen facilities and a return to studio/bedsit accommodation at several sites in Dublin Bay North.

Earlier this year, Deputy Broughan's own comprehensive Motion on Homelessness passed Dáil Éireann and he is also pursuing legislation to insert a Right To Housing into Article 45 of the constitution. **Deputy Broughan believes that there should be a large scale, national building programme of public and affordable housing driven by a state construction company co-ordinating all the local authorities.**

I N D E P E N D E N T

NEWS FROM AROUND DUBLIN BAY NORTH



Tommy with Sharon Cosgrove of Oaklee Housing and Kieran Brennan of Co-Op Housing Ireland

Clongriffin: In Dáil Éireann, Deputy Broughan has been raising the ongoing issue of a new divisional Garda Station to be located in Clongriffin/Belmayne/Burnell. He contacted and received a lengthy reply from Commissioner Harris and he continues to support the residents in their call for this facility. Better news was received on this matter in mid-June and Deputy Broughan is following up on details.

Howth: There was welcome movement on the Howth Harbour Dredging Project this quarter, with officials from the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine meeting with local Fingal Councillors on plans. Deputy Broughan has been raising the need for urgent dredging of silt at the harbour for many years now and again urged the Minister to include this important project in his capital programme for Budget 2020.

Kilbarrack West Mental Health Service: Deputy Broughan was shocked to see a letter that was circulating on social media saying that Kilbarrack West was no longer accepting patients for its mental health service. Deputy Broughan had previously highlighted the very long wait time in this service and made urgent representations to have the service fully restored.

Aoibhneas: Huge congratulations to Aoibhneas for celebrating 30 years in the community and thanks for providing such an essential service.

Illegal Dumping: Illegal dumping continues to be a scourge in many parts of the constituency and Deputy Broughan has been calling on all agencies to address the matter. He also raised the issue on the floor of the Dáil. Deputy Broughan contacted the Council to clean up the litter on the R139/N32 and other areas of the constituency and called for greater anti-dumping initiatives to be put in place.

DCC & FCC Climate Change Action Plans 2019 – 2024: Deputy Broughan made submissions to the Climate Change Action Plans and commended the Councils for their work.

School Wardens, Educate Together, Belmayne: Parents were very worried when they were informed that the four school wardens were to be removed from the Educate Together, Belmayne, two crossing points. Deputy Broughan intervened to request the urgent reinstatement of these school wardens.

Clonsaugh Sewage Plant: During the end of March/beginning of April, the An Bord Pleanála Oral Hearing was held for the Greater Dublin Drainage Project (the giant sewage plant at Clonsaugh). Deputy Broughan attended several of the sittings and presentations and spoke strongly in a submission in opposition to the location of the plant. A copy of his submission is available on his website

www.tommybroughan.com or you can contact the office on 01-618 3557.

Cadbury Coolock: Deputy Broughan was disappointed to learn of job losses at the iconic Cadbury Coolock (Mondelez) plant. At the beginning of May, Mondelez announced that it will be reducing the number of staff at their Oscar Traynor Road facility by up to 70 people (from the current 380 employed there).

Mayne Road/Hole in the Wall Junction Upgrade Scheme at North Fringe: A Compulsory Purchase Order for the above project became operational in March. A tendering process for contractors is now underway and will take about four months. After final approval by the Dept. of Local Government, construction will take a year.

The Former Marketing Suite at the Coast Baldoye: A brief for a consultant architect for the above facility includes options for a sports hall, meeting rooms, childcare facility, dance studio and changing rooms for the nearby sports pitches. Fingal County Council is expecting to appoint a full design team in early Autumn this year.

Anti-social & Criminal Behaviour: There have been continuing instances of anti-social and criminal behaviour in areas of the constituency and Deputy Broughan has been regularly raising the matter with the Gardaí and the Minister for Justice.

Following a number of appalling murders in broad daylight in some areas of Dublin Bay North, Deputy Broughan tried to adjourn the Dáil to immediately discuss his call for increased Garda resources and presence in Dublin Bay North and to urgently provide further supports for the creches, schools, youth centres and major community projects of the constituency.

He wrote to the Taoiseach, Minister Flanagan, Minister Ring, the CEO of DCC, the Garda Chief Superintendent and the Deputy Commissioner, as well as several community groups calling for the possible establishment of a Task Force, along the lines of the 'Create a Brighter Future' report for Dublin's North Inner City.

Traffic Matters: Deputy Broughan made representations regarding the road surface on **Swansnest Road, Mount Olive Rd. and Mount Olive Park**, Kilbarrack, Dublin 5 due to potholes and broken street surface. **Main Street and Abbey Street in Howth** also need to be resurfaced. Deputy Broughan requested **30km speed signs** for several Dublin Bay North estates and made representations for **La Verna, Grange Road** regarding a large pothole outside Respond Housing.



Tommy supporting Cystic Fibrosis Ireland #65Roses campaign

DUBLIN BAY NORTH PLANNING FILE

Plan 3082/19 257-259 Mount Prospect Avenue, Clontarf, Dublin 3: Planning permission has again been sought for the construction of 2, 5-storey blocks containing 69 apartments. Observations on this plan can be made to DCC by 27th June 2019. (A previous application to which Deputy Broughan made a submission on behalf of residents was withdrawn).

Plan 2475/19 for Horoprops Limited at Strand View (formerly 778-784) Howth Road, Raheny, Dublin 5: The developer has sought permission to increase the height of both new apartment blocks, by adding an additional floor and increasing the number of apartments by 6. Deputy Broughan submitted an observation on this proposal as he believed the height and scale of this apartment block would greatly diminish the residential amenity of surrounding homes.

ABP-304196-19 for E to Infinity ICAV acting on behalf of its sub-fund Blacklion Real Estate Fund a 'Build to Rent' Residential Development at Clarehall, Malahide Road, Dublin 17: Planning permission was sought from An Bord Pleanála for the construction of 132 'Build to Rent' apartments in a block ranging in height from 4 to 9 storeys on 12th April 2019. Deputy Broughan submitted an observation to An Bord Pleanála stating that the height and density of this proposal would be a gross over development of this tiny site. Deputy Broughan also cited traffic concerns, the serious loss of amenity for nearby residents and the 'Build to Rent' model itself as reasons why this development should be refused.

Plan 2109/19, Grange Abbey Crescent, Donaghmede, Dublin 13: Permission is being sought for a development consisting of a new ground floor and the change of use of the existing house to a pre/after school and crèche.

Plan 2856/19 at 52 Copeland Grove, Clontarf, Dublin 3: Planning permission was sought for the development of 3 adjoining 2-storey houses with access to the side of 52 Copeland Grove and the existing public laneway on 30th May 2019. A previous planning permission had been sought for this site last year (3053/18), but this was refused by DCC.

ABP-304346-19 For Platinum Land Limited for Build to Rent at the Former Chivers Factory, Coolock Drive, Dublin 17: Planning permission was sought for the demolition of an existing factory and buildings and the construction of 495 'Build to Rent' apartments in four apartment blocks. The proposed height of these blocks ranges from 4 to 10 storeys. While the Deputy is aware of the acute shortage of housing in Dublin Bay North, he had some serious reservations about the density and height proposed for this site. It was hoped that this land would be used for affordable and social housing. Deputy Broughan submitted an observation to An Bord Pleanála stating that an alternative lower density development of affordable housing would be welcome on this site and help to improve the acute shortage of affordable housing.

Plan F19A/0132 at Lands to the Rear of 31-34 Baldoyle Road & 'Elphin' licensed premises, Baldoyle Road, Dublin 13: An application was refused planning permission by FCC on 13th May 2019 for 24 apartments.

Plan F18A/0161 Site to side of Summit Inn, & to the rear of existing, houses on Thormanby Road: Permission was sought for a campsite with 20 pitches for tents. This application was withdrawn on 29th April 2019.

Plan F18A/0387 Lands adjacent and to the rear of 17 Station Road, Sutton: On 25th April 2019, FCC granted permission for a 3 to 4 storey apartment development of 30 units. An appeal was made to An Bord Pleanála regarding this development on 22nd May 2019.



Tommy's Priority PQ with Justice

TOMMY IN THE DÁIL

It has been a very busy Spring Dáil session. Tommy asked the **Minister for Education about supports for principals of primary schools**. He spoke on a Motion on **Local Drugs and Alcohol Taskforces** brought forward by Deputy Joan Collins and on the **Motion on Business Insurance**.

Tommy spoke regularly on Brexit updates and on his own amendments to the **Aircraft Noise (Dublin Airport) Regulations Bill 2018**. He questioned the **Minister for Communications on cyber security** and asked the **Minister for Children about the lack of social workers**.

Tommy spoke on the important **Motion on the prevention on family homelessness** and questioned the **Minister for Rural and Community Development on Dog Breeding establishments**. Tommy questioned the **Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform on Revised Estimates** and on **PPPs and Carillion and Brexit**. He raised **illegal dumping in Dublin Bay North** in a Topical Issues Debate.

Tommy submitted, and spoke on, amendments to the **Greyhound Racing Bill 2018** and also to the **Residential Tenancies (Amendment) (No 2) Bill 2018**, trying to improve provisions for tenants. Tommy took part in the Q&A on the shockingly expensive **National Broadband Plan** and asked the Minister for Business about the **Competition and Consumer Protection Commission** and on **Brexit readiness**.

Tommy spoke in support of the Independents4Change **Motion on Mother and Baby Homes – illegal adoptions** brought forward by since newly elected MEP, Clare Daly. He asked the **Minister for Justice about disqualified drivers surrendering their licences**, about preparations for the changes to **daylight savings** and about the possible **capping of personal injury claims**.

He asked Minister Bruton about **illegal dumping**, the **Minister for Transport about home zones and speeding** and the **Minister for Social Protection about waiting lists for some payments**, such as Carers' Allowance.

As always, copies of the transcripts of Tommy's contributions and videos are available on his website www.tommybroughan.com.



Tommy hosting the IWA Pre-Budget briefing

ACCESSIBILITY & EQUALITY MATTERS

Deputy Broughan was delighted to host the Irish Wheelchair Association (IWA), headquartered in Clontarf, in Leinster House on May 22nd for the launch of their Pre-Budget Submission 2020 "The Right to Live Independently".

The IWA has three main asks for Budget 2020. These asks relate to Assisted Living Services, a target for 7% of integrated wheelchair accessible social housing units and wheelchair accessible transport.

These are very reasonable requests and at this stage should already have been delivered. The Independent Living Movement Ireland (ILMI) is also calling for a Right to Personal Assistance in Ireland.



Tommy with #EDS4Ire

IRISH RAIL IMPROVE SECURITY

In mid-May, the CEO of Irish Rail, confirmed to Deputy Broughan that a new text alert service enabling "customers to discretely report anti-social behaviour incidents" to a live-monitored centre will be introduced and will alert security and/or the Gardaí to be dispatched if needed. It was also confirmed that there is now increased security personnel and that patrol levels have doubled in the past 18-24 months. 128 of the 144 DART carriages are now equipped with CCTV feeding into a central monitoring facility. Deputy Broughan was informed that the remaining 16 carriages were to be fitted with CCTV "and will also enable remote downloading of CCTV to provide to Gardaí and security personnel." There are in-cab screens in around 50% of the DART fleet "which ensure a driver can bring a train to a halt and view the live feed from CCTV" and this was to be extended over coming months.

Getting in Touch

Tommy Broughan T.D.

- Phone:** 618 3557 (Constituency Office)
618 3798 (Dáil)
- Fax:** 618 4545
- Email:** thomas_p_broughan@oireachtas.ie
- 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**

12.00pm Le Chéile, Donnycarney

4th **Monday**

12.00pm Artane Beaumont Family Recreation Centre

2nd / 4th **FRIDAY**

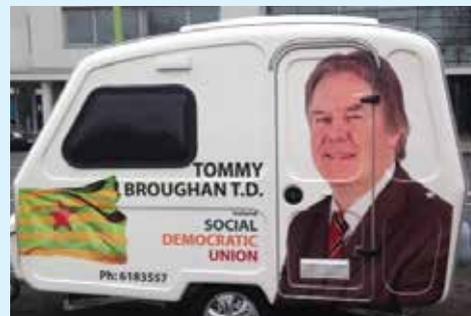
- 7.00p.m. Concorde, Edenmore Shopping Centre
7.30p.m. Foxhound Inn, Greendale Shopping Centre
8.15p.m. Marine Hotel, Sutton
9.00p.m. Abbey Tavern, Howth (By Appointment)

1st / 3rd **SATURDAY**

- 9.15 a.m. Clonshaugh Shopping Centre
10.00 a.m. Donaghmede Shopping Centre
12.15 p.m. Bayside Shopping Centre
1.00p.m. Racecourse Inn, Racecourse S.C., Baldoyle

ACCESS TO MEDICINES

There continues to be problems around access to treatments and medication for rare diseases and, indeed, access to diagnostic tests for others. Deputy Broughan welcomed, finally, the news that Kuvan was approved for persons with PKU and the reimbursement is due to begin on July 1st. Sufferers of SMA, however, still did not have access to the life-changing or life-saving drug, Spinraza, until a positive announcement (for children) was made on June 11th. Deputy Broughan had earlier submitted a Dáil Motion on the need to provide Spinraza for the small numbers of people (including children) who need this treatment.



**On
your
side,
always**

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

Twitter: @tommybroughantd Facebook: Like 'Tommy Broughan'