

# NORTHSIDER

Labour

**New Year Greetings and Annual Report 2006**

**Vol. 14 No. 4**



*The Dáil at Christmas.*

*Best wishes  
for a Happy and  
Prosperous 2007  
from  
**TOMMY  
BROUGHAN TD**  
and  
**Cllr. ANNE CARTER***

## **In 2007, if you want, YOU can change the Government**

A new year is often a time for resolutions. Undoubtedly there has been significant economic progress over the past decade. However, in so many areas it is clear that the Fianna Fail/PD government has not delivered, even though it has massive resources at its disposal. Crime rates are soaring. Our hospitals are overcrowded and under severe pressure. The roads are clogged and near gridlock. More families than ever are struggling to acquire a home. Serious inequality remains in education and childcare.

If given the opportunity in 2007, Labour in government will:

- Put 16,000 Gardai on the streets directly combating crime
- End the A & E chaos and clean the hospitals
- Put an additional 500 buses on the roads of Dublin
- Permit everyone in employment to purchase a home under a new "Begin to Buy" purchase option
- End homelessness by 2010
- Increase the capitation grant to schools to €300 per pupil (ending the need for the so-called "voluntary contribution")
- Legislate to stop the uncontrolled grip of management companies in new estates
- End the pressure of families to sell their homes to provide nursing home services for older family members
- Provide one year of free pre-school education for every child and paid parental leave for up to one year

## **Carter welcomes anti-graffiti funding and Sutton to Sandycove cycleway**

Cllr. Anne Carter has welcomed the announcement that 7.5 km of new promenade and cycleways will be constructed to link Sutton to Sandycove (S2S). The new promenade and cycleway will be a wonderful new amenity all along Dublin Bay and is a fine initiative by Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council and Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown. Cllr. Carter is also delighted that €500,000 was inserted into Dublin City Council's budget for 2007 to combat the plague of graffiti.



**Cllr. Anne Carter, Deputy Mayor Aodhan Ó Riordáin, Mr. Sean Connolly and the winning Ard na Gréine committee at the Dublin**

# HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET 2007

## KEY SOCIAL WELFARE CHANGES

|                                                   | Present<br>Rate<br>€ | New<br>Rate<br>€ | *Qualified<br>Adult<br>€ | Each<br>Child<br>€ |
|---------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| State Pension (Contributory)                      |                      |                  |                          |                    |
| Under age 80                                      | 193.30               | 209.30           | 139.50*                  | 22.00              |
| Age 80+                                           | 203.30               | 219.30           | 173.00**                 | 22.00              |
| State Pension (Non-Contributory)                  |                      |                  |                          |                    |
| Age 66 and Under Age 80                           | 182.00               | 200.00           | 132.20                   | 22.00              |
| Age 80+                                           | 192.00               | 210.00           |                          | 22.00              |
| Widow/Widowers (Contributory)                     |                      |                  |                          |                    |
| Under 66                                          | 171.30               | 191.30           |                          | 22.00              |
| Age 66 to 80                                      | 193.30               | 209.30           |                          | 22.00              |
| Age 80+                                           | 203.30               | 219.30           |                          | 22.00              |
| Carer's Allowance                                 |                      |                  |                          |                    |
| Under Age 66                                      | 180.00               | 200.00           |                          | 22.00              |
| Age 66+                                           | 200.00               | 218.00           |                          | 22.00              |
| Invalidity Pension (Under 65)                     | 171.30               | 191.30           | 136.50*                  | 22.00              |
| Aged 65 to 80                                     | 193.30               | 209.30           | 173.00                   | 22.00              |
| One Parent Family Payment                         | 165.80               | 185.80           |                          | 22.00              |
| Jobseekers/Illness/Health & Safety/Injury Benefit | 165.80               | 185.80           | 123.30                   | 22.00              |
| Jobseekers Allowance                              | 165.80               | 185.80           | 123.30                   | 22.00              |

### Note:

\*under 66

\*\* 66 or over

## TAX CREDITS

|                                       | Present<br>Rate<br>€ | New<br>Rate<br>€ |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Single                                | 1,630                | 1,760            |
| Married                               | 3,260                | 3,520            |
| Employee Credit                       | 1,490                | 1,760            |
| Additional One Parent Family Credit   | 1,630                | 1,760            |
| Additional Credit for Widowed Persons | 500                  | 550              |

## TAX RATES & BANDS

|                     | Rate       | Present<br>Bands<br>€ | New<br>Bands<br>€ |
|---------------------|------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Single/Widowed      | 20%<br>41% | 32,000                | 34,000<br>Balance |
| Married – 1 Income  | 20%<br>41% | 41,000                | 43,000<br>Balance |
| Married – 2 Incomes | 20%<br>41% | 64,000                | 66,000<br>Balance |

(Up to €43,000 can be transferred between spouses in 2007)

## FAMILY INCOME SUPPLEMENT (FIS)

| Family     | Present<br>Income<br>Limit<br>€ | New<br>Income<br>Limit<br>€ |
|------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 child    | 465.00                          | 480.00                      |
| 2 children | 510.00                          | 550.00                      |
| 3 children | 565.00                          | 625.00                      |
| 4 children | 630.00                          | 720.00                      |
| 5 children | 705.00                          | 820.00                      |
| 6 children | 775.00                          | 910.00                      |
| 7 children | 845.00                          | 1020.00                     |
| 8 children | 905.00                          | 1090.00                     |

## CHILD BENEFIT

| Number<br>of Children | Present<br>Rate<br>€ | New<br>Rate<br>€ |
|-----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| 1 child               | 150.00               | 160.00           |
| 2 children            | 300.00               | 320.00           |
| 3 children            | 485.00               | 515.00           |
| 4 children            | 670.00               | 710.00           |
| 5 children            | 855.00               | 905.00           |
| 6 children            | 1040.00              | 1100.00          |
| 7 children            | 1225.00              | 1295.00          |
| 8 children            | 1410.00              | 1490.00          |

Child Benefit customers paid by electronic methods will receive their increase in full from April 2007. Child Benefit customers on book payments will receive their increase through a special payment in May which will be backdated to April.

## OTHER BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

|                                                        | Present<br>Rate<br>€ | New<br>Rate<br>€ |
|--------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| National Weekly Fuel Allowance                         | 14                   | 18               |
| Weekly Income Threshold for Fuel Allowance Eligibility | 51                   | 100              |
| Annual Respite Care Grant                              | 1,200                | 1,500            |
| Carer's Weekly Income Disregard                        |                      |                  |
| Single                                                 | 290                  | 320              |
| Couple                                                 | 580                  | 640              |
| Back to School Clothing Allowance                      |                      |                  |
| 2-11 years                                             | 120                  | 180              |
| 12-22 years                                            | 190                  | 285              |
| Bereavement Grant                                      | 635                  | 850              |
| Widowed Parent Grant                                   | 2,700                | 4,000            |
| Maternity/Adoptive Benefit – Minimum Rate              | 182.60               | 207.80           |
| Guardian's Payment (Contributory/Non-Contributory)     | 138.00               | 158.00           |



Deputy Tommy Broughan launching Labour's Fisheries & Marine Policy in Killybegs with Cllr Seamus Rogers and

# NEWS FROM AROUND NORTH EAST

## METRO NORTH

Like his Coolock, Ayrfield and Darndale constituents, Tommy was deeply disappointed by the route decision on the new Metro North. The Eastern Route which he strongly advocated would have served the Coolock Ward and the huge new residential district planned for Belcamp and Clonsaugh. Tommy is continuing to advocate a Luas service for the Northside and Coolock.



*Cllr. Anne Carter.*

## GP OUT OF HOURS SERVICE

The new Northside GP Out of Hours Service, D-Doc, has been welcomed by Tommy Broughan and Anne Carter. The new treatment centre at Coolock Health Centre, Cromcastle Road was open from December 12th 2006 and the service operates each weekday evening from 6pm to 8am the following day and on a 24 hour basis on Saturday, Sunday and on Bank Holidays. Constituents can contact the D-Doc programme at 1850 22 44 77.

## DART OVERCROWDING

Tommy has recently contacted Iarnrod Eireann to complain about serious overcrowding on morning and evening rush-hour DARTs. The Chairperson of CIE replied that "there are plans to further increase DART capacity during 2007 as many of the original DART cars which have been out of operation during 2006 are returned to service".

## PARK N' RIDE

Cllr. Carter has urged the Dublin City Manager to establish Park 'N' Ride facilities on the Belmayne Lands near the proposed new town square outside the Hilton Hotel at Clare Hall, Dublin 17 as well as at Donaghmede and Raheny DART stations.

## CARTER ALERTS PUBLIC

Cllr. Anne Carter alerted the public and media outlets to serious disruptions in water services on the final weekend in November. Dublin City Council failed to give adequate and normal notice to communities in Raheny, Kilbarrack, Bayside, Baldoyle and other Northside areas. At Dublin City Council. Cllr. Carter has urged City Manager John Tierney to ensure that there must never be a repetition of this lack of notice for such major works.

## SANTRY/RAHENY RIVER

The Office of Environmental Enforcement at the Environmental Protection Agency has responded to Deputy Broughan's campaign against the pollution of the Santry/Raheny River (especially at Stardust Memorial Park). The Agency is now closely monitoring Fingal County Council's and Dublin City Council's management of the river and have promised "further appropriate action to ensure the Santry River's return to a satisfactory quality".

## HOWTH VILLAGE SCHEME

During the recent consultation process on the Howth Village Improvement Scheme, Tommy made a submission to Fingal County Council outlining issues that the Howth Promenade Renewal Group, Howth Sutton Community Council and local residents had raised with him in relation to the new proposals for Howth Harbour and environs.

## NORTH EAST PLANNING FILE

Among the North East planning issues on which Deputy Tommy Broughan and Cllr. Anne Carter made strong submissions on behalf of residents and communities are the following:

### DONAGHMEDE SHOPPING CENTRE

In late November, An Bord Pleanala approved a major refurbishment of Donaghmede Shopping Centre. While welcoming a much needed revamp of the centre, residents of the Newbrook area and Donaghmede parish were very disappointed that the An Board Pleanala inspector's report recommending a reduction in size of the highrise car park was not accepted by the board.



*Donaghmede Shopping Centre.*

### BAYSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE

Before Christmas, Fingal county Council called on Bayside Centre Management Ltd. to submit detailed additional information on the highrise high density proposal to redevelop Bayside Shopping Centre. The five storey height and overshadowing, single aspect apartments, private open space, the size of office provision given the 'NC' zoning and concerns about additional traffic and the church car park are among the matters highlighted by Fingal planners.

### NORTHSIDE SHOPPING CENTRE AND CROMCASTLE

It is expected that a full planning application for the Northside regeneration project is being submitted to Dublin City Council early in 2007. Residents of Bonnybrook, Riverside, Newbury, Clonsaugh and environs should ensure that their voice is heard on this huge development. The proposal by Digital Realty Trust of the Netherlands for a Data Centre, located on Clonsaugh Road at Biscuits, was

### PARSIS LTD. AT GREENFIELD ROAD, SUTTON

On behalf of constituents in Glencarrig, Church Road, Greenfield Road, Offington Estate and Santa Sabina Manor, Deputy Tommy Broughan strongly opposed the development of 117 apartments and 13 terraced housing units at Santa Sabina, Greenfield Road, Sutton. The grounds of Deputy Broughan's submission to Fingal County Council included height (up to five stories), high density (higher than the North Fringe), dearth of open space and traffic provision and the sensitive location in the Howth Special Amenity Buffer Zone.

### 61 TO 63 ST. ASSAM'S PARK, RAHENY

Cllr. Anne Carter and Deputy Tommy Broughan were the only public representatives to make an appeal to An Bord Pleanala in support of St. Assam's and Foxfield residents regarding the grant of permission for six apartments and large commercial developments at the above location. Dublin City Council also gave permission for 63 apartments at the **Sheiling Hotel, Howth Road, Raheny** so Dublin North East will be losing another of its historic hotel and meeting facilities.

### THORMANBY ROAD, HOWTH

Deputy Tommy Broughan has strongly supported the concerns raised by The Friends of Thormanby Woods and constituents throughout Howth at the proposed residential development on 6.4 hectares of fields and woodland between Thormanby Road and the Old Tramline in Howth. Concerns at the loss of a high amenity area much loved by residents and visitors alike include the height of the development, the future of the woods and wildlife, the impact on hydrology, drainage and traffic and the location adjoining the Howth Special Amenity Buffer



# Tommy Broughan TD

## Annual Report 2006

**Tommy Broughan TD at Labour's National Conference.**

### REPRESENTATIVE FOR INDIVIDUAL CONSTITUENTS

Once again in 2006, I dealt with a large number of issues raised by my constituents. I held around 380 information clinics throughout the fourteen parishes of Dublin North East in 2006. Additionally I also represented a large number of constituents and other citizens who contacted me by phone, letter or email or who met me on one of my weekly walkabouts in the constituency.

### ADVOCATE FOR COMMUNITY, RESIDENTS AND SPORTING BODIES

During 2006, I attended weekly meetings of community boards and councils, residents associations, local interest advocacy groups, sports organisations and many site meetings called to resolve local problems. I continue to be an active community director of Coolock Development Council, the Northside Partnership, the Northside Centre for the Unemployed, the Northside Enterprise Centre and Northside Security Services.

### LEGISLATOR FOR LABOUR IN DAIL EIREANN

In 2006 on behalf of the Labour Party and my constituents I invigilated critical pieces of legislation in Dail Eireann. These included the National Oil Reserves Agency Bill, the Sea Fisheries and Maritime Jurisdiction Bill, the Energy (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, the Single Electricity Market Bill, the Foyle and Carlingford Loughs Bill and the new Energy Green Paper. Among the national policies I proposed during 2006 are Labour's energy policy, "Powering Ireland's New Energy Era" (see [tommybroughan.com](http://tommybroughan.com)) and "Public Service Broadcasting in the Digital Age".

### SPEAKING OUT IN DAIL EIREANN

I also spoke each week in Dail Eireann on a diverse range of local and national issues in 2006. These included soaring gas and electricity price rises; the privatisation of Aer Lingus; the closure of Greendale Community School; social and affordable housing; combating the high rates of crime and anti-social behaviour; salaries for An Post workers and pensioners; infrastructure for the North Fringe; biofuels and renewable energy; a public inquiry into the Stardust Tragedy; resources for further education; the Priorswood Task Force on Joy-Riding Report; the Corrib gas dispute and the licensing regime for oil and natural gas.

### HAVE YOUR SAY - REPLY SLIP

It is really important to me to keep in touch with you and hear your concerns.

I would be very grateful if you could take a few moments of your time to fill in and return the following reply slip to Tommy Broughan T.D., Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Dublin 2. Alternatively you can email your responses to [thomas\\_p\\_broughan@oireachtas.ie](mailto:thomas_p_broughan@oireachtas.ie)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Tommy's top five priorities are:

- |                         |                                |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Health               | 4. Education and Resources for |
| 2. Crime Prevention     | Young People                   |
| 3. Housing and Planning | 5. Transport                   |

Do you agree with my priorities? Y / N

What other local issues concern you most? \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS BOX

### GET IN TOUCH - 5 WAYS TO CONTACT TOMMY BROUGHAN T.D.

**Write to me** – Tommy Broughan T.D., Dail Eireann, Leinster House, Kildare Street, Dublin 2.

**Come to see me** at one of my many information clinics around Dublin North East:

#### Every Monday

10.30 a.m. BESC Offices, Darndale Village

#### 2nd / 4th Friday

7.00 p.m. Concorde, Edenmore Shopping Centre  
7.45 p.m. Foxhound Inn, Greendale Shopping Centre  
8.30 p.m. Marine Hotel, Sutton  
9.15 p.m. Pier House, Howth

#### Every Saturday

10.00 a.m. Clonsaugh Shopping Centre  
11.30 a.m. Donaghmede Shopping Centre  
1.00 p.m. Madigan's, Kilcarrack Shopping Centre

#### 1st / 3rd Saturday

2.15 p.m. Bayside Shopping Centre  
3.00 p.m. Grainger's, Baldoyle House / Racecourse Inn, Racecourse Shopping Centre

#### 2nd / 4th Saturday

2.30 p.m. Walkabout in one of the 14 parishes of Dublin North East

**Telephone my office** at 618 3557 or send me a fax at 618 4545

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