

# EOGHAN MURPHY TD

REPRESENTING **YOU** IN GOVERNMENT

**FINE GAEL** 

## CUTTING SPENDING AND CREATING JOBS

My colleagues and I on the Fine Gael backbenches have called on the government to continue reducing the underlying deficit in a move to sustainable national finances, while investing in job creation.

- It is vitally important that we continue to reduce the budget deficit from levels which are unsustainable – the state is still spending too much each year.
- The improved fiscal position means that we can afford to invest in a job creating capital spending programme that will stimulate growth in the local economy.
- There should be no new taxes or tax increases for the employed in 2014.
- Tax Transparency must now be implemented so people can see how the government spends their money each year in simple euros and cents.
- A year-round budgetary scrutiny committee should be introduced as part of Dáil reform to facilitate new ideas from those outside of government.
- Areas like Irish Aid, Education (fee-paying and DEIS schools in particular) and Employers must not be targeted.



## WORKING FOR CHANGE

The current parliament is not fit for 21st century Ireland and its dysfunction is central to the economic and social problems that we are currently facing.

I have been leading the movement for Dáil reform from the government backbenches. Last March I produced a pamphlet containing 30 simple ideas which, taken

together, would radically transform Dáil Éireann. The changes would give us an improved and more mature parliament capable of holding the government to account and giving freedom and responsibility to individual parliamentarians to be leaders again. This document was debated by the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party. In July I outlined these reforms in a speech to the MacGill Summer School.

**You can watch my speech to MacGill – ‘Show up and Shut up: A cautionary tale from the backbenches’ – on my website, where you can also download my pamphlet ‘Reforming Dáil Éireann: A view from the backbenches’.**



With Congressman Joe Kennedy in his offices in Washington DC

# FINE GAEL IN GOVERNMENT

- Following four years of negative economic growth we have now witnessed two years of positive growth in the economy, and 2013 is expected to follow this new trend.
- Foreign Direct Investment is at a ten-year high.
- Employment has stabilised, with the first annual increase in jobs since 2008.
- We continue to close the annual deficit to a more responsible and sustainable position and are on course to exit the bailout this year.
- The bailout loans have been renegotiated, saving taxpayers more than €9 billion.
- The Promissory notes from the bank bailout have been restructured and removed, reducing our borrowing by €20 billion over the next ten years.
- Politicians' pay and expenses have been cut and the Dáil has increased its workload by 30%.
- €2.5 billion has been saved from the public sector pay and pensions bill.
- Government under Fine Gael and Labour is now smaller, cheaper and more efficient.



## NEW MONEY FOR ENTERPRISE AND JOBS

### *New Visa Schemes bring in €10.5 Million of additional investment*

In 2011 I proposed the introduction of a new Enterprise and Investment Visa scheme along the lines of a scheme adopted in the UK. The Government subsequently announced the introduction of two major new initiatives: The Immigrant Investor Programme and The Start-up Entrepreneur Programme. Both aim at facilitating (non-EEA) migrant entrepreneurs and investors who want to invest either their time or money here in Ireland for the purpose of saving or creating jobs. The schemes have netted €10.5 million in additional investment since April 2012, creating over 120 jobs. The scheme was rebooted following a review this July to make it even more competitive and I continue to pursue the introduction of a visa specifically for the Tech sector.



With An Taoiseach and Eoghan Jennings from Health XL visiting the Health XL start-up incubator on their 2013 investor day

*Want to find out what the government is doing for small businesses – Log onto [www.eoghanmurphy.ie](http://www.eoghanmurphy.ie)*

Receive my pamphlet of proposals for change – *Reforming Dáil Éireann: A view from the Backbenches*. Email me at [eoghan.murphy@oir.ie](mailto:eoghan.murphy@oir.ie) for a copy.



## INVESTING €100 MILLION IN SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECTS

### *St Mary's Belmont Avenue – Griffith Barracks Multi-D – New school in D4/D2*

The Government is investing €100 million in school building projects. As a result St Mary's National School on Belmont Avenue, Donnybrook has received a grant to undergo an extension and refurbishment works. It is expected that these works will progress quickly to tender and begin construction before the end of this year. Work is also currently at design stage for a new school building for Griffith Barracks Multi-Denominational school, and a new primary school is to be built in the Sandymount-Ringsend area.



With Members of the Foróige Big Brother Big Sister programme

## FLOOD DEFENCES – LATEST UPDATE

Dublin City Council has approved the next 3 phases of the Dodder Flood alleviation scheme. The alleviation works will take place along large portions of both sides of the river Dodder from Lansdowne Road Railway Bridge to the first Smurfit weir adjacent to Ashtons pub in Clonskeagh. The works include substantial flood walls and flood embankments and four flood gates for public access. The works will be completed in 3 phases over a two and a half year period. St Alban's Park in Sandymount is also undergoing work on additional pumping capacity facilities. **Email me at [eoghan.murphy@oireachtas.ie](mailto:eoghan.murphy@oireachtas.ie) to keep up with the latest developments.**

## IN BRIEF

Work on the new **Luas Cross City** line has commenced, connecting the two existing lines and providing commuters with better access to the city centre.

The **Rathmines and Pembroke sewerage** scheme has been given the go-ahead after it received approval from the government. The scheme will address the capacity, structural and environmental deficiencies of the current system and will take into account properties that are at risk of flooding.

Almost six million euros has been allocated to **modernise and repair Dublin's water supply**, ensuring a water supply that is reliable and fully compliant with drinking water standards.

**My new office in Ranelagh** will open in September. It will be located on the main street on the first floor, above Young's Auctioneers. Details of opening times will circulate shortly.

Another quango bites the dust as Dublin City Council winds down the **Temple Bar Cultural Trust**; something I called for a year ago following revelations of poor financial governance and mismanagement.

Recently I invited the **Harold's Cross Autism Resources Therapy and Support (HxARTS)** group in to Leinster House to brief TDs on difficulties

parents are having accessing autism supports for their children.

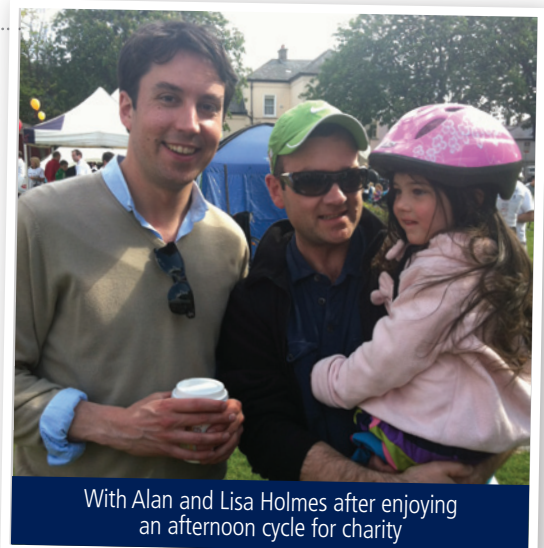
**Rathgar National School** has received funding from the Department of Education and Skills to undergo emergency electrical works – much needed repairs for this excellent local school.

In May 2014 it is intended to hold a plebiscite on the introduction of a **Directly Elected Mayor** for Dublin. Details on the role, its powers and the area of responsibility have yet to be finalised.

New funding solutions are desperately needed and recently I raised the potential of **CrowdFunding** with Minister Bruton. CrowdFunding is a method of raising capital in small amounts from a large group of people using peer-to-peer financing. Further details can be found on my website.

Enabling works have commenced at the **Ringsend Water Treatment Plant**, which will facilitate major construction that is to be carried out at the plant to increase its capacity.

The **National Maternity Hospital at Holles Street** is set to relocate to the St Vincent's University Hospital campus at Elm Park. This needs to happen quickly and the process is now in motion.



With Alan and Lisa Holmes after enjoying an afternoon cycle for charity

## EXPANDING DUBLINBIKES

Following the launch of DublinBikes I immediately called for negotiations to commence on its expansion. Dublin City Council has finally come to an agreement with JC Decaux that will see the expansion of the DublinBikes scheme in to the next two phases. This expansion will provide for an additional 58 stations, 950 additional bikes and around 2,000 additional bike stands. It is hoped that works will commence this October and be completed by July 2014. The DublinBikes scheme is one of the most successful in the world with over 33,000 long term subscribers and over five million journeys since its introduction in 2009. Expansion south of the canal has still to be finalised and I continue to push for it.

## YOUR COMMUNITY – YOUR CHILDREN – YOUR SCHOOLS

It is time to introduce a fair, transparent and modern enrolment process for primary schools. Too many parents are having difficulties finding places for their children in local primary schools. I introduced this issue in the Dáil for special debate and legislation is expected shortly. Recently the Irish Primary Principals Association circulated their proposal for a web-based system with an agreed deadline for applications for primary schools and an agreed response time from those primary schools telling parents whether their child has been accepted. What is needed is a system that parents can trust, that can be accessed in a timely and stress-free manner, and that sees children being able to attend their local primary school.

### RAISE A NATIONAL ISSUE

If there is an issue that you want to raise with a particular Minister or with the Government you can contact me directly and I would be happy to raise it as a Parliamentary Question in the Dáil on your behalf. You can read all of my parliamentary questions on my website.

### REPORT A LOCAL PROBLEM

Dublin City Council has an on-line reporting system. You can submit your specific problem and you will immediately be given a case number which can help you track the issue until its conclusion. To access the service go to [www.dublincity.ie](http://www.dublincity.ie) and click on 'Report it', or call 01 222 2222.



#### PHOTOS FROM TOP:

Supporting Rehab with colleagues outside Leinster House; On an afternoon off with Cllr Paddy McCartan at a summer garden party in Sandymount Green; With An Taoiseach and a group of Irish and international innovators outside government buildings; GoCars are finally on our streets in collaboration with DCC.

### YOUR FINE CAEL TEAM IN DUBLIN BAY SOUTH WORKING WITH EOGHAN MURPHY TD



Cllr. Paddy McCartan



Cllr. Edie Wynne



Cllr. Kieran Binchy



Senator Catherine Noone



Gay Mitchell MEP



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