

FOCUSING ON FAIRNESS:

- An additional €105m for the Housing Assistance Payment Scheme: an increase of 220% compared to 2016. This will enable an additional 15,000 households to avail of HAP
- Education spending of €9.5bn represents 16% of our total spend and includes an additional 2,400 teaching posts, of which 900 will be resource teachers
- New Single Affordable Childcare Scheme with a universal subsidy for children aged 6 months to 3 years for all families who avail of Tusla registered childcare
- State Pension will rise by €5 per week
- All weekly social welfare payments to increase by €5 per week including the carer's allowance, disability allowance and jobseeker's benefit and allowance

IMPROVING PEOPLE'S LIVES:

- Almost €100m for emergency accommodation for homeless people
- Highest level of investment in health in the history of our State.
- An increase of €36.5m in funding for higher and further education
- Early Years funding to support childcare to increase by 35% to €465m in #Budget17
- An extra 800 Gardaí to be hired and trained next year
- Rural Development Programme funding increased by €107m, including €25m for a new Animal Welfare Scheme
- The Green Low-Carbon Agri-Environment Scheme (GLAS) to grow to €211 million with an expected total number of participants of 50,000 in 2017

2017

BUDGET

#Budget17
www.budget.gov.ie



ECONOMIC POSITION

- Ireland's economy continues to grow sustainably and strongly in 2016
- Economic growth of 3.5% forecast for 2017
- There are now over 2 million people at work in Ireland
- Unemployment is currently at 7.9% – down from its peak of 15% and 43,000 more people are forecast to be at work by end 2017
- Deficit at 0.9% of GDP in 2016 and expected to be at 0.4% of GDP in 2017

MORE MONEY IN YOUR POCKET

- USC has been cut for lower and middle income earners – three lowest rates have all been reduced and now stand at: 0.5%, 2.5% and 5.0%
- The Earned Income Tax Credit will be increased to €950
- Home Carers will receive a €100 increase in tax credits
- Increase 2016 Christmas Bonus for Social Welfare Recipients to 85%

HOUSING – REBUILDING IRELAND

- A 5% rebate on income taxes paid by First-Time Buyers of a newly built home, capped at €20K – Houses purchased at prices beyond €600K will attract no rebate
- Taxes on all inheritances will be reduced, especially from parents to children where the threshold for CAT will rise to €310K
- Rent-a-room scheme ceiling increases by €2K to €14K

BREXIT AND BUSINESS

- Seeking a continued close relationship with the UK and the Common Travel Area
- Debt to GDP target improved to 45% giving us an extra shock absorber
- Rainy Day Fund introduced from 2019
- CGT to be reduced to 10% to a limit of €1million on chargeable gains
- SARP and Start Your Own Business relief extended
- Retention of the 9% VAT rate for tourism
- Help for Farmers and Fishers

BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE:

- €58bn investment in building Ireland's public services and providing for our future
- Current spending to increase to €53.5bn: that's €12,000 for every man, woman and child
- Capital investment to grow by 26% since 2014, allowing school building construction and the provision of 20,000 new school places
- €1.2bn for housing, including €50m for Local Infrastructure Fund to deliver 20,000 private houses by 2019
- €290m for pay increases agreed under the Lansdowne Road Agreement to restore pay cuts imposed on civil and public servants during the crash
- 21,000 applicants for social housing will have their housing needs met next year
- €15m to progress the roll-out of the National Broadband Plan to provide high speed broadband to rural Ireland
- €400m to meet demographic needs; more teachers, nurses and Gardaí
- €44m package for flood relief schemes