



Newsletter

Autumn 2024



Ivana Bacik TD

Dublin Bay South

Dear Dublin Bay South Constituent,

Welcome to my Autumn 2024 Newsletter. Thank you sincerely for the strong support that our Labour candidates in this area received in the Local and European Elections on 7th June. Our local Labour team has a proud track record of public service and advocacy on behalf of this wonderful community.

I enclose information on some of the work that I have been doing over recent months as your local TD.

Our country faces many challenges, from the housing crisis and climate emergency to the erosion of public services; from the scourge of vacancy and dereliction to the fencing off and closure of our community amenities. I and my Labour colleagues are working hard to address these challenges on your behalf, and will continue to do so.

As always, if there is ever any way that I can be of assistance to you or your household on any matter, please do contact my office and I will be glad to offer help and support.

Ivana

Save Our Community Services!

Our public services are an invaluable lifeline for our communities. Yet these important supports are being eroded through the closure of Citizens' Information Centres, post offices, and other services. I recently met with the CEO of An Post, David McRedmond, to voice our community's concerns about the closure of both Ballsbridge Post Office and the iconic Rathmines Post Office building. The Government and An Post have a duty to maintain these local public services.

In April, I hosted a public meeting on the closure of Rathmines Post Office and previously launched a campaign to retain our Citizens' Information Centres. I will continue to push for retention of these facilities in public ownership for the benefit of our communities. If you would like to join our campaign to save our services, please get in contact!



Addressing our public meeting to save Rathmines Post Office, April 2024.

Please get in touch

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Greening Our City

As a committed cyclist and environmentalist campaigner, I have long championed green initiatives, including the provision of more cycle lanes and bike parking facilities, and the introduction of new biodiversity schemes. I was the only local TD to make a submission on the Dublin City Transport Plan and am committed to ensuring its implementation.

My Dublin Bay Bill, currently before the Dáil, would create a statutory agency to co-ordinate environmental protections and enhance the wonderful public amenity that is our Bay Area. As a regular sea swimmer at the Poolbeg South Wall (Half Moon Club), I have secured official 'bathing designation' for this special place, and have secured more frequent monitoring of water quality. I am working to ensure improved facilities in our parks and playgrounds, and am campaigning with local sports clubs for better access to playing pitches across the community.



With Dublin's newest Labour MEP, Aodhán Ó Riordáin, who is defining his focus in the EU as 'housing, housing, housing'.

The Housing Crisis

The housing disaster is the civil rights issue of our generation. Home ownership remains a distant dream for many; the scourge of vacancy blights our neighbourhoods; and renters must fend for themselves in a market where they have few protections. I have introduced a Renters' Rights Bill to provide enhanced security of tenure, and have launched a campaign to tackle dereliction across the constituency. We urgently need to see vacant public buildings, like Baggot Street Hospital, repurposed and pressed into use.

I have also called for the upward revision of our national housebuilding targets. Evidence shows that we need 50,000 new builds and 50,000 deep retrofits each year for the next 10 years, in order to meet the true level of need. Instead of working with us to achieve this, the Government is disregarding their own low social and affordable housing targets. Most recently, the Housing Minister has rushed through a Planning Bill which is likely to make matters worse, not better. We need a radical change in housing policy – Labour has the plan for massive public investment to deliver homes at the scale our communities so badly need.

Education

Children in Dublin 2, 4, 6, 6W and 8 urgently need a new Gaelcholáiste.

I am glad to support Conradh na Gaeilge and local campaigners to achieve this.

All young people should have the opportunity to pursue bilingual education through to second level.

I have also been working with parents to address the serious shortage of creche places in our local area. Early Years Education should be a right – every child should be entitled to a childcare place.



Demonstrating in support of a new Gaelcholáiste for Dublin 2, 4, 6, 6W & 8.



With the formidable campaigner, Cara Darmody, and her father, Mark, who are working tirelessly to address the need for timely assessments and supports.

Children's Rights

We in Labour have for years been seeking to improve services for children with intellectual disabilities and special educational needs. Many children languish for years on waiting lists, even to access an assessment of needs. For those who do receive a diagnosis, the difficulties with appropriate classroom places, Autism services, special needs assistance, and therapeutic supports continue to hold our children back. Children deserve better.

Dublin Bay South for All

I am so proud of the work we have done together as a community to welcome our new residents to Dublin Bay South over recent months. The *Dublin 4 For All* and *Dublin 6 for All* groups, established at my initiative with other local representatives, are doing terrific work in generating a warm and inclusive sense of community in our local areas.

I have commended the amazing volunteers providing assistance to International Protection applicants in our area, and have been pressing the Government to provide adequate accommodation facilities for all who come here seeking refuge.



Solidarity with Ukraine and Gaza



Outside the Russian Embassy in support of the people of Ukraine.

We stand firm with the people of Gaza under ongoing brutal bombardment by Israel. We welcome the recognition of Palestinian statehood by Ireland, but with mounting civilian casualties, we renew our call for a ceasefire, a return of hostages and an end to civilian casualties in Gaza, and for the development of a two state solution to bring about lasting peace in the Middle East.

We in Labour have a strong track record of international solidarity with those campaigning for democracy and for human rights. Today, we see increasing numbers worldwide facing war, repression and brutality. We call for continued solidarity with the people of Ukraine as they endure Russia's brutal invasion and war.



Demonstrating in support of the people of Gaza.

Labour around Dublin Bay South



Taking part in the wonderful South Docks Festival parade, July 2024.



Our Labour team.



All the community around Pearse Street and St Andrew's Resource Centre were deeply shocked at the recent death of John Fitzsimons, CEO of the Centre. My deepest condolences to all John's family, friends, and colleagues on such a sad loss. It was a pleasure to have known John for many years; he always brought such immense good cheer and positivity to every gathering and event and made a huge contribution to our community through his tireless work at the Centre. RIP.



Getting ready to march for Pride in Dublin, June 2024.

We are out every week across the constituency, speaking with local residents about the issues that matter – and sharing our Labour vision of equality, solidarity and fairness.

Scan the QR code for more information.



YOUR LABOUR TEAM IN DUBLIN BAY SOUTH



Cllr
FIONA CONNELLY



Cllr
DERMOT LACEY



If you have any questions about my work, or if there is ever any way that I can be of assistance to you or your household, please do get in touch.

IVANA BACIK TD

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Are you
registered
to vote?



Labour