# **Newsletter**

Spring 2024





# Ivana Bacik TD

**Dublin Bay South** 

#### Dear Friend,

As your local TD, I am honoured to represent you in Dáil Éireann and enclose an update on some of the work that I have been doing on your behalf.

I would be glad to invite you to visit Leinster House for a tour over the coming term; please email me on ivana.bacik@oireachtas.ie if you would like to arrange a visit.





#### Please get in touch

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# As your local TD, I have been working hard on your behalf in the Dáil on a range of issues, including:

- ENVIRONMENT: As a regular sea swimmer, I have introduced my Dublin Bay Bill - to create a new agency to enhance our marine biodiversity and coastal amenities. I have proposed a new 'climate ticket' to give unlimited public transport journeys across Ireland for just €9 per month.
- COMMUNITIES: I have been working to create more accessible sports facilities for our children and young people, and to preserve face-toface services in our urban centres.
- HOUSING: I have been pressing for urgent commencement of a massive house-building programme and have launched a Bill for Renters' Rights.
- **TRANSPORT:** I have been made aware of dangerous crossings around the constituency and have been making representations to Dublin City Council to make them safer. If there is a junction or crossway near you which is of concern, do send me an email.
- CHILDCARE: Parents across Dublin Bay South have to contend with an acute shortage of childcare places, as well as expensive fees. We in Labour are proposing a radical new scheme of universal, affordable childcare. We would cap fees for parents at €200 per child per month, and ensure a pre-school place for every child – our Equal Early Years Guarantee.

### Are you registered to vote?

Changes have been made to the electoral registration process in Ireland. This means:

- You can now update your record at any time up to 15 days before an election or referendum.
- You can register to vote online using your PPSN or by using your MyGovID
  account.
- Young people 16 or older can pre-register to vote and you will be automatically registered on your 18th birthday.

#### To be eligible to register

- You must be resident in the State full-time.
- You must register at the address at which you are 'ordinarily resident' i.e. where you live.
- Irish citizens are eligible to vote in all elections and referendums.
- EU citizens are eligible to vote in European and local elections.
- British citizens are eligible to vote in Dáil and local elections.
- Citizens of other countries are eligible to vote in local elections.

Check the register by visiting www.voter.ie. If you do not have a PPSN or a verified MyGovID account, you can still register to vote. Go online to voter.ie to download the appropriate form. After completing the form, present it at your local Garda station with photo ID for signature and send to Dublin City Council, Franchise Section, Block 4, Floor 4 Civic offices, Wood Quay, Dublin 8, D08 RF3F.



## **Conflict in the Middle East**

We in Labour have called for an immediate ceasefire, an end to the horrific bombardment and killings of civilians and the release of all hostages held in Gaza. While we condemned the brutal 7th October attack by Hamas, we believe that Israel's grotesque retaliation has amounted to a breach of international law, and we are deeply distressed by the rising death toll in

We support the imposition of sanctions upon Israel and demand a stop to the Israeli attack upon the people of Gaza and to Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian land; we will continue to work for a two-state resolution to achieve a lasting peace in the region.

## **Integration**

I have been working hard with local communities across Dublin Bay South to ensure new arrivals are welcomed into our neighbourhoods. It is essential that we stand together as a community to help those who are vulnerable, no matter where they come from. We have set up local groups to support our new residents and to ensure integration into our communities. It has been incredible to witness the huge community response from across the constituency to welcome the many individuals and families who have been forced to flee their homes to seek refuge here. I am immensely proud of the work we are doing to make Dublin Bay South an open, inclusive, and welcoming place to live. We have established D4 and D6 Welcome Groups to support new accommodation centres. If anyone would like more information on our integration work, please contact me.





With Jacinda Ardern, former Prime Minister of New Zealand





Meeting Ringsend soccer star Abbie Larkin



Wishing Senator David Norris a happy retirement alongside Senator Marie Sherlock

## **Equality for LGBTQ+ Families**

Almost nine years after the marriage equality referendum, many LGBTQ+ families are still prevented from accessing full parental rights, which can lead to significant issues when applying for citizenship and in cases of illness or marital breakup. To remedy this situation, Labour introduced a bill in collaboration with Equality for Children and LGBT Ireland. This Bill would be an important step towards realising the equality that was voted for in 2015. Our bill was debated in the Dáil on 25th January, but was delayed by Government.

However, we are continuing to work to see its provisions passed and we will continue to fight until we achieve full equality for LGBTQ+ families.





Record numbers of people and families are homeless, while thousands of homes remain vacant - across Dublin and Ireland.

Vacancy and dereliction are a scourge on our communities.

#### This Government's housing policy has failed.

We need urgent action to tackle dereliction and bring vacant homes back into use.

We in Labour have a plan to increase housing supply, reinvigorate our urban centres, and meet our climate targets.

https://labour.ie/campaigns/vacanthomes/

# **Labour around Dublin Bay South**



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**





<sup>CIIr</sup> Kevin Donoghue



CIII DERMOT LACEY



EDDIE MCGUINNESS



CAROL REYNOLDS



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.



