

# NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE

The logo for Ógra, featuring the word "Ógra" in a stylized blue font with a white harp symbol integrated into the letter 'g', all contained within a white circle.

Westgrove Hotel, Clane, Co Kildare

7th & 8th November 2014



# PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

## FRIDAY 7TH NOVEMBER

- 17:00 **REGISTRATION OPENS**
- 18:45 - 19:00 **WELCOME ADDRESS & OFFICIAL OPENING**
- 19:00 - 19:30 **HUSTINGS**  
Regional Positions  
Chaired by Senator Thomas Byrne
- 19:30 - 20:00 **HUSTINGS**  
National Positions  
Chaired by Senator Darragh O'Brien
- 20:00 - 20:30 **HUSTINGS**  
Policy & Campaigns  
Chaired by Cllr. Fiona O'Loughlin
- 20:30 - 21:30 **WINNING THE REFERENDUM - MARRIAGE EQUALITY**  
Chaired by Senator Averil Power
- 21:30 - 22:15 **THE PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE**  
Chaired by Seán Ó Fearghail TD
- 22:15 **ENTERTAINMENT**  
Photobooth  
DJ

## SATURDAY 8TH NOVEMBER

- 8:00 - 10:00 **POLLING IN CENTRAL OFFICER BOARD ELECTIONS**
- 10:00 - 11:00 **ORGANISATIONAL MOTIONS WORKSHOP**
- 11:00 - 12:30 **EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH**  
Chaired by Dara Calleary TD
- 12:30 - 13:30 **MEDIA TRAINING WORKSHOP**  
Facilitated by Lisa Regan, LRPR
- 14:30 - 16:00 **YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH - A RISING CHALLENGE**  
Chaired by Charlie McConalogue TD
- 16:00 - 17:00 **POLICY MOTIONS WORKSHOP**
- 17:00 - 17:15 **CONFERENCE CLOSING SESSION**  
Speech from outgoing Uachtarán
- 17:45 - 18:30 **COUNTING OF BALLOTS**  
Central Officer Board Elections
- 20:00 **GALA BANQUET**

**! SECURITY NOTICE**  
All attendees must wear their conference pass at all times. Please contact registration if you have any queries.

A MESSAGE FROM  
**MICHEÁL MARTIN TD**  
UACHTARÁN FHIANNA FÁIL



Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhaibh ar fad go Cill Dara le haghaidh na Comhdhála seo. Tá me cinnte go mbeidh an Chomhdháil seo fiuntach agus taitneamhach. Gan dabt tá suil agam go mbeidh craic, comhrá agus caidreamh ann freisin.

I am delighted to welcome you all here to Kildare for our Fianna Fáil National Youth Conference. When there is so much cynicism about politics it is always heartening to see so many young men and women interested in politics and in particular Fianna Fáil.

Nowhere has the Government's policy of spin over substance been clearer than in the area of Youth Unemployment. The Taoiseach and Government Ministers have been spending lavishly on launches, policy documents and summits in Europe on the issue, yet the actual impact of the Youth Guarantee Fund is yet to be felt.

There was €8 billion euro pledged by Europe to combat the unemployment scourge across Europe. This fund will be spread over 7 years. That's approximately €208 per person, per year to solve youth unemployment in the European Union. This is a far cry from what the young citizens need.

In Ireland there were 73,400 (15.4%) of young people in Ireland aged between 16 to 25 years old who were not in education, employment or training in the second quarter of 2014. This is a shameful statistic. Radical action needs to be taken on youth unemployment. Unemployment affects people in a very negative way and can lead to mental health problems which Ogra covered in detail at last year's conference in Sligo.

Government inaction in this area has been the focus of criticism from the OECD and the European Commission who claim Ireland now risks the emergence of a lost generation.

I firmly believe that more needs to be done to alleviate or eliminate work disincentives and unemployment traps. The youth unemployment rate in the Eurozone has remained at 24% throughout last year which show that both national and European policies are

failing our young people.

Fianna Fáil believe that the government approach to apprenticeships should be overhauled so that there can be a rebalancing of our educational system so that it puts a greater value on high-skills vocational training for the one in five of students who are not especially interested in an academic focus. This will give them the skills to work in more traditional practical occupations, and the digital economy.

Businesses and enterprises should be encouraged to put in place an overarching apprenticeship structure for those students who wish to follow that path. We published a National Youth Employment Policy in 2012 and suggested:

» Employers should be exempt from PRSI when they employ 17 -24 year olds.

» 100,000 job seekers should receive ICT skills training over a 4 year period

» An additional 5000 Job-Bridge places for those under 25 years old

» Reinstate Career Guidance Counsellors in Irish Secondary Schools

In the UK, the government has given the go-ahead to setting up a new type of college which will provide vocational training to young people from the age of 14.

This type of programme should be introduced in Ireland. We have called for an extra 1000 apprenticeships to be made available in Ireland across industry. This policy proposal will help rebuild the Irish economy and also to reduce youth unemployment.

Finally, I am looking forward to listening to all of your proposals about how youth unemployment, as well as other issues, should be tackled so that we can add your suggestions to our policy documents.

Is mise le meas,

*Michael Martin*

A MESSAGE FROM  
**Cllr. KATE FEENEY**  
UACHTARÁN ÓGRA



Delegates,

Welcome to the Ógra National Youth Conference for what promises to be a great weekend.

When the outgoing Central Officer Board was elected at the last National Youth Conference we set ourselves, and you the members, a challenge to ensure that Ógra returned to being a strong campaigning organisation.

With thanks to all of you, we have succeeded in this goal, through campaigns like Healthy Living, Nek Donate, Seanad Reform and two strong budget campaigns we have proven that our policies are relevant and that we have a great campaigning team within our ranks.

This ability to campaign, convey our message and support our members played a huge role in ensuring 22 members of Ógra gained seats on local authorities last May. To hold an unprecedented number of elected representatives amongst our membership will help us strengthen our message and ensure that when decisions are being made about the future direction of Fianna Fáil, and the future direction of our communities, we have both a voice and a vote at the table.

This strong campaigning presence has also aided two strong third level recruitment drives. Our new members are bringing with them new ideas and fresh energy to ensure that Ógra continues to grow.

That growth will be vital over the next 18 months as we face into numerous referenda and a general election. We need to ensure that as an organisation we are to the fore in promoting our republican values during these campaigns, ensuring that equality wins out and that our most vulnerable are protected. Over that last term Ógra have not only highlighted the many inequalities arising from successive unfair budgetary decisions made by the current government, we have also put forward fairer and costed alternatives.

As we have grown internally, we have also forged

strong relationships and connections outside of our organisation through increased participation with external bodies, and increased collaboration and engagement with other youth political organisations in Ireland and Europe. Last month, our application to become full voting members of LYMEC was accepted at the LYMEC Congress in Berlin.

Ógra's role is central to the continued revival of Fianna Fáil. As we continue to learn from other organisations and our new members, while building on the experience already within our ranks, Ógra needs to ensure that our voice is heard in Fianna Fáil's General Election Manifesto and that Fianna Fáil's general election candidates share and represent our views.

This task is achievable. The calibre of candidates putting their names forward to contest elections at this Conference proves this. I would like to congratulate those who are uncontested on their new positions, and wish each of the candidates well in their elections.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you for your role in securing Ógra's numerous successes over our term, none of it would have been possible without the support of each and every member. I would also like to thank both Adrian O'Higgins and Christabelle Feeney for their invaluable work behind the scenes in their roles as National Youth Officers, without which so many of Ógra's achievements would not have been possible.

I would particularly like to convey my sincere thanks to my colleagues on the outgoing Central Officer Board for their contribution. Their commitment to Ógra, in pursuing goals and outcomes for the betterment of our society, is unwavering and we as an organisation are stronger as a result.

## A MESSAGE FROM **SEÁN DORGAN** GENERAL SECRETARY

I am delighted to welcome you to Clane for our National Youth Conference. It gives me great pleasure to particularly welcome all the new members of Ógra Fianna Fáil who have joined us for their first National Youth Conference. I encourage you to share your ideas and actively participate in the many workshops this weekend. I hope that this weekend marks the start of a long, enjoyable and productive membership of Fianna Fáil.

Since our last National Youth Conference, Fianna Fáil has successfully fought the Seanad referendum campaign and contested the Local, European and bye-elections. We are now the largest party at local government level and close to 40% of our councillors are first-time councillors.

Ógra Fianna Fáil has been an integral part of all of these campaigns and I want to thank you for your hard work and dedication on behalf of the party. It is a great testament to our members that Fianna Fáil stood alone amongst Irish political parties and fought off the government's power grab to abolish our Seanad.

Throughout the Local and European elections, Ógra brought great energy and enthusiasm to the campaign. This is evident in the successful Ógra Shop Local campaign which enabled candidates and Ógra members to actively engage and support their local communities. Ógra is further strengthened by our 22 Ógra Councillors. I have no doubt that over the next five years these councillors will serve as role models for the entire Ógra membership and indeed the youth of Ireland.

I would like to thank the outgoing Uachtarán of Ógra Cllr. Kate Feeney and the officer board for their hard

work and leadership. I would like to wish all those running for election this year the very best of luck with their campaigns. A special word of thanks too to the local organisations for their diligent work over the past number of months. Finally, thanks to Christabelle Feeney, our National Youth Officer, for her dedication and energy since becoming National Youth Officer.

I wish you a successful and enjoyable weekend, and look forward to meeting with you and hearing your views over the course of the weekend.



## A MESSAGE FROM **CHRISTABELLE FEENEY** NATIONAL YOUTH OFFICER

Welcome Ógraí!

I am delighted to welcome you, both new and existing members of Ógra to what promises to be a weekend of great debate, discussion and socialising. It has been an exciting and busy eighteen months since our last youth conference. Surging membership numbers across all third level institutions has meant that Ógra Fianna Fáil retains the title of largest political youth movement in the island of Ireland. However, your work has not ended there, with many of you running in local election campaigns or indeed assisting those that were. As you look around this weekend, you will see many of the Ógra Councillors that were elected as a result of that hard work, who will work for the continued renewal of Fianna Fail.

Ógra has led the way on many policy developments within Fianna Fáil, such as the campaign on marriage equality which led the senior party to endorse Marriage Equality. The importance of equality to Ógra can be seen in this weekend's programme, with emphasis being placed on the Marriage Equality referendum and the importance of mobilizing voters for this campaign.

The overall theme of this National Youth Conference is 'Rising to the Challenge' reflecting on the many challenges currently facing us as Ireland's youth. Now is the time for Ógra to rise to such challenges and act as a voice for those who cannot fight for themselves, to put forward credible solutions and progressive campaigns to tackle these problems and make Ireland a place in which young people can prosper again.

Since taking over as National Youth Officer in July 2014, I have been heartened by the commitment, vision and enthusiasm of our members, the hard

work of the staff in Fianna Fail Headquarters and the inspirational work ethos of our Party Leader Micheál Martin. In him, we have a Party Leader who is invested in young people, understands the challenges we face and is committed to the progression of a Party that is reflective of its membership.

I would also like to thank the outgoing Central Officer Board for the tremendous work they have put in during their term on membership growth, policy formation, campaigns and building relations with our European colleagues.

A special thanks also to Cllr. Rob Power and the local organising committee in Kildare for their work on the organisation of this Conference. Finally I would like to thank Seán Dorgan, Darragh McShea, Annie Keegan and Fintan Phelan in Fianna Fáil HQ for their help and advice in planning for #NYC14.

I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible over the course of the next two days.

Have a great Conference.



## A MESSAGE FROM **ROB POWER** LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

WELCOME TO KILDARE NYC 2014!

On behalf of the organising committee, it's my pleasure to welcome you to Clane, Co. Kildare for the 2014 National Youth Conference.

I'm very proud that this year's NYC is taking place in county Kildare, the home of Arthur Guinness, Theobald Wolfe Tone and Christy Moore. I'm sure the life's works of all three gentlemen will be well celebrated at various stages over the weekend.

I am delighted to welcome members from all corners of the country and in particular, I extend a warm welcome to those of you attending your first NYC. New members are the life blood of any organisation and your presence here this weekend is testament to the strong contribution of Ógra to the wider renewal of Fianna Fáil.

The Ógra NYC is the largest political youth conference in Ireland each year. The organising committee have arranged an excellent line up of speakers and debate topics which I hope you'll find engaging and enjoyable.

Since we last met our party has contested elections across every constituency and ward in the country. Many delegates here this weekend will know the work that went into those campaigns and thanks to their efforts we are once again the largest party at local government level. Of the 267 Fianna Fáil Councillors elected last May, Ógra has supplied 22 to those ranks. The public have seen that we are putting forward strong ideals and policy alongside capable young candidates and are responding positively to that.

Now is the time for Ógra to redouble its efforts in

renewing the party. Ógra has the opportunity to become the face of that renewal and lead the way in putting forward change we are proud to stand over. I encourage all delegates to grasp that opportunity at this weekend's conference. Participate in the debates, share your opinions and don't be afraid to question others'. Engage wherever you can and encourage other to do the same.

Finally, a very special word of thank you to the staff in party headquarters and particularly to Annie Keegan and Christabelle Feeney for their fantastic work and support in organising this conference. I wish you all an enjoyable weekend.



## A MESSAGE FROM **KEITH HENRY** NATIONAL COUNCIL CHAIRPERSON

A Chairde,

At our gathering this weekend we as young members of Fianna Fáil have a lot to celebrate. The hard work and dedication that you have put in over the last 18 months since our last NYC, has put us back as the largest party in local government. The local elections also saw many of our Ógra members gain the trust of the electorate to represent them on their local authority and many more took the brave jump to be a candidate.

While we have a lot to celebrate this weekend, we also have a lot to discuss to ensure that we put our best foot forward to influence policy development in our party and in our society. This discussion has of course been ongoing over the last 18 months in the form of National Council meetings. Since our last NYC we have held eight National Council Meetings and debated 77 different motions. We have also brought the National Council to new venues to further enfranchise debate among our membership.

Among the key decisions that members made at National Council this term was a resounding endorsement for applying for full membership of LYMEC. Just a fortnight ago we brought this mandate to the Autumn LYMEC congress and were accepted with great enthusiasm. We have the ability to work with our colleagues in Europe to influence real change there and to learn from the experiences of other members. The quality of the motions contained in the clár show that there is an appetite for engaging with policy development at all levels.

It has been a pleasure to work to ensure that your views have been upheld and respected in a democratic and transparent manner by the members

of the Central Officer Board who are accountable to you their electorate. I would like to thank the outgoing COB for their cooperation and wish those contesting elections this weekend the very best of luck.

I hope you enjoy participating in the conference this weekend and I look forward to seeing many of you again at the National Council AGM.

Mise le meas,

Keith Henry  
National Council Chairperson



# MARRIAGE EQUALITY - WINNING THE REFERENDUM

Friday 7th November  
20.30 - 21.30

Chair:

**Senator Averil Power**

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Education and Skills, Seanad Éireann

Speakers:

**Tiernan Brady**

Policy Director GLEN

**Laura Harmon**

President of Union of Students Ireland

**Margaret Gill**

Marriage Equality Activist and GALAs winner

# EMPOWERING OUR YOUTH

Saturday 8th November  
11.00 - 12.30

Chair:

**Dara Calleary TD**

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Speakers:

**Feilim Mac An Iomaire (Jobless Paddy)**

Paddy Power PR/Media Relations Manager

**Micheál Martin TD**

Uachtarán Fianna Fáil

**Deirdre Coghlan Murray**

Managing Director, Clark Recruitment

# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH - A RISING CHALLENGE

Saturday 8th November  
14:30 - 16:00

Chair:

**Charlie McConalogue TD**

Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Education and Skills

Speakers:

**Angela and Alan Hayes**

Survivors of Suicide & writer of 'Survivor'

**Nikki Hayes**

Spin1038 DJ

**Aaron Galbraith**

Youth Empowerment Services



National Youth Conference 2014

# GALA BANQUET

Westgrove Hotel

Saturday, 8th November 2014 8:00pm

Speaker:

**Micheál Martin TD**

Uachtarán Fhianna Fáil

Entertainment:

**Bullets in Chicago**

followed by DJ

Tickets €20

Limited number of tickets  
available from the Registration Desk





**ÓGRA  
- A YEAR IN  
PHOTOGRAPHS**



#NekDonate Campaign



Marching with Pride 2014



Seanad Referendum 2013




Accepting Full Membership of LYMEC



#ShopLocalSaturday Campaign

LOVE A  
GOOD PARTY?  
JOIN ÓGRA.



A group of five young adults, four men and one woman, are gathered around a table, looking at and handling white envelopes. They are all wearing green lanyards with identification badges. The man on the far left has glasses and is wearing a black jacket. The man next to him is wearing a purple sweater. The man in the center is wearing a red and white plaid shirt. The man on the far right is wearing a black jacket with a red collar. The woman on the far right has red hair and is wearing a black leather jacket with a red scarf. The background shows a large, well-lit room with other people and tables, suggesting a conference or event setting.

# CENTRAL OFFICER BOARD ELECTIONS

## UACHTARÁN ÓGRA

### NAOISE Ó CEARÚIL

Kildare

Cllr. Naoise Ó Cearúil is 25 years old and a native of Maynooth, Co. Kildare. He currently holds the position of Irish Language and Cultural Officer in Ógra Fianna Fáil. Educated in Maynooth University with a degree in Law and Business and a Diploma in Irish.

In 2012 he served as Vice President of Maynooth Students' Union and previously as President of NUIM Law Society and NUIM Irish Language Society. Naoise joined the Seán Lemass Cumann while in college and served as PRO. He was elected to Kildare County Council in last May's local elections, representing the Maynooth/Clane Municipal Area.

Naoise has proven leadership qualities and aims to make Ógra Fianna Fáil a more Republican organisation if elected.

As a full time public representative, Naoise will have the time, commitment and profile to make Ógra a more active, inclusive and professional organisation.



### EOIN Ó NIALLAÍN

Clare

Eoin is a member of the National Executive (Committee of 20) since the 2012 Ard Fheis and hails from Ennis, Co. Clare. After some time working as an Engineer in the UK, he now lives at home in Clare where he works in the construction industry. He is also active in the community with several charity and community groups as well as the Fianna Fáil party locally.

Eoin has been active at almost every level of Fianna Fáil since joining the party in NUIG where he served as chair of Cumann de Barra. He is currently Cathaoirleach of Clare Ógra and was the founding chairperson of the London cumann. Eoin served of the National Executive as Munster Ógra rep. in 2007/2008, a time that Ógra took the initiative of beginning the recruitment of members in the 6 counties.

Since being re-elected to the National Executive, Eoin has prioritised the continuing renewal process, ensuring that the voice of the grassroots is effectively heard on the Árd Chomhairle. Coupled with this, Eoin has been active on policy development, most notably during the Seanad referendum where he penned a reform proposal which was subsequently ratified by both Ógra and the party at large. These are veins he very much wishes to continue along as Uachtarán Ógra Fhianna Fáil.



## NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP & RECRUITMENT DIRECTOR

### JESSICA NÍ MHAOLÁIN DOM, UCC

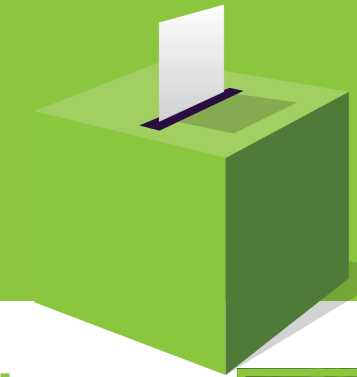
Hi everyone, My name is Jessica Ni Mhaolain. I am a 22 year old student, and currently completing a Masters program in UCC's Government department, having graduated this summer with an undergrad in Health Promotion. I joined UCC's Ógra unit, Donogh O'Malley Cumann, shortly after the 2011 general election, and went on to become chair of the Cumann in 2013. In late 2013, I was elected Women's Rapporteur for Ógra, which is a role I'm extremely passionate about.

While overseeing our recruitment drive this year, numbers have increased significantly, which is what Ógra needs in order to continue the long tradition of youth participation in politics.



### PASCHAL LEHANY CDB, NUIG

Hi! My name's Paschal Lehany. I'm 20 years old and from Sligo. I study science in NUI Galway where I'm currently the chair of Cumann de Barra, NUIG. If elected to the position of Ógra Membership and Recruitment Director my priorities will be; to work with the third level and regional organisers to expand Ógra into third level institutes outside of universities; to expand Ógra outside of third level institutes by building up CDCs; to retain active membership after members graduate; to help Ógra members have a more powerful voice in the senior party; and to continuously work with CDCs and third level cumainn on recruitment.



## NATIONAL POLICY & CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR

### JOHN KEATING

Kildare

Hi, my name is John Keating. I am a 22 year old Political Science student at Trinity College. I have been a member of the Wolfe Tone Cumann since 2011 and while in the Cumann I have served as First Year Representative, Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer. Outside of the Wolfe Tone Cumann I have been involved in the Trinity Politics Society, serving as Chair of the 2013/2014 session. I have also been an extensive contributor to The University Times where I was the Senior Polling Editor in 2014.

Through my studies, I have extensively analysed the various economic and political factors which impacts policy formation and implementation. I have also been an active canvasser in a number of Student Union elections in both Trinity and UCD.

If elected as Ógra's Policy and Campaign Officer I hope to reform the culture surrounding policy and campaign formation. Ógra's policies and campaigns should have a greater role for member input. I feel that Ógra's position as the largest youth wing in the country is a unique advantage and needs to be more effectively harnessed when it comes to policy and campaigning matters. I firmly believe that member driven policy should form the basis of future local and national campaign.



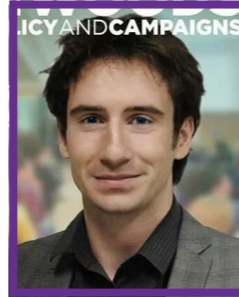
### IAN WOODS

KBC, UCD

My name is Ian Woods and I'm here to ask for your number one vote for the office of policy and campaigns. I'm running on a message of identity and mobilisation. I believe that the next year will be a defining period for our party and that before then we need to develop a clear vision for this country and mobilise our members to get out there and tell people about it. I want Ógra to play a strong role in fighting the upcoming referendum and general election and in finding an idea for the party to fight for.

I am a PhD student studying Translational Medicine with an M.E. in Biomedical Engineering. I've served as Secretary and Policy Officer of the UCD Kevin Barry Cumann and Secretary of Dun Laoghaire Ógra. I've worked as a researcher in Germany, Sweden and China and bring a technical approach to policy formation. I coach tae kwon do in UCD and surf and windsurf when the weather is being kind. I love debating and there's no better craic than arguing politics with people. I joined Ógra to try to make a difference in our country and I believe that together we can make our ideas matter.

I have the experience, I have the plan and I have the passion to make this organisation an Ógra worth fighting for.



## NATIONAL POLICY & CAMPAIGNS DIRECTOR

### SUSAN WHELAN

Waterford

Hi, my name is Susan Whelan. I have been an active member of Fianna Fáil since 2006, first in the Con Colbert Cumann in UL, Waterford Ógra and the Donagh O'Malley Cumann in UCC. I am an active member of the Futures Group, a policy think tank associated with Fianna Fáil.

I studied Law & European Studies (LLB) in UL and hold a LLM in Human Rights Law and Public Policy from UCC. My thesis was focused on US campaign finance regulation and the role of corporations in public discourse.

I was admitted to practice as an Attorney in New York and am currently employed in financial services. I have volunteered with many national and international charities and am currently serving as the Community Officer of Junior Chamber International.

I am a veteran of three referendum campaigns with the civil society groups Generation Yes (Lisbon II Oct 2009), Yes for Children (Childrens referendum Nov 2012) and Democracy Matters (Seanad abolition referendum Oct 2013).

One of my key priorities if elected will be in developing the skills of individual members through their active involvement in policy formation and leading campaigns in their area.



## NATIONAL EVENTS DIRECTOR

### BARRY GILLEN Galway



Barry Gillen is a native of Oranmore Co. Galway and an economics and law student in Dcu where he chairs the PPC. He is also the treasurer of Galway west Ógra, secretary of the Ogra National Council and serves on Coiste na Gaelige, Fianna Fáil's national irish language committee.

As national events director I intend to bolster the ongoing efforts to increase engagement with national Council by adding to the event, transforming it from a debating chamber to a forum in which expert speakers will be brought in to help unskill the members on relevant topics throughout the term.

The Irish language is a fundamental part of Ógra and I intend to build on the work already done by adding seachtaine na Gaeilge as a major part of the ogra calendar.

With the recent success of our bid to join LYMEC I want to incorporate our sister ALDE and LYMEC youth parties into some of our events and increase the general level of inter-party events nationally.

## CONNAUGHT/ULSTER ORGANISER

### DAVID KEANE Galway



David was elected to the Central Officer Board in June 2014. He is a 20 year old law graduate of NUI Galway from Athlone, Co Roscommon.

I re-established Roscommon Ógra in 2012 and chaired the unit for 18 months. He has also held a number of committee positions in Cumann de Barra in NUI Galway.

I have already spent 5 months in the position of Connaught-Ulster organiser and have worked to aid the establishment and development of Ógra Units in Connacht-Ulster and assist in co-ordination of campaigns and policy development in the Region.

I worked on engaging Ógra in the recent Roscommon South Leitrim bye-election, and I am committed to working for and with the members and units of Ógra in the region.

## DUBLIN ORGANISER

### JAMES DOYLE Dublin Fingal

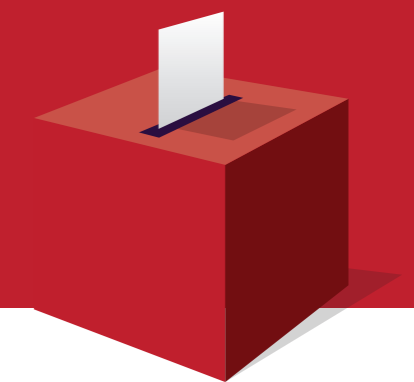


Hi all, I'm James Doyle, I'm 25 years old, and I am delighted to have been nominated for the position of Dublin Organiser. I have been an Ógra member since 2008 and was involved in the cumainn in Trinity College Dublin and NUI Maynooth. I currently work in financial services in Dublin. My first experience of Fianna Fáil in action was Senator Averil Power's local election campaign in 2009, and it encouraged me to stay involved and be active. I care passionately about the Dublin region, especially about issues such public transport, housing, and youth employment.

I serve as Secretary of my local Ógra unit in Dublin Fingal. This unit has been re-established in the last two years with the encouragement of Senator Darragh O'Brien. Our members were heavily involved in the recent local elections through canvassing and leaflet dropping, and we also submitted a bid for the NYC. I hope to bring enthusiasm and strategic planning to the role of Dublin Organiser and I look forward to collaborating with our Dublin members.

Dublin is vitally important to the continued success of Fianna Fáil, and I believe that Ógra's goals in the capital should be simple but ambitious. We have excellent third level units in the region and we need to link up Dublin cumainn members with their home units. It is also key that units have regular meetings and participate in their

local area. I see my role as Dublin Organiser primarily as empowering members to actively run their own unit and to facilitate a stronger presence in Dublin. The goal for Dublin is to have Ógra fighting fit to support Fianna Fáil candidates in the next General Election. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh taitneamh as an gComhdháil Náisiúnta Ógra.





## MUNSTER ORGANISER

### JAMES O'CONNOR Cork East



My Name is James O'Connor and I'm running for the position of Munster Organiser. With your help I want to build upon the outstanding work of my predecessor Emer O'Donovan.

I joined Fianna Fáil when I was 16. I am currently in 5th Year in Pobalscoil na Tríonóide, Youghal, Co. Cork. It is my intention to study economics and political science after I complete the Leaving Certificate in 2016 and I am also considering studying Government.

My passions in life are politics, music and current affairs. I play the fiddle and the piano.

My favourite thing about Ógra is, if you have a good idea that can improve the party or even the country, you have an opportunity to pursue that in Ógra.

If Elected, I will:

- » Increase membership visibility and engagement.
- » Provide a platform for 2nd level students to be active.
- » Promote Ógra as a party interested in young people.
- » Organise local and provincial events for Ógra members.

### DAVID GRIFFIN Clare



My name is David Griffin and I am the first-year representative in the UL Ógra cumann and co-treasurer of Clare Ógra CDC. After some deliberation, I have decided to contest the election for the position of Munster Organiser at the National Youth Conference this weekend.

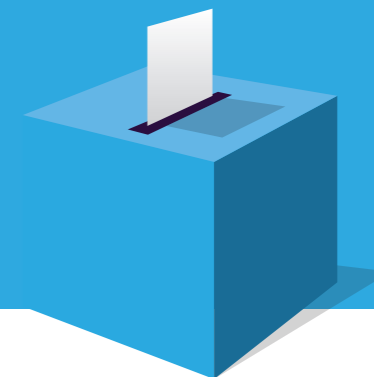
Experiencing the disillusionment with politics first-hand while canvassing during the Local Elections, and seeing the lack of youth involvement in politics even at the most basic level, is one of the many reasons that I have decided to run.

An issue I will concentrate on is retaining 3rd level members after they graduate which will result in the retention of talented members which will be hugely important for the upcoming referenda.

Also, I feel that we should have some 2nd level presence on the ground. This will help the longevity and continuity of the party. But I must stress that the presence in 2nd level institutions is at the schools discretion.

I look forward to seeing you all over the weekend!

## NORTHERN ORGANISER



### BRIEGE MacOSCAR WTC, TCD



Hi my name is Briège MacOscar. I first became involved in Fianna Fáil and Ógra when I joined the Wolfe Tone Cumann in Trinity College, where I study law. I became actively involved in the Cumann and this year serve on its committee as a CDC rep.

As a Northerner who firmly believes that only Fianna Fáil can present a viable alternative form of nationalist politics to Sinn Féin in the six counties, I am delighted to have this opportunity to help shape Fianna Fáil's future in Northern politics amidst preparation for entry into electoral politics in 2019. To give us the best chance of success in these elections it is crucial that we have a strong period of recruitment so we can identify not only suitable candidates, but people who can contribute towards policy and the development of the party organisation in the North. The Cumann in Queen's University Belfast is continuing to develop and I attended recruitment during fresher's week this year and saw that there is still a strong interest in Fianna Fáil and its future in the North among students and young people.

Given the example set by Queen's, during my term I hope to start recruiting in each of the University of Ulster's three campuses, as this is an important institution in Northern society and has the student numbers to support a strong Cumann. I also aim to set up a Cumann in each County and have already been successful in helping to establish

the Down Ógra CDC which has a large active membership.

Also, the situation at Stormont is worsening with each passing year, with the devolved institutions now verging on bankruptcy. While the DUP and Sinn Féin have been inadequate in Government, this also represents a failure by all those party to the peace process. As Northern Organiser, with the help of the other members of the COB, I aim to increase pressure on the Irish Government to engage positively in the North, fulfilling and continuing the role it as played in the peace process.

## LEINSTER ORGANISER

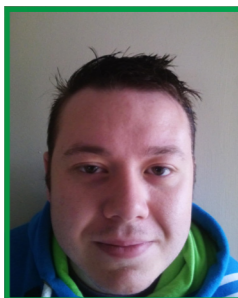
### SHANE BURKE

Carlow

Hi, My name is Shane Burke. I am a 21 year old Humanities student at St Patrick's College Carlow originally from Monasterevin Co. Kildare.

My background is in community work, development education and political activism. My work so far has consisted of helping build the South Kildare Soldiers American Football team from the ground up to become an Irish American Football League team.

This has been part of the European funded project Challenging the Crisis and contributing to help make Carlow County Museum the Best Local Authority Museum in the Excellence in Business awards as a volunteer. Being a passionate Liberal I am also the European Students For Liberty local coordinator for Ireland.



### DARREN HUGHES

CDB, NUIG

Hi, I'm Darren Hughes. I'm from Longford and I'm a 19 year old 2nd Year Arts Student in NUIG, studying Legal Studies and Sociology & Politics.

I've been involved in Fianna Fáil since early 2011, with my first event being the Arbour Hill Commemoration that year. Since then, I have contested the Committee of 20 elections at the age of 17, the youngest candidate in party history.

I've remained as passionate about Fianna Fáil and Ógra ever since and currently hold the position of Secretary in the largest college cumann in the country, Cumann Caoimhín de Barra.



## THIRD LEVEL ORGANISER

### MARK HOLT

KBC, UCD

Hey guys!

My name's Mark, a 20 year-old politics student in UCD and I've put myself forward for the position of Third Level Organiser. Originally from Wicklow, I joined Ogra mid-2012 and became Vice-Chairperson of the Kevin Barry Cumann in April 2013, and again in 2014!

My bizarrely nerdy obsession with politics was fulfilled when I joined the KBC in first year. Visiting Leinster House, attending national Ógra events and partaking in a mock Dáil fuelled it further. These are the experiences that initially hooked the most achieved of the Ogra alumni, and I've a priority to offer those opportunities to every fresher who joins their Uni Cumann.

I've a plethora of big ideas that you'll hear at one stage or another over the weekend. If you've not heard the 'Big Four' at this stage, chances are you'll be reciting them by Sunday! But I can guarantee that they're going to be the foundation for an exciting chapter in Ógra Fianna Fáil, hopefully you're as excited as I am!

Let's have a chat over the weekend,

Mark



## IRISH LANGUAGE & CULTURAL OFFICER

### FEIDLHIM Mac RÓIBÍN

WTC, TCD

Creideann Feidhlim gur gá le Fianna Fáil bheith níos láidre agus níos glóraí ó thaobh na Gaeilge.

The Irish language has been persistently degraded by the actions of this coalition, it is incumbent on Fianna Fáil to articulate a radical vision to secure a future for an Ghaeilge as a living language across Irish society.

Feidhlim is currently Leas-Chathaoirleach of Cumann Theobald Wolfe Tone, TCD, and is a member of Coiste na Gaeilge, the FF Irish Language Committee. As a traditional musician, he has extensive experience in a number of cultural and language organisations and events.

Teastaíonn uaidh úsáid na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn taobh istigh d'Ógra agus go mbeidh sí ag croílár ár bhfeachtais sa chéad olltoghchán eile.

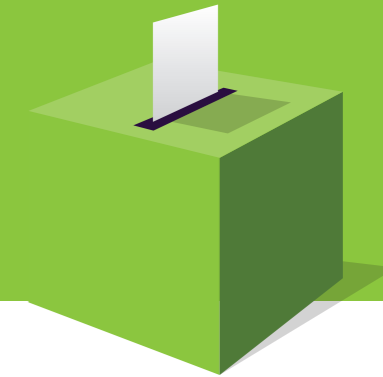
Feidhlim believes that respect and fraternity between the different traditions in Ireland must underpin our aspirations of national unity. He will work to help Fianna Fáil to build on its achievements in promoting reconciliation and understanding.



# MOTIONS TO NYC2014



## ORGANISATION MOTIONS



- 1. Fianna Fáil in the North**  
That Ógra Fianna Fáil calls on a definitive statement from the Fianna Fáil parliamentary party and the Ard Comhairle in relation to politically organising and contesting elections by 2019 in Northern Ireland.  
[William Drennan Cumann, QUB](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED
- 2. Relationship with Scottish National Party**  
That Ógra Fianna Fáil rekindle its formerly close relationship with the Scottish National Party and their youth wing.  
[William Drennan Cumann, QUB](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED
- 3. Anti-Harassment and Anti-Bullying Policy for Ógra**  
That Ógra develop an anti-bullying and anti-sexual harassment policy for the organisation.  
[Cumann de Barra, NUI Galway](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED
- 4. Regional Policy Days**  
This conference mandates the National policy and campaigns coordinator to hold a policy day in each of the provinces and also Dublin.  
[Dublin South Central CDC](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED
- 5. Equality in Candidate Selection**  
That this conference calls for local organisations to afford equal respect, encouragement and support to all potential election candidates following the implementation of the gender quota.  
[Dublin North West CDC](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED
- 6. Reorganising youth and senior party in the North of Ireland**  
Ógra Fianna Fáil proposes that the youth and senior party be organised in the North of Ireland in the same way as in the South, along the super council electoral boundaries. We propose that the new northern Ógra units should be extended the right to send delegates to the National Council.  
[Clare CDC](#)  
 PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

# ORGANISATION MOTIONS

**7. RON in Ógra elections**

That this Conference believes that Re-Open Nominations should be added to all future ballot papers for elections within Ógra Fianna Fáil. Should RON be accepted as an alternative option on the ballot paper, in the event that RON wins an election, the position being elected is to be contested at the next national council meeting.

[Donogh O'Malley Cumann, UCC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**8. Second Level Ógra**

Set up Ógra units nationally for second level students over the age of 15 having five districts for membership; Munster, Leinster, Dublin, Connacht and Northern Ireland. A national executive would be established made up of two/three elected representatives from each second level Ógra unit that could inform Fianna Fáil Oireachtas members of the progress that each committee is making every couple of months.

[Cork East CDC \(Similar Motion from Kildare North CDC\)](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**9. That Ógra Fianna Fáil asks the Leader of Fianna Fáil to appoint a member of the Parliamentary Party to act as Patron of Ógra**

Ógra seeks that the Leader of Fianna Fáil would appoint a patron of Ógra Fianna Fáil from amongst the ranks of the Parliamentary Party and that this patron would take responsibility for liaising between Ógra and the PP, as well as representing the best interests of Ógra and the Welfare of its members at PP level.

[Tipperary CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

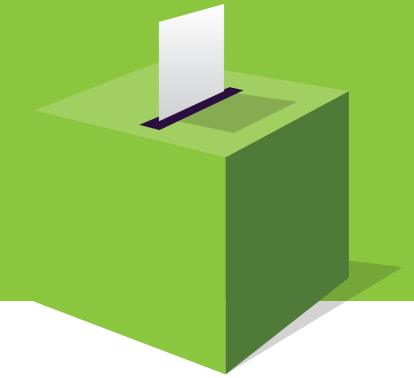
**10. Ard Comhairle Appointment of Policy Development Co-Ordinator**

This National Youth Conference mandates the Central Officer Board to lobby the Ard Comhairle to appoint a Policy Development Co-ordinator to facilitate the policy development process. This Policy Development Co-ordinator will act as a central point of contact and as such will receive the expressions of interest from each CDC which identifies the particular policy areas on which they wish to focus. The Policy Development Co-ordinator will maintain a schedule of Policy Workshops and to make this information available to all members on the weekly Fianna Fail Bulletin.

[Waterford CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

# HEALTH MOTIONS



**11. Diabetic Screening**

That Ógra Fianna Fáil calls for a nationwide campaign in early detection testing of Diabetes in Primary Schools. This would involve testing in primary schools to identify children at risk for further referral for early treatment.

Given the widespread availability of inexpensive diagnostic tools, we suggest we give consideration to training primary school teachers to carry out the test. We further propose that the HSE establish a number of protocols for reporting test results to facilitate medical reviews and to enable the construction of a database tracking children through primary school with a review to developing evidence based policy on this matter.

[Dublin Bay North CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**12. Ógra Fianna Fáil supports INMO campaign**

This Youth Conference fully supports the Irish Nurses and Midwives Organisations call for this hike to be reversed and mandates the Policy and Campaigns director to lobby the NMBI and the Minister for Health on this issue and mandates them to organise an Ógra delegation to attend the public protest at NMBI HQ on the 18th November.

[Carlow CDC](#)

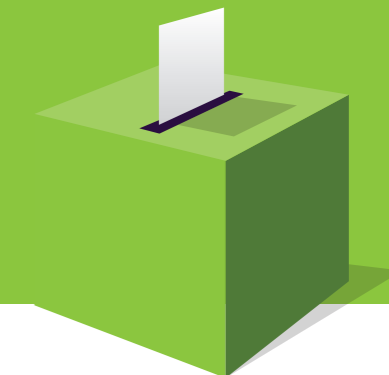
PASSED  
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**13. Mental Health Reform**

In light of the complete lack of direction on this issue from government this National Youth Conference mandates the Policy and Campaigns Director of Ógra Fianna Fáil to devise a comprehensive Youth Mental Health Policy and following this, to lobby the senior party and government to implement the documents proposals. This conference also mandates the COB to work in partnership with organisations who operate in this area (such as Suicide Aware, Pieta House) to provide a training seminar on how to recognise the danger signs of suicide and help prevent it.

[Carlow CDC & Waterford CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED



**14. Central Planning Authority for Mental Health**

This National Youth Conference calls for existing ring-fenced HSE funds to be used to establish a National Counselling Service (NCS), with the emphasis on a patient first approach. This new service would tie patients directly with a counsellor, regardless of how they avail of the service. The National Counselling Service would act as a central hub for all counsellors in Ireland and match them with patients through the NCS. Patients from the private or public systems could be matched through this central service and the state would fund the public users, with mandated equal access to services from both public and private systems. This service is designed to cater for the needs of patients.

[Kevin Barry Cumann, UCD](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**15. Implementation of National Dementia Strategy**

That this conference calls for the implementation of the long awaited National Dementia Strategy for which no reference was made in Budget 2015.

[Dublin North West CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**16. Call for standardised testing for special needs in primary schools**

That Ógra calls for the allocation of special needs resource hours to be allocated on a needs rather than school population basis. That Ógra call on the Government to provide standardised testing for a range of low and high incident special needs to all children who present with learning difficulties in senior infants, first third and fifth classes, in a similar way to the NRTS testing that take place during those academic years. Furthermore that Ógra call on this Government to enable all children who require learning support or in schools resource time to access these supports.

[Dublin Bay North, CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**17. Expansion of Bachelor of Education programme to include modules of specific special needs**

That Ógra calls for inclusion of specialised special needs modules to be included in all Bachelor of Education and Postgraduate courses in Primary Education. Considering the large numbers of children with SEN in mainstream classes, this conference calls on the government to include individual modules on specific special needs on all Primary Education courses nationally. This will enable informed teachers to differentiate lessons in meaningful way for all children, and encourage young teachers to progress and specialise in specific areas of special education needs at Masters Level, enriching the education system for all.

[Ógra Dublin Bay North CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

**18. To create an opt in system for membership of third-level student unions**

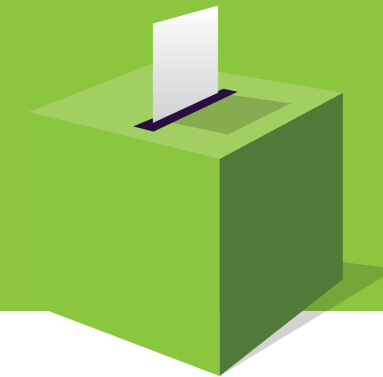
Ógra Fianna Fáil calls on our Dáil and Seanad spokespersons on Education & Skills to draft legislation amending the Universities Act 1997 to create an opt-in system for third-level student unions.

[Meath East CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

# EDUCATION & IRISH LANGUAGE MOTIONS

# EDUCATION & IRISH LANGUAGE MOTIONS



**19. Removal of Gaeltacht Minister**

This National Youth Conference calls upon the Fianna Fail party to lobby for the removal of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Gaeltacht Affairs (Joe McHugh) as Gaeltacht communities do not have faith in his understanding of either the language or planning for its survival.

Guímis ar Chomhairle Náisiúnta Ógra agus ar phartaí Fhianna Fáil brú a chur ar an rialtas an t-Aire Gaeltachta a athrú toisc nach bhfuil muintir na Gaeltachta ina chuid Gaeilge labhartha nó ar phleanáil teanga.

[Cumann Sheáin Lemass, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad](#)

PASSED .....

NOT PASSED .....

**20. 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language**

This National Youth Conference appeals for Ogra and the Fianna Fail party to lobby the government to enact the 20 Year Strategy for the Irish Language before the government term ends.

Guímis ar Chomhairle Náisiúnta Ógra agus ar phartaí Fhianna Fáil brú a chur ar an rialtas, scéim fiche bliana na Gaeilge a chur i bhfeidhm roimh deireadh an téarma Dála seo.

[Cumann Sheáin Lemass, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad \(Similar motion from Pdraig Pearse DCU\)](#)

PASSED .....

NOT PASSED .....

**21. Open Access to Third Level Education**

That Ógra Fianna Fail supports free third level education. This conference mandates Uachtarán Ógra Fianna Fail and the COB to lobby and campaign for free education without financial barriers. The COB will work in conjunction with Students' Unions, the Union of Students in Ireland (USI) and the National Union of Students' - USI (NUS-USI) to achieve this aim through lobbying and campaigning.

[Kildare North CDC](#)

PASSED .....

NOT PASSED .....

**22. Craftsmen Career Promotion**

That Ógra promote and encourage those who wish to become professional trades people to do so. That Ógra Fianna Fáil recognises that many young people would like to become professional craftspeople. We therefore call on the COB to carry out an information campaign for young people. This campaign should include literature to be delivered to third level institutions and secondary schools.

PASSED .....

NOT PASSED .....

**23. Creation of a new Junior Cycle syllabus**

That this conference mandates the Policy and Campaigns Director of Ógra Fianna Fáil to devise an Education Policy which will put forward:

(i) A new Junior Cert syllabus to include a degree of external examination, which would constitute at least 30% of a students overall grade.

(ii) A clear national framework for consistent continuous assessment should be available to both teachers and students. In order to best equip students for their future, safeguards are needed to ensure that international best practice with regard to standards are applied in the revised syllabus.

[Wolfe Tone Cumann, TCD](#)

PASSED .....

NOT PASSED .....

# FINANCE, ENTERPRISE & SOCIAL PROTECTION MOTIONS

**24. IDA Ignoring Rural Ireland**

This youth conference mandates the National Policy and Campaign Director to devise an investment programme for rural Ireland where not only parts of Dublin will benefit from Ireland's recovery but all of Ireland. This Youth Conference further calls on the National Policy and Campaign Director to lobby the IDA to ensure greater balance in their site visit distribution.

[Carlow CDC](#)

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 NOT PASSED

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**25. Social Welfare Distribution**

This National Youth Conference calls for the COB to lobby the senior party to actively pursue a policy of card based welfare payments in an effort to prevent further abuses of the current system. This change to a card system such as what is currently in use in certain American States would only allow a certain designated percentage of social welfare to be used on inessential items/services such as alcohol, cigarettes and gambling.

[Cumann Sheáin Lemass, Ollscoil Mhá Nuad](#)

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**26. VAT reduction on goods in public houses**

That this conference calls on the new COB to lobby Fianna Fáil spokesperson on finance Michael McGrath TD to seek the reduction of VAT in pubs to the reduced rate in order to increase trade within Pubs.

[Padraig Pearse Cumann - DCU](#)

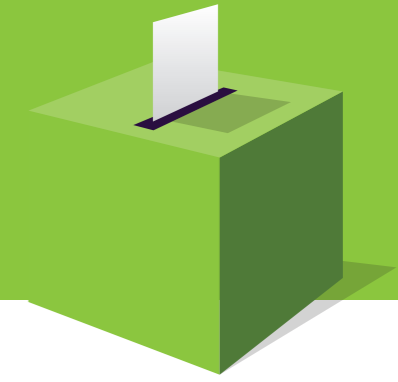
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# FINANCE, ENTERPRISE & SOCIAL PROTECTION MOTIONS



**27. Central Bank of Ireland proposed LTV ratio**

That Ógra Fianna Fáil affirms its support for prudential regulation of the financial system. That Ógra emphasises that any regulation should not unduly penalise young people and agrees that the Central Bank of Ireland should take precautionary measures to ensure appropriate mortgage lending practices.

Ógra believes that Loan-to-Value ratios are ultimately arbitrary and only one regulatory issue among many. We also believe that a 90% Loan-to- Value ratio is both appropriate as a cap and achievable for young first time buyers.

That Ógra condemns the Government for inadequate action on social housing and the housing supply in general and mandates the Central Officer Board to make a written submission to the Central Bank of Ireland by 8 December 2014 outlining Ógra Fianna Fáil's concerns described in this motion and to propose a 90% Loan-to-Value ratio cap.

That this conference calls on the National Policy and Campaigns Director to design and implement a campaign to highlight the housing supply crisis.

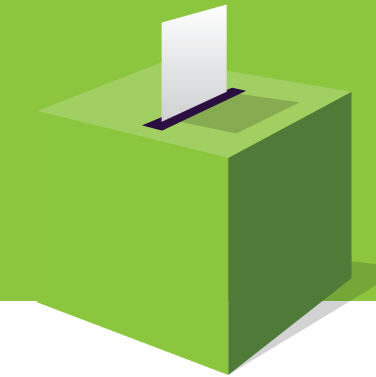
[Dublin Fingal CDC](#)

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# JUSTICE, EQUALITY & LAW REFORM MOTIONS

# JUSTICE, EQUALITY & LAW REFORM MOTIONS



## 28. Ending the Direct Provision System

This National Youth Conference proposes ending the Direct Provision System as it currently operates in Ireland and calls on the COB to:- Prepare a policy document on the treatment of asylum seekers in Ireland, make recommendations for speeding up the decision making process for asylum seekers, consider the State's obligations under the European Directive on Reception Centres, perform a cost/benefit analysis on closing the Direct Provision Centres and granting asylum seekers the right to work whilst awaiting a decision on their status and to bring this policy proposal to National Council for approval. This policy proposal is to also include a campaign strategy which outlines how Ógra can highlight this issue nationally and work in partnership with other organisations who also advocate for an ending of the Direct Provision system.

[Waterford CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 29. Same Sex Referendum 2015

That this conference, in accordance with Ógra's support for same-sex marriage, mandates the incoming Policy and Campaigns Director to organise and co-ordinate an Ógra campaign in favour of a yes vote in the upcoming referendum on marriage equality.

[Cumann de Barra, NUI Galway & Kildare North CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 30. Amending Gender Recognition Bill 2014

That this conference supports amending the proposed Gender Recognition Bill 2014 to remove the provision that requires an individual who is above the age of 16 years but below the age of 18 years to get a court order in order to have his or her legal gender changed in addition to obtaining parental consent.

[Cumann de Barra, NUI Galway](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 31. Recognition of Irish Sign Language (ISL)

Ógra mandates the National Events Coordinator to seek a presentation from the ISL recognition campaign at the next national council or at a suitable time in the first 6 months of their term.

This conference mandates the Ógra Policy and Campaigns officer, to set out the Ógra policy for the recognition of ISL as the third language of the state.

That Ógra believes that the state should have an obligation to provide interpreters if required when deaf people are using state services.

Ógra further believes that there should be better access to public services, education and a better quality of interpretation for deaf people.

[Dublin South Central CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 32. Responsible Gambling Campaign

This conference mandates the Policy and Campaigns Officer to organise a Responsible Gambling Campaign. As part of this campaign the COB will lobby Fianna Fáil and Government for restrictions on the gambling industry, specifically in relation to online betting.

[Kildare North Ógra](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 33. Decriminalisation of Personal Drug Use

This National Youth Conference calls for the decriminalisation of the personal use of drugs thus we would change the emphasis from prosecution and punishment to rehabilitation.

[Kevin Barry Cumann, UCD, TCD, & Clare CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 34. Extension of AMBER alert system

This conference calls on Fianna Fáil to lobby the government to seek an extension to the AMBER alert system to include elderly people.

[Padraig Pearse Cumann, DCU](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED



# ELECTORAL REFORM MOTIONS

# AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT & HOUSING



## 35. Seanad Reform

This National Youth Conference mandates the Central Officer Board to lobby the Fianna Fail Ard Comhlaire, Fianna Fail parliamentary party and all Fianna Fail councillors to adopt a resolution before the next General Election which will commit Fianna Fail councillors and parliamentary party members to not vote for a candidate in the Seanad elections who stood for election in the General Election of that year and failed to win a Dail seat.

[Waterford CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 36. Capping of time elected teachers may hold their teaching positions upon election to the Dáil

This conference calls on Fianna Fáil TD's to lobby the government to limit the time to which teachers who become TDs keep their jobs after leaving their teaching posts to 5 years (one government term).

[Padraig Pearse, DCU](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 37. Suspension of Water Charges

This National Youth Conference calls for the suspension of water charges in all areas of Ireland where the quality of water supplied is unfit for human consumption. Furthermore, Ógra Fianna Fáil condemns the national implementation of water charges as an unfair and regressive tax on the people of the country and will campaign for the abolishment of water charges in their current form and their replacement with a conservation charge ring-fenced for infrastructure development.

[Kevin Barry UCD & Carlow CDC](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 38. Curbing the Student Housing Crisis

This National Youth Conference calls on the Ógra Fianna Fáil policy and campaigns officer to develop and launch a campaign centered on the student-housing problem. This conference proposes that Ógra Fianna Fáil works with the senior party to push for the development of student-specific housing through a public partnership with third level institutions, providing affordable housing for students, with 50% of spaces reserved for disadvantaged students, specifically those in receipt of a SUSI grant, or attending a third level institution through the DARE or HEAR programmes.

[Kevin Barry, UCD](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 39. Increase the allocation for housing programmes in Ireland.

Ógra Fianna Fáil proposes that the allocation of €808.3 million for housing programmes in budget 2015 be increased by €200 million in order to address the immediate problem of homelessness and to shorten the waiting list for social housing. We propose that the COB prepares a policy on this issue and campaigns for its introduction.

[UCC Ógra](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 40. Ireland and Milk Quota Fine

This conference calls on the minister for Agriculture to negotiate with his EU partners and the Commissioner for Agriculture for a reduction in the super-levy fine for the 2014/2015 milk quota year to ease Ireland into the post quota regime.

[WIT Ógra](#)

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

# AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORT & HOUSING

## 41. Department of Agriculture Exports

This conference agrees that the Department of Agriculture, Food & Marine should set-up an Agricultural Export Fund, equivalent to 33.34% of total agricultural exports to the UK including Northern Ireland, to aid farmers whose sale prices have been impacted negatively by the decision of the United Kingdom to withdraw from the European Union.

Cumann de Barra, NUI Galway

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 42. Motor Tax Reform

Bearing in mind that road usage varies, this National Youth Conference calls on the Policy and Campaigns Officer to mount a campaign to change our Motor Tax system to a pay-as-you-go system. This would see a move where tax is added to fuel costs. This change would be in line with motor taxation systems in New Zealand and France and would benefit road users, especially younger and older people, who use the roads less frequently, creating a fairer, more efficient system, while also encouraging more efficient use of vehicles.

Kevin Barry Cumann, UCD

PASSED  
 NOT PASSED

## 43. Public Ownership of Irish Water

That Ógra Fianna Fáil calls for greater integration of Irish Water with the Department of the Environment and for the putting in place of safeguards to guarantee public ownership of Ireland's domestic water infrastructure indefinitely. That this conference mandates the incoming COB to campaign on the issue.

Wolfe Tone Cumann, TCD

## 44. Increased offshore windfarms

That this conference calls on the incoming Central Office Board to lobby Fianna Fáil to campaign for increased offshore windfarms like "SSE Renewables, Oriel Windfarm, Codling Wind Park, Dublin Array and Fuinneamh Sceirde Teoranta." to further reduce our energy importation and reduce our longterm carbon footprint.

Wolfe Tone Cumann, TCD

# NATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS

## PROCEDURES

The ruling of the Fianna Fáil National Youth Officer or, in the absence of the National Youth Officer, the Motions Steering Committee, on all matters of Youth Conference procedure shall be final.

A panel of acting Cathaoirleach will be established by the Fianna Fáil National Youth Officer to preside at workshops for the consideration of motions.

No motion may be moved which does not appear on the Clár. A motion may be moved by a delegate from a Third Level Cumainn or Ógra Comhairle Dáil Cheantair which has submitted it or a similar motion recognising on the Clár. If a qualified speaker does not rise to speak the Cathaoirleach of the workshop will move on to the remaining motions. No vote shall be taken on motions which are not moved.

On the proposal of the acting Cathaoirleach, the motions steering committee or a delegate from the Third Level Cumann or Ógra CDC which has submitted it, a motion may be referred to the National Council of Ógra Fianna Fáil for consideration and decision. Such a proposal for referral shall be voted on immediately and shall be deemed carried by a simple majority vote.

An immediate vote may be taken on a motion without further discussion, following a simple majority vote when called by a delegate to the conference.

## AMENDMENTS

An amendment may be moved only if notice of the proposed amendment has been given in writing to

the Cathaoirleach of the workshop and it has been accepted as relevant. Should the proposing unit accept the amendment then discussion shall resume on the amended motion. Should the proposition not accept the amendment then a vote shall be called on whether the amendment should be accepted. Pending this outcome, debate on either the amended or original motion will re/commence. An amendment proposing a direct negative to a motion may not be moved.

## POINT OF INFORMATION

A delegate may offer a Point of Information to a speaker on a motion. The Delegate must be acknowledged by the workshop Cathaoirleach before offering the Point of Information.

## SPECIAL MOTIONS

An application for the addition of a Special Motion not appearing on the Clár must be signed by a representative or representatives of twenty five (25) percent of registered Third Level Cumainn or Ógra CDCs before the terms of the motion are submitted to the Chair of the Motions Steering Committee on the Friday night of the Conference before 11.00pm. If the special motion is accepted by the Motions Steering Committee, that Committee will then inform the Conference that the Special Motion will be tabled at the start of the relevant Conference Workshop. The proposers should be present and ready to identify themselves when the motion is put.

Delegates must confine their remarks to the specific matter of the motion under consideration.

A speaker must cease speaking at the sounding of the Cathaoirleach's bell. A speaker must yield to the Cathaoirleach of the workshop at all times and the Cathaoirleach's decision will be final.

## VOTING

The Cathaoirleach will take a vote on motions in the Clár by way of a show of hands after each motion. In the event of the Cathaoirleach being unable to decide the outcome of any vote, a count will be made by appointed tellers.

Only Delegates, Central Officer Board members and registered Ógra members may speak. The Cathaoirleach of a workshop will announce the time limit for speeches on each motion and Topic at the start of the workshop. Contributions must not exceed the time limit set by the Cathaoirleach. Speakers may be required to register in advance. In this case only registered speakers will be called to speak.

All speakers must take their place in the designated speaker's area at least five minutes before the commencement of the motions.

## SPEAKING ORDER

The speaking order for motions shall be as follows:

1. A proposer from the unit that submitted the motion
2. A speaker against the motion from any unit
3. A speaker in favour of the motion

This alternating pattern shall continue as long as the Cathaoirleach deems necessary. However there can never be more than two contributions in succession from either the proposition or the opposition.

Once the general debate has been completed, the proposer may sum up their argument briefly before a vote is called.

In order to involve as many delegates as possible,

delegates should refrain from constantly taking to the podium and allow other delegates to speak.

A Cathaoirleach may in order to maintain the progress of the workshop, cease debate and call for a vote.

## NOTES

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THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

