

Cathie Shiels

The Workers' Party Ballymun-Finglas

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THE WORKERS' PARTY

socialist, secular, democratic



Public Housing can solve the crisis

With the release of new homelessness figures, it is clear that the private market cannot solve the housing crisis. There are now almost 10,000 people in homeless accommodation in Ireland and about one of third of these are children. This is an indictment of the government's policy of paying money to private landlords through HAP and massaging homeless statistics to put a positive spin on the crisis.

Instead of building public housing, Fine Gael are happy to pay almost €150 million every year to subsidise private landlords through HAP and continue to sell our land off to private developers, who are themselves the cause of the crisis.

This money would be better spent building quality public housing and community facilities in areas like Ballymun and Finglas. The Workers' Party has

a costed plan for building public housing which has also been adopted by NERI, the trade union think tank. We say:

- Create a State Housing Corporation to finance construction of public housing and build 75,000 mixed-income public units in 5 years
- Introduce proper rent controls and security of tenure for the private rented sector
- Replace Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) subsidies to landlords with public housing
- Open vacant homes and apartments to house families and the homeless
- Transfer mortgages in arrears to the State Housing Corporation, providing residents with a permanent home.

Cathie Shiels - Workers' Party Ballymun-Finglas

Cathie Shiels is the Workers' Party representative in the new Ballymun-Finglas local electoral area.

Cathie works as a clerical officer in the civil service. An active trade union member, Cathie is chair of her branch of Forsa, the public sector union, as well as a member of the Forsa Youth Committee.

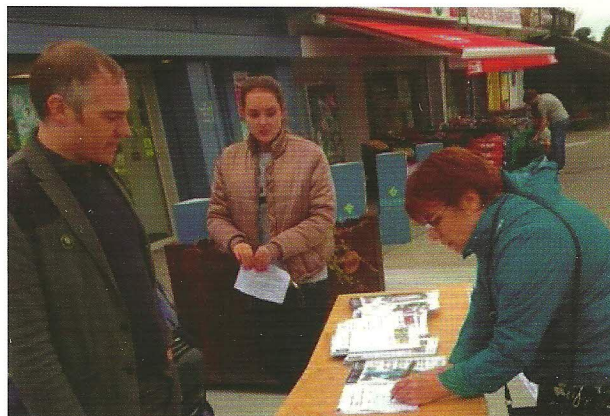
Cathie has a long record of fighting for workers' rights and for women's rights. She was a founding member and former co-convenor of the Abortion Rights Campaign (ARC) and represented ARC on various platforms including speaking at the Annual March for Choice.

Cathie with Party activists Owen Martin and John Dunne



Workers' Party campaigns for Public Bin Service

Privatisation of the waste collection system has been a disaster. Charges continue to increase, dumping is rife, workers' pay and conditions have been slashed. Waste companies try to squeeze ever more profit from this service and some are based overseas so their profits are hidden from public scrutiny. Over the last year the Workers' Party has been speaking to people in Ballymun and Finglas about this issue and found great local support for our petition for a council run waste system. Taking the waste collection system back into public ownership is the only solution, we will be continuing our campaign over the coming year.



After the 8th - separate church and state!

A huge 73.1% of voters in Dublin North West voted to repeal the 8th, thanks to the work of the local Together for Yes campaign.

We now need to keep the pressure on the government to ensure that abortion is accessible to all those who need it. It's clear that the Catholic Church's grip on Irish society is rapidly being broken, but there is still work to be done to build a truly secular society. The next step is to create secular, single-tier and properly funded public health and education systems, as part of a secular republic in Ireland.

Supporting Lloyds workers

The Workers' Party offers its full support to the Lloyds Pharmacy workers on strike recently, fighting for trade union recognition, for an end to zero-hour contracts, and improved pay and conditions.

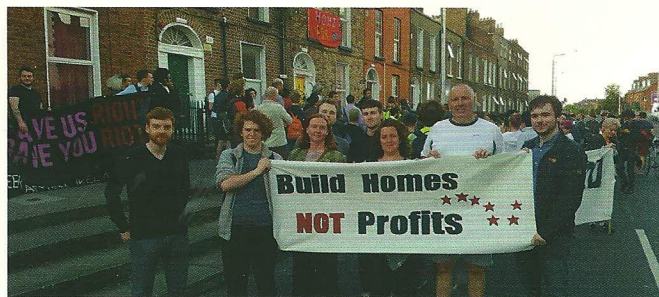
Lloyds should listen to their workers and talk to their trade union. Every worker should have the right to be represented by a trade union, and we believe the government must legislate for this basic right.

Workers' Party Councillor Éilis Ryan to contest European seat in Dublin



The Workers' Party will be running Councillor Éilis Ryan in the European elections for the Dublin constituency next May. Speaking about her decision to contest the elections, Councillor Ryan said: "Working people need consistent and principled socialist opposition to the alliance between right-wing national governments and their counterparts in Europe. That is why I am running for a European seat next May."

Open up vacant homes



The Workers' Party fully support the occupation of a vacant house in Summerhill by housing activists. The building in question was the site of a series of illegal evictions which took place earlier this year. There are thousands of units like this in Dublin which should be compulsorily purchased by the state and used for public housing.

Young workers - know your rights in the workplace!

Q. A young person is looking at taking up employment during the school Holidays or having left school early, what are the rules?

Maximum Hours of work per week

- Under 18 year olds may not be employed for more than 40 hours a week or 8 hours a day. There are exceptions in the case of a genuine emergency.

Rest breaks

- 16-17 year olds are entitled to a 30 minute break after working 4.5 Hours.
- Under 16s are entitled to a 30 Minute Break after 4 hours work.
- They are also entitled to 2 days off every 7 days.

Working late at night if attending school the next day

- Under 16s can't work past 8pm in any event.
- 16 to 17-year-olds attending school the next morning can't work after 10am, or 11am if they are not in school the next morning, if they are working during school holidays etc.

National Minimum Wage

- The minimum hourly rate of pay since 1st Jan 2018 is €9.55 for an experienced adult worker
- For under 18s it is €6.69.
- In the first year after first starting employment the rate is €7.64
- In the second year after first starting employment the rate is €8.60.

These are minimum legal rates only. In many jobs, especially where workers are members of a trade union, pay and other benefits including annual leave are usually better. All workers should join a union and work together to improve their prospects. The Workers' Party supports the living wage campaign, which sets the minimum hourly rate at €11.70 for an experienced adult worker.

Fight for your future!

Young people more than ever are affected by politics today. Zero hour contracts, low wage jobs, high rents and the cost of education all impact on young people's living standards. It's important to make your voice heard so get registered to vote and get active politically.

The campaign for repeal of the 8th amendment showed the power that young people have when they mobilise. One of the major deciding factors in the campaign was the active involvement and voter turnout levels of 18-25 year olds.

If you're not registered to vote simply fill in a

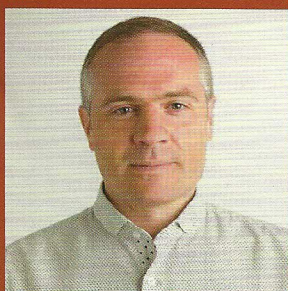
registration form and bring it to your local garda station with valid ID. If you need a form or help filling it out please contact the Workers' Party using the details on this leaflet.

Most importantly join a political party. If you're interested in campaigning for public housing, access to education, jobs for young people and women's equality, the Workers' Party is the party that consistently campaigns on all these issues and more. Join us as we fight for a socialist Ireland.

Your Workers' Party team on Dublin's northside



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Join The Workers' Party

Help us to Build a new Republic

The Irish Republic is a Republic in name only.

It has left us with 7,000 people homeless and over 100,000 households on the housing waiting list.

It has handed control of our health and education to the Catholic Church and has given us the misery of the Magdalene Laundries, the 8th amendment and a society that viewed women as second-class citizens.

It has delivered unemployment, emigration and poverty to the working class and young people.

The Workers' Party wants to build a new Republic. A republic that is run in the interest of the great majority of people: the working class.

We want to take power away from the class that has run this so-called Republic into the ground and profited from it at the same time. The bankers, developers, landlords and the cosy political establishment who line their own pockets at the expense of working class people.

We want an Ireland which can work for everyone and where everyone can work.

To do this we need our own party – a party that wants to win power for the working class – one that goes beyond slogans and has a plan for how to achieve a better life for all.

With your help, The Workers' Party can be that party.

If you want a Republic that guarantees the right to a home, to a living-wage job and to quality healthcare, you'll have to fight for it.

Join the Workers' Party. Build a new Republic – a democratic, secular, and socialist Ireland.

To join go to workersparty.ie or text JOIN with your name and address to 086-0517119.



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