

18. Gavin McDonagh

1: Irish Water retained, but under General Taxation, Freeing Social Welfare, Pensioners from Bills, Meters installed to prevent leaks and over use by People with penalties for abuse, Lead pipes replaced as a matter of public Health for a Modest Charge.

2: Current empty Housing Stock of Councils to be refurbished and used to reduce social housing list as a priority, must be more cost effective than planning, building from start. Idle Army Barracks to be used to solve Homeless crisis in short term to facilitate building of More Hostels etc.

3: Health care Levy to be introduced on removal or significant reduction of Pension Levy and or USC to provide an Affordable Health Care provision for Majority of workers Unable to afford Private Health care Packages.

4: Home Deposit to be brought back to 10% of value of Home, 20% is extremely hard to save for Most People paying High Rents.

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19. Jerry Gleeson

In your policy document Right2Democratic Reform, you mention Right of recall of TDs and Citizen initiated Referendums, I would like to see added to these two, a mechanism to allow citizens initiate change in areas not requiring a referendum.

For example such areas as Govt. policy on an issue, statute law, the functioning and remit of state agencies and government departments and other such areas and issues as may arise and can generate significant public support.

Keep up the good work.

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20. Tommy Lawton

This submission is based on our own personal experience so you will get a few personal views and comments in this, so I hope you can take some Policy points in this.

I and my family have been actively supporting the right to water movement and have been in attendance at all the major rallies in this regard over the last couple of years and we have no political allegiance to any Political Party.

I am not 100% sure if Rights2Water should become a Political Party, I feel over the last two years R2W and other community water protests groups gave us all a real voice against the Government and established Political parties and I would fear if R2W go into Political arena would we once again lose this voice. The jury is out on this one for me!!

Policy Principles;

- Rights 2 Water

We need a Referendum to enshrine our Water in our Constitution and not just our Water but our Natural Resources must also be all enshrined in our Constitution, all our Resources belong to our Citizens, we must take back what was given away by our Governments over the years who continue this practise.

Why should the Norwegians have fantastic Public Services and we the Irish gave them this through SHELL. What Royalties are been paid from SHELL to Ireland we should be at the very least be getting 50% of what is coming out of the ground. This would go a long way to fixing our Public Services and Economy.

Huge Oil reserves have now been located off the Cork Coast are we going to give this away as well!!

Why should Europe be raping our Fishing Grounds when we have so many fishermen here struggling and huge numbers of boats tied up as well as unemployment and emigration, this is a huge Industry just like beef and milk and instead we have giving this Industry away as well and this time to Europe.

We now have wind farms littering our wonderful countryside, what royalties is the State getting from these?

- Rights 2 Jobs and decent work

My son who is an Industrial Electrician had to emigrate no work here for him, he is single but he didn't want to leave but had no choice!! My two brothers both Industrial Electricians also had to emigrate and now work in Holland but they are married and both have young families from 6 to 17 years of age. Their families could not emigrate with them as they both have huge mortgages and could not sell up so no way out for them, they are trapped in the system. Those two lads get home every 6 weeks missing the most important part of their youngsters' lives while grown up, how fair is this. The heading on this section should read Rights 2 live at home, jobs and decent work.

- Rights 2 Housing

When the County Councils had their own staff building Social Houses and looked after the upkeep of the same there was not many people waiting for housing as there is now at least then there was something found to live in. I have seen in my own town where people have passed away or leave a house the same houses are lying idle for 12 months or more! Why! Because the Councils do not have the money to pay private property developers at least €30k to go in a give the place a lick of paint etc.!! These same developers were to give social housing with each development they built but this was again abused, stop this and employ staff in the County Councils to do these jobs and build the house that are needed.

- Rights 2 Health

How long more must we die and suffer because of the failures of the HSE, this quango should be scrapped with Irish Water and start again. Doctors and Nurses are struggling, over worked and not enough of them employed because the HSE has the Health Services resources tied up in

administration!! The NHS in the UK has a far better system than what we have to endure here. I have had several family and friends that have passed away and we are no wiser as to why but we believe neglect played its part, I had two friends one very close to me who both took their own lives and this was because the health services here failed them both, no other reason! Get rid of the HSE and start at the top with the Health Minister.

- Rights 2 Debt Justice

This is not our debt it belongs to the German bond holders, bankers and developers we must get rid of this noose around our necks and can anyone explain why this should be kicked down the road and passed on to a generation of Irish Citizens that are not even born yet!!

- Rights 2 Education

My daughter came out of College 2 years ago as a qualified Secondary School Teacher with a Masters and she has no job and no prospect of getting one either at the moment.

A few hours here and there is the best she can do subbing and she does not want to emigrate and she is not the only one in this situation. A number of months ago she wrote to Minister Jan O'Sullivan basically asking her what she was doing to address, teachers not being taken on, increased class sizes etc. and she got the normal 2 liner from this Minister's office fobbing her off. She then wrote to the ASTI with copies of her letter and the Minister's response, they said that Teachers will be retiring in the next couple of years and this will create positions and she is paying to be a member of this union after that response!!! I then sent an email to a Junior Minister that I know well in North Cork and he got annoyed at me because of the tone I took with him, I basically asked him had he lost touch with reality and with his response I got my answer, but I needed to know where he stood and now I do!! You have now Retired Teachers taken back in schools for subbing positions keeping our young educated teachers on dole queues, this is a disgrace and those retired teachers should be ashamed of themselves. This must stop!!

There are also Teachers holding down full time positions in schools and working part time in other schools because they cannot get concessions like reduced hours where they have a full time job!! How can this happen, has Enda Kenny held his teaching position since he was elected many years ago?? And will he also get a teachers pension!! Stop these retired teachers that are denying our young teachers jobs and other teachers that are held down full time jobs while part time elsewhere.

- Rights 2 Democratic Reform

Our Citizens must be able by petition to call for a General Election. We must have enshrined in our Constitution when a government is elected by our Citizens they also have the right at any stage to remove the serving Government if it is not acting in the best interest of our Citizens.

The Seanad Éireann must go, it should have went the last time but a protest vote kept it in place for now.

The Dail must also be reformed far too many TD's, and I believe the Departments within should also be looked at as some of these Civil Servants have probably done more damage to our Country than

some of these Politicians, they have always said Politician's will come and go but the Civil Servant stay in their cosy jobs!

TD's and Minister's Pension's must be addressed, how can anyone justify the entitlement to a huge pension after just 5 years. If you can take it from them Tax it off of them!! And cap these pensions at reasonable levels and not the astronomical level they are at now.

- Protection of our Citizens.

The Garda Siochana get paid from the Tax Payers Purse so they cannot work for private Companies. They are probably getting huge funding from these companies just like they do from concerts and football matches etc. Stop this carry on as they have not been contracted to do this type of work by us the Citizens of Ireland.

The Gardai must remain impartial so they can protect all our Citizens. If not we will see a lot more Protesters like at Shell to Sea and Irish Water being victimised by the Gardai because the Garda Siochana are getting huge pay cheques from these companies so they can bring in additional funding into their coffers at our expense.

My final point is if we don't stop the CORRUPTION in Politics and big Business this will be all a waste of time. We need a General Election NOW to put a stop to all this carry on.

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21. Margaret Molloy

Equality for equal rights & human rights. Equality for warmth, comfort, and a normal standard of living. Not too much to ask for. Even Maslow agrees with me.

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22. Catherine Lynch

Firstly let me commend you on your document and principles behind them. I also would like to commend you on having an open conference that includes ordinary members of the public in formulating policy and the chance for others to add to and propose other measures. Below are my thoughts on the document and other matters I would like R2W to consider

Right2Water: Your proposals should be extended beyond water to all natural resources including oil, gas, fuels, forestry, fisheries etc.

Right2Jobs: To take away the risks involved in people trying new enterprises and becoming self-employed, they should be allowed to pay into the same system as PAYE workers and have the same benefits if things do not work out. Also, I would like to see a move where people who are employed here in Multi-national companies are encouraged to develop home grown enterprises using their skills and training in competition or complimentary to the big fishes products.

Right2Debt: The booklet says there is a 3 step proposal, but only 2 listed.

Right2Democracy: I would like to see the banning of a whip system altogether so representatives are true to their constituents and that they engage regularly with them in a meaningful way. Not providing clientelistic services, but going to their constituents to seek their views on policy and issues. Modern technology can set up quick and accurate platforms for this.

I would also like to see other real democracy ideas in this section, with an aspiration to introduce participatory democracy in full by a certain time. It could start with budgetary democracy as a pilot.

I would also like to see changes in relation to the Dail and public reps pensions.

The Dail bar should be closed and maybe this area turned into a citizens forum that runs in tandem with the Dail.

TDs and government ministers should only start getting their pension when they reach retirement age and they should be made pay into it while they are in office.

And finally, I would love to see a Right2Community.

There are many in communities who are providing important service voluntarily and keeping everything together at little or no cost to the Government. There are people who cannot participate in the economy for disability, age or other reasons. We should have a social focus that is equal to economic focus. We need to start building community again, especially in rural areas from re-opening of local Garda stations, and post offices , and by supporting those in community who are a life blood to those isolated or in need of human connection. The grassroots movement around the country that has ordinary citizens reclaiming community and community spirits need to be supported and further developed so we live in a socially just as well as a successful economic society.

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23. Brian Gould

1. Stop the Water Metering and Smart Metering Program NOW.
2. Treated Water should be paid for out General Taxation
3. Fixing the Infrastructure would create jobs, so people would be paying tax and the general economy would benefit and would be a saving on Treated Water being lost through the leaking pipes.
4. Upgrade, replace our main pipes, Reservoir, Water Treatment, Waste Water Plants.
5. Our Water Authority to be based on the River Basin model.
6. Abolish Irish Water Limited.

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24. **John O'Sullivan**

I would like to make two proposals for now :

Proposal 1: Resurrect and widely disseminate the chart illustrating what percentage of income people will pay, from a person on a welfare payment, minimum wage up to the Taoiseach and the CEO of the Bank of Ireland.

REASON : It demonstrates in stark terms (literally a picture painting a thousand words) the gross inequity of this charge and may help counter the government's claim that they are "working to bring down tax on ordinary working people" etc.

Proposal 2 : To again widely disseminate the leaflet that was published leading up to the last big demonstration in March.

REASON : This document clearly outlined the realities of privatisation- selling water to households for profit- in other countries, notably across the water.

On a personal level but with a pertinent anecdote; I recently met six English tourists from Bournemouth. Their metered water bills are £850 Sterling per year, checking the last conversion rate that worked out at 1, 084 Euros per year for a couple and their two children. They told me the Regulator, Ofwat I think is the title, is 'a joke'.

They told me the company was Wessex Water, I looked it up on line and it made £ Stg139 million after tax in 2013 for selling water to households.

Keep up the great work, best regards for now and solidarity for ever.

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25. **John Limerick**

In response to your request for submissions, I will start with quotes from two people, who are considered to be right of centre.

"They flit and float between Westminster, Whitehall and the City, regardless of who's in office, the same people are in power. It is a democracy in name only, operating on behalf of a tiny elite no matter the electoral outcome. I know because I was part of it."

- Steve Hilton, former chief strategist for David Cameron.

"Corruption continued in public life because nobody was prepared to do enough to stop it, in a properly run country, the buck would stop with the state, not end up in its pocket."

- Judge Alan Mc Mahon in his final report of the planning tribunal.

I believe, not only is it the time for all the citizens to educate themselves about the system that has corrupted Irish society since the foundation of the state given the present economic climate and the price that all our citizens had to pay to bail out the neo-liberals, who created in the first place,

Ireland now has a huge opportunity to rebalance the political establishment for a fairer society for all.

Politics for a fairer society.

All the left should have one platform and focus on where they can work together instead of political gains and personal egos. If another party is founded it must be based on the principles of the right to water and the participating unions that . The ideology by some of the left wing parties have a fear factor on the electorate. This is very evident when you look at PBP/ AAA and their electorate strategies. It needs to be able to defend all polices. This means being able to answer convincingly. This would mean resources such as economist- political strategist- educators – political analysis, PR and access to other professionals.

It would mean that any salary/wages must reflect the values and objectives of the party.

This would be a start before the party can elaborate on specific policies.

Otherwise the right wing media will destroy the party from the start, before the party can even get off the ground. The principles set out by RTW and Unions are principles any citizen would aspire too.

Trade unions.

The 1990 Industrial Relations Act needs to be repealed. This act was put in, under the consensus of social partnership. The act is used by so called trade unions and employers to contain the rights of workers and a liveable wage. It discriminates against any conscious and effective shop steward, like the Health and Safety at Work Act when it comes to the safety representative where the individual is supposed to be protected under the legislation.

In the meantime both pieces of legislation can be used to defend workers' rights and conditions. An example of this is where the shop steward or safety representative is being harassed or bullied, which is the practice of some employers with the blessing of the consensus unions. The harassment and bullying of any person is a criminal offence according to a previous Justice Minister. Any bullying or harassment of shop stewards or safety representatives should be treated to stop the manipulation of going through the industrial relations machinery. The Health and Safety at Welfare at Work Act was in essence an agreement in European Union, so the Neo liberals could get their real polices through. Let's use the Health and Safety at Work Act. It is legislation and we don't need to bargain with it. The other facts are under the Act directors and senior management can serve a custodial sentence, not one yet has gone to prison, even though workers are killed every year. There is no point in having legislation if it is not effective. The right to strike is a human right and should be treated so. If the constitution needs to change than why not.

Disability

Those who can't work because of their disability or age are the most vulnerable in society. This should underpin any policy and values.

Social welfare should reflect a payment that people can live on.

The present Social Welfare Appeals system is not fit for purpose and contradicts human rights within Europe which Ireland is a signatory. This should be challenged.

Health and Education.

Free access to all levels of education is a policy that most people would agree with.

Free access to all levels of health care is another policy that most people would agree with.

FDI

Most multinational companies in Ireland make massive profits, because of the present tax regime and the corporate rates. If companies are going to gain massive profits in Ireland, then all their profits should be reflected in how they treat their workers and their conditions.

Working and continuing the good work.

The people are behind the present campaign, but it has slipped recently. Due to the politics and the PR machine. The networking of groups disenfranchised by the neo liberal agenda needs to be kept on board and educated on the bigger picture. Examples of privatisation of public service and the consequences needs to be marketed to the masses. This will broaden the appeal and reach far more people etc.

Summary:

Never in Ireland have we witnessed the anger and awareness of the people of Ireland since the crisis. RTW has tapped into this and it is evident that people are sick of the old establishments and the cartels including the consensus trade unions.

However, we in Ireland are conservative by our conditioning from the past, RTW needs to be very conscious of that. First, establishing the objectives and values, they can then go onto specific policies when established as I outlined earlier. My concern for saying that is that some on the left have damaged the fight, there is others masquerading as the defenders of workers and the establishment won't go down without a fight.

It is important that the balance is right. I believe the Irish citizen is crying out for change, but the left is seen as radical rightly or wrongly In Ireland. The consensus trade unions can't be trusted. SF has successfully used theirs and others social policies to their benefit but, one collective voice and transparent voice may succeed even more.

The way forward is an economy based on human rights and dignity and this is reflected in all policies. A republic for equal and unequal's as set out by the 1916 proclamation.

I congratulate you all on your endeavours and your ongoing commitment to a better and fairer society.

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26. Kevin Squires

Right2 Freedom, Justice & Equality for Palestinians

The party/group fully supports the Palestinian people in their struggle for their inalienable human, national and democratic rights, and endorses the call from the coalition of over 200 Palestinian civil society, trade union, faith and political organisations for a campaign of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against the Israeli state and its representatives until such time as it ends its occupation of Palestine, grants equal rights to Palestinian citizens of Israel, fulfils its obligations under international, and Palestinians enjoy the full rights, including the right of refugees to return to their homes.

The party/group supports the call for an international arms embargo on Israel, and in particular support the campaign calling for an immediate end to the Irish arms trade with Israel.

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27. Ruairi Creaney

Although I was unable to attend Right2Water's May Day conference, I think it's extremely positive that this democratic initiative has been taken. Before addressing the policy principles outlined in the original document, I want to highlight a number of important issues that were omitted.

Partition

- It's encouraging to see Right2Water alluding to the Democratic Programme of the First Dáil, drawing on our country's rich revolutionary heritage. It's important to note that the First Dáil claimed jurisdiction over the whole of Ireland, not just the twenty-six counties. Any progressive government in Ireland has to be opposed to the partition of our country, as this is the root cause of sectarian division in the north. A debate on full Irish independence should be encouraged by any progressive government. With the prospect of another five years of Tory government in London, links should also be built with progressive groups in the north to help build an anti-austerity movement that challenges the union with Britain.

Abortion

- A progressive government would immediately initiate a referendum to repeal the 8th amendment of Búnreacht na hÉireann. Providing the referendum is successful, the government should then legislate for free abortion services on demand. A government that continues to control the bodies of pregnant women, treating them as little more than biological incubators, cannot be seriously considered progressive. The rights of Irish women are not an optional add-on for a progressive government. They are absolutely central to it.

Foreign Policy

- Recognition for the state of Palestine and expulsion of the Israeli ambassador. Support for Palestinian civil society's call for Boycotts, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel.

- Expel the US military from Shannon airport.

Energy and natural Resources

-Nationalise all of Ireland's national resources without compensation to multinationals. Prioritise investment in green energy over oil, gas and other fossil fuels.

The social rights highlighted in the Right2Water document are generally sound, although I feel there should be a number of extra points included within them.

Right2Education

- End religious control of education. Nationalise all primary and secondary schools.

- In the north, end religious segregation in schools.

- Abolish student tuition fees.

Rigth2Health

- Nothing less than universal healthcare, free at the point of need.

- Immediately scrap GP and A&E charges.

Right2Decent Work

-Legislate for collective bargaining. Employers should be compelled to negotiate with a trade union if it has the support of more than 50% of the workforce. Any corporation which receives public funds in the form of tax relief or incentives should be mandated to recognise the most prevalent union in the sector for the purposes of collective bargaining on pay, hours and holidays, regardless of density in that particular workplace

- Reduce the standard working week to 35 hours.

- Encourage the growth of worker co-operatives as an alternative to traditional anti-democratic private sector businesses.

- Raise minimum wage to a living wage of €11:45

Right2Housing

- Investment in social housing with a view to eliminating homelessness within one year. (Michael Taft has shown how this is possible:

<http://notesonthefront.typepad.com/politiceconomy/2014/05/why-do-the-homeless-have-no-homes.html>)

- Rent controls

- Nationalise properties that landlords refuse to properly maintain (with compensation only on the basis of proven need). End the urban decay of our towns and cities.

It should be obvious that the decent public services like the ones outlined above cannot be achieved without a progressive tax system. As such, a progressive Irish government would massively overhaul the country's existing tax system, starting with increasing corporation tax to the OECD average of

24%. A third tax bracket for the highest earners should also be introduced, along with a wealth tax and a financial transaction tax.

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28. Alex Homich

This text is relatively long but within the confines of the requirements, 100-200 words per subject. Each one is a policy principle, outlining as best as possible the solutions that can be undertaken in a general electoral platform. Principles are outlined under each sub-heading as per the categories provided. This text is written with one philosophy in mind: Decisions should be made to benefit the majority, not the minority.

Wages, Labour Rights, Decent Work and Employment

- Banking, Public Debt and Private Debt

Banking: With the objective to take the Irish based banking sector into the executive authority of the state alongside the immediate prosecution of bankers directly responsible as seen in Iceland.

Public Debt & Private Debt: The repudiation of the Irish debt as it is. No “restructuring” or “renegotiation”, the IMF is guilty of consistently keeping developing countries in shabby states by treating them as financial credit colonies. Any new government in Ireland must reject this position.

- Public Services: Health, Education, Childcare, Public Transport and Others

Public Services: A tightening up of internal regulations and management of resources i.e how money is spent. Curbing all salaries and pensions that are in obscene excess.

Health: The cessation of all ‘sub-contracting’ and skimming off the top activities within the HSE, all operations to be carried out by state employed personnel. Immediate evaluation of the crisis in hospitals within the context of a) understaffed locations b) revision of resource distribution with particular emphasis on pay for senior executives. Medical cards to be issued to all citizens of Ireland and people treated on the basis of necessity.

Education: Abolition of tuition fees for third level education. Re-instatement of the Junior Certificate alongside a re-evaluation of ‘Transition Year’ into a year with an extra-ordinary learning program of life skills/civil service/voluntary military service. Introduction of the Irish Scouts into the education program/transition year. All schools and educational facilities to have Church influence removed from them and a process of making them secular.

Childcare: Nationalization of all crèches, expansion of childcare services near work places to help provide employment/education opportunities for mothers and fathers equally.

Public Transport: Public transport such as rail and bus to be enshrined into the constitution and effectively placed under public ownership. Gradual re-acquisition of services sold off previously (bus companies in particular).

- Housing, including Public and Private Housing, Social and Rental

Housing: Homelessness to be recognized as an epidemic and tackled immediately. Nationalization of all ghost estates / housing fallen into disuse to be used to solve the housing crisis & homelessness. Recognition that housing is a right and not something to be profiteered from. Rent control enacted at 450-700 euro [monthly]. Priority to help get as many people out of rental housing and into permanent housing via schemes of long-term payment and acquisition (as was before).

- Equality – Social, Cultural, Political and Economic

Equality – Social: Cessation of direct provision and the scam that is run by private companies running what can only be described as prolonged internment centres. Full recognition of the rights of all people regardless of orientation/identity [22nd of May is coming up].

Equality – Cultural: Integration process developed for the benefit of both immigrants and internal disenfranchised communities.

Equality – Political: N/A

Equality – Economic: Commitment (in principle) to the redistribution of wealth from the top to the bottom, democracy is not simply equality at the ballot box but also economic equality (or as close as possible)

- EU and International, Trade and Peace

EU: Consideration for withdrawal from the European Union as an institution in favour of economic union as political authority of the Irish people over Irish affairs has been grossly undermined. Full objections to further political integration and no support for

International: Immediate suspension of US planes going through Shannon. Re-affirmation of Irish neutrality in world affairs and withdrawal of any forces assisting NATO / individual states. Re-evaluation of Ireland's role in the UN and whether it can be better and less to the support of imperialistic ventures. Venture to reform the non-aligned movement.

Trade: Look to trade with small nations that are under imperialistic pressure from organizations and nations. Development of trade on a case by case scenario without succumbing to EU pressure.

Peace: Commitment to neutrality and a non-aligned international movement as well as continued efforts to support Ireland's peace-keeping operations.

- Political Reform, National and Local, People's Power

Presidency to have a 70% salary cut. Any person with x amount of signatures can run for the presidency, current system is controlled and undemocratic.

Seanad to be reformed into an institution that's members are democratically elected, 1 per county of Ireland. Seanad to be made into a balancing figure against the Dáil so the executive dominance enjoyed by government parties is broken. Ability given to either completely stop / stall legislation deemed unacceptable.

Local: Co. Executives/Mangers to be abolished completely as unelected bureaucrats and a strengthening of City / County Councils with executive and legislative authority.

People's Power: Right of recall (allowing elected officials to essentially be removed from office via democratic measures) legislated into existence to promote accountability among elected officials.

Citizens' initiative introduced, x amount of signature will stipulate the triggering of a referendum.
Citizens' initiative for x amount of signatures to trigger the introduction of discussion for legislation.

Dáil: [If not in existence] The introduction of votes by ballot to overcome the whip system in crucial votes. Elimination of bonus salary for all 'extra' roles exercised by TD's such as whip/chair/etc. All expenses to be vouched for and receipts submitted to oireachtas.ie and publically displayed.

- Environment, Sustainability and Climate Change

Commitment to renewable energy over a long period of time and environmentally friendly policies. Look towards Denmark as an example and learn what we can / must do to improve Ireland's and subsequently the world's stance and policies on climate change.

- Public and Private Enterprise Policy, the Indigenous Sector, National Resources

Public and Private Enterprise Policy: Cease attempts in obtaining foreign direct investment as employment and place emphasis on developing indigenous activities such as oyster farming across just under 100 bays around Ireland.

National Resources: Constitutionally enshrining the ownership of natural resources to the people of Ireland. With this act in place the newly elected government would then go about and re-acquisition any natural resources that have been lost in a reasonable fashion – endeavours such as oil drilling would have shareholder division in favour of the government (minimum of 51%). Any backlog that had a different arrangement would be paid by the company in question.

Re-acquisition of all Irish fishing territories.

- Social Protection, Poverty and Deprivation, Pensions

Social Protection

Re-introduction of Joint Labour Committees to set binding rates of pay.

Abolition of the ban on solidarity strikes.

Provision of resources on the basis of necessity.

Poverty and Deprivation: Enabling rent control and distributing housing on a necessity of need will help alleviate levels of poverty. Abiding by a principle of supporting 'economic equality' will also work in this favour. Government commitment to lift those in deprivation out of it by whatever means necessary.

Pensions: Potential introduction of a pension cap for both public and private sectors (trade unions to be included) and the lowering of the age for eligible pension from 67 to 57. We, as human beings should not be spending the vast majority of our life as labourers.

- Others (for submissions that cover other topics not listed above)

Absolute objection to TTIP and its implementation in Ireland.

Introduction of the Financial Transaction Tax.

Wiping out between 50-75% of all mortgage debts across the country.

Cessation of all evictions of low income earners.

Introduction of a maximum wage

Investigation into the excesses of social welfare and those not searching for work / abusing a system designed as a safety net to live in luxury/comfort.

Potentially looking into bringing government accountability into the online world (Estonia/Singapore as examples of this)

- Fiscal and Budgetary Policy, Taxation and Public Expenditure, Social Wage

Emphasis on society, not on catering to giant international banks, not on providing / generating revenue for private enterprise. USC to be abolished and a re-evaluation of taxation that has been promised to be abolished to be abolished.

With the elimination of extravagant housing costs the wage of people would actually not need to be changed as their purchasing power would increase. However if that fails the Nevin Institute released a document on the living wage, that is to be looked into as serious legislation.

<http://www.nerinstitute.net/research/a-living-wage-for-ireland/>

- Water policy

Assimilation of Irish Water into local County authorities with one objective in mind: The fixing of all 'leaking pipes'. All water processing / providing utilities to be assimilated into regional authorities. Sub-contracting to be shut down, it is skimming off the top, nothing "innovative" about it. National activities answerable to a joint Seanad-Dáil committee while regional activities answerable to local County Councils.

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29. Sharon Wall

I would like to make 4 submissions that I feel are on a lot of people's minds:

1. To take back our natural resources now regardless of what was signed previously by corrupt brown envelope governments
2. To introduce for self-employed people a proper prsi system that allows people to pay tax like everyone else and have the same benefits as everyone else ie. immediate social welfare payments if sick or the business doesn't work, dental and medical care
3. Free dental care for all (including working people) like in the USA all the kids there (and their parents) have well cared for teeth, not just one free filling per year. Braces, cleaning, extractions and fillings should be free and at least this could eliminate future problems with dental health.

4. To clear hospital waiting lists, allow travel to Europe for quicker diagnoses and treatment. Hopefully if the bureaucrats and management in hospitals are reduced, more beds and appointments can be made available

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