



PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT

SOCIALISM FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

#RAISETHEROOF

GOVERNMENT INACTION OVER HOUSING EMERGENCY — SHAMEFUL!

#RAISETHEROOF RALLY: DÁIL ÉIREANN, WEDNESDAY 3 OCTOBER, 12:30PM

The housing emergency is out of control.

Average rents in Dublin have reached a record level of €1,304, more than 26% higher than during the Celtic Tiger.

Many tenants are struggling because 90% of homes to rent are now beyond the pocket of people relying on Rent Supplement and HAP.

Landlords use loopholes to get around existing rent control laws to raise rents above the 4% threshold and evict tenants.

At the end of Housing Minister Eoghan Murphy's first year in charge, a record 9,872 people were homeless and living in emergency accommodation, with families reduced to sleeping in Garda stations.

The lack of social and affordable housing is driving the crisis. Just 780 local authority houses were built across the State last year.

Now the banks we bailed out are selling off tens of thousands of distressed mortgages to vulture funds. The government are turning their backs on this deplorable action that will lead to even greater homelessness.

All this demonstrates the abysmal failure of this government and its unwillingness to break from private market solutions.

To tackle the housing crisis, People Before Profit would:

- Reduce rents and introduce rent controls linked to the Consumer Price Index, backdated to 2011.
- Give tenants greater security of tenure by doing long-term deals with prospective landlords.
- Increase supply. There is public land zoned for 120,000 units that could be split between local authority tenants and those looking for affordable housing. Stop the sell-off of public land to private developers.
- Take over vacant properties: There are 144,000 applicants on housing waiting lists yet there are 183,000 empty homes in the country. Only 416 of these have been delivered so far. Local councils should identify and engage with owners of such properties in their area. If houses or sites are not used within six months or valid reasons given, a compulsory acquisition order should be invoked to bring them into use.
- Stop all evictions. Implement an immediate emergency measure to stop any family being evicted into homelessness.
- End land speculation: That all private developments have a requirement for 20% social and affordable homes. To implement this, builders must provide councils with 20% of the land at use value prices.

Join the #RaiseTheRoof Rally, organised by the National Homeless and Housing Coalition, outside the Dáil on Wednesday 3 October at 12.30pm.



FOR MORE INFORMATION,
TEXT 'HOUSING' TO 087 283 9964.

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Title: Government Inaction Over Housing Emergency
– Shameful!
Organisation: People Before Profit
Date: 2018

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