

Spring 2022

Dublin Central

Senator Mary Fitzpatrick

Spokesperson on Housing, Local Government & Heritage

FIANNA Fáil
THE REPUBLICAN PARTY

#StandWithUkraine
#WomenSupportingWomen



Ukrainian ambassador to Ireland
Larysa Gerasko

Dear Resident,

I hope you are keeping safe and well, and enjoying life returning to normality.

Below you will find an update on my work championing Dublin Central for significant Government investment in Housing, Education, Health, regeneration of our public buildings and public spaces.

I am also working to make our community safer for women, young people, tackle illegal dumping and improve women's health outcomes.

Mary stands with Ukraine and supports our governments championing of Ukraine's membership of the European Union

Thanks for your support, please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance.

Mary



Clinics

Mary & Eimer hold clinics the last Wednesday of every month at the following locations:

- Naomh FionnBarra GAA Club, Fassaugh Avenue, Cabra, Dublin 7 at 12pm
- The Maples Hotel, Iona Road, Glasnevin, Dublin 9 at 1.30pm

To make an appointment please contact
mary.fitzpatrick@oireachtas.ie
or 085 838 2427

Women's Health



Delivery better outcomes in Women's health is a priority for Fianna Fáil in Government, with €31m in new development funding for 2022.

In Dublin Central the Rotunda hospital has had a design team appointed for a new critical care wing.

Other significant changes in women's health include:

- Free period products
- Free contraception for 17-25-year-olds
- Menopause specialty clinics
- Endometriosis care clinics





Housing

With Minister for Housing Darragh O'Brien

During the pandemic the importance of having a home, a secure place to stay safe was essential for us all.

As Fianna Fáil Spokesperson for Housing, I work with the Minister for Housing to make the changes needed to have the state lead the provision of housing, as a basic human right.

Derelict Properties

In the Oireachtas I questioned Dublin City Council on their efforts to identify derelict housing and to bring it back to housing supply. The housing crisis requires both national and local Government to sweat every single asset, and using existing built property is the most sustainable and efficient way to increase the housing stock. Government has provided funding and resources to tackle dereliction and later this year a vacant property tax will be introduced.

Local Authority Affordable Home Loan

Changes have been made to the Local Authority Home Loan Mortgage scheme to help more low- and middle-income earners, who have been refused a mortgage from a commercial bank, to buy their own home with a secure,

affordable, fixed low-rate mortgage.

The changes will especially help single earners and people looking to make a fresh start following a divorce or separation.

The income ceiling for a single applicant has been increased to €65,000, couples cannot have income more than €75,000.

Home Insulation Grants

If you own your home and are not in receipt of social welfare payments, new grants ranging from 50-80% are now available.

If you own your home and receive certain social welfare payments, improved insulation works such as attic insulation and external cladding can be carried out at no cost to you. For more information: www.seai.ie (01) 808 2100

Social Housing

More than 1,500 social homes across 26 Social Housing Developments are under construction or at planning stage in Dublin Central including:

Dominick Street, North King Street, Aughrim Street, Arbour Hill, O'Devaney Gardens, Dorset Street, St. Finbarrs, Bannow Road, Ratoath Road, Stanley Street and more.

Right to Housing

In June 2021 I received almost unanimous support in Seanad Éireann for my proposal for a constitutional referendum on the right to housing. Following on from the debate Government established a Commission on Housing tasked with examining the issue.

The Commission aims to submit its proposal to Government by the end of the year.



Right to Housing - Leinster House



Meeting with Norma Foley

In Dublin Central school communities did an exceptional job in adapting safely during Covid-19. To continue to support schools €15.5M has been approved for Dublin Schools in the summer works programme.

Clonturk Community College

Following a meeting arranged by myself and Deputy Paul McAuliffe with representatives of the school community and Minister Norma Foley, the department of Education confirmed it is committed to the delivery of a new school building. The new school will accommodate 1,000 pupils including

provision of 4 classrooms for pupils with special education needs.

Gaelscoil Coláiste Mhuire Parnell Square

Having worked for years on behalf of Gaelscoil Colaiste Mhuire I am delighted to tell you that stage 2b approval was completed in December 2021 and construction is due to commence in 3Q2022.

Gaelscoil Áine

I am working on behalf of the school community of Gaelscoil Áine to secure a permanent location for the school

for September 2022. Minister Foley has assured me that her department is working with the school patron to confirm the location for the new school building. I expect a decision will be announced shortly.

St. Joseph's Co-Educational School East Wall

I met with the principal and representatives from St. Joseph's Co-Educational School East Wall to discuss their road safety concerns. I have made requests to Dublin City Council asking that school road safety plan be put in place outside St. Joseph's, to include pencils, road markings and advance school warning signs.



Illegal dumping

Illegal dumping is a blight on our community. Fianna Fáil have introduced a Bill to allow Local Authorities use CCTV to stop environmental crime, such as illegal dumping.

The Bill will give powers to Local Authorities to use technology to help protect our community in Dublin Central from illegal dumping.

Last year Local Authorities spent up to €100 million dealing with illegal dumping & littering, including Dublin Central. This Bill will allow local authorities to install and operate this technology to deter, prevent and if necessary, prosecute for illegal dumping. to report illegal dumping in Dublin Central please phone 1800 248 348





Sports Capital Grant

Congratulations to all the clubs and organisations who applied in Dublin Central!

Over €1 million for Dublin Central Sports clubs and organisations was approved by Government including
Arbour Hill Boxing Club, Aughrim Street 9/10th Scout Group, Belvedere YouthClub, Brú Youth Service
CLG, Charleville Lawn Tennis Club, Drumcondra Football Club, Glasnevin Lawn Tennis Club, Home Farm FC, Naomh Fionnbarra, Phoenix Cricket Club, Smithfield Amateur Boxing Club, St Oliver Plunkett Eoghan Ruadh GAA, CLG Na Fianna, Grangegorman Development Agency & Dublin City Council.



Violence Against Women

With my Fianna Fáil colleagues I am working on legislation to tackle the issue of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence and specifically violence against women.

Since 1996, 236 women have died violently in the Republic of Ireland. One in four women in Ireland have been abused by their partner, in 2020 alone there were 855 disclosures of sexual abuse made to the Women's Aid services. We cannot ignore that violence against women in Ireland is killing our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, and our friends.



Stalking Bill



A bill to make Stalking a crime proposed by Senator Lisa Chambers and co-sponsored by myself and Senator Erin McGreehan has passed all stages in the Seanad and has now gone to the Dáil for final debates.

Supporting Young people

There have been ongoing incidents of youth crime in our communities over the last number of months, which are being recorded and shared on social media. As a founding member of the Community Policing Forum, Youth Service and Director of Family Resource Centre I have been working with other stakeholders locally to support our young people and make our community safer.

Social media platforms have a role to play here too, I have called on Tik Tok and Snap Chat to support our communities to end this violence and protect our young people.

Senator Mary Fitzpatrick

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