

FINE GAEL 

79th ÁRD FHEIS

Taking Ireland Forward Together

CITYWEST HOTEL, DUBLIN
16th – 17th November 2018

#FGAF18



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#FGAF18

FINE GAEL 

INFORMATION

REGISTRATION & PRE-REGISTRATION

Don't worry if you haven't pre-registered for the Árd Fheis. You can still register, but please be aware that you must do so at the Citywest Convention Centre.

Registration will take place from 4.00pm to 8.00pm on Friday and 9.00am to 5.00pm on Saturday.

Delegates will be required to produce their membership card and photo I.D. Travelling companions will have to be vouched for by a member.

COLLECTION OF ACCREDITATION

Delegates who have registered but have not received their accreditation can collect it at the Citywest Convention Centre from 4.00pm-8.00pm on Friday and 9.00am-5.00pm on Saturday.

CAR PARKING

Complimentary Parking is available for delegates at Citywest Hotel.

SHUTTLE BUS

A shuttle bus will run every 20 minutes from the Citywest LUAS stop (Saggart), to the Citywest carpark and the Main Entrance of the Árd Fheis, on Friday between 4.00pm and midnight and on Saturday between 9.00am and midnight.

CRÈCHE

Crèche facilities will be available on Saturday in the Ormonde Suite on the second floor in the main hotel. To book, please ask for Eileen Bradley at reception.

ELECTIONS & VOTING

Voting will take place on the Ground Floor of the Convention Centre between 1.00pm and 4.00pm. To vote, members must produce a valid Membership Card (2018/19) and a Delegate Card and will be asked to produce photo I.D. The following are entitled to vote: all Public Representatives, members of Executive Council, Constituency and District Officers and five delegates per Branch.

VOTING APPEALS

The Ethics Committee (Gerry O'Connell, Eileen Lynch, Tom Curran (Gen. Sec), Brian Murphy, Mary Danagher, Fiona O'Connor, John Hogan) will convene in the Carraig Suite between 1.00pm. and 4.00pm on Saturday.

TAOISEACH'S ADDRESS

There will be two entrances into the Convention Centre 1 space on the ground floor, one either side. Delegates with blue lanyards should commence queuing at the far end entrance on the ground floor in the afternoon. Doors open at 4.00pm. All other colour lanyards should enter via the near side entrance.

CATERING

Soup/sandwiches/beverages/muffins will be served in the Tuck Shop in the Lakes Suite (Level 1) from 5.00pm-7.30pm on Friday and from 11.00am-6.00pm on Saturday.

Carvery available in the Citywest Suite (Hotel) from 12.00pm-9.00pm on Saturday. Hotel restaurant and bar open for catering also.

STANDING ORDERS

1. PROCEDURE

The ruling of the presiding Chairperson for each session as listed on the Clár on all matters of procedure is final.

2. MOTIONS

A motion which is not on the Clár may only be moved subject to Standing Order Number 3. If, on a motion having been called, no delegate from the unit of the organisation which submitted it rises to speak, the Ard Fheis will proceed to the next business, unless the Chairperson decides to permit some other delegate to propose the motion.

3. EMERGENCY MOTIONS

The Steering Committee may admit an emergency motion of exceptional significance, if at least one hour's notice in writing is given to the Steering Committee, the decision of which shall be final. Standing Orders shall not otherwise be modified.

4. AMENDMENTS

An amendment to a motion other than those tabled by the Executive Council may be moved only if notice of the Amendment has been given in writing to the Chairperson one hour before the session begins. An amendment proposing a direct negative to a motion may not be moved.

5. SPEAKERS

A strict time limit will be imposed on all speakers. The proposer of a motion will be allowed a maximum of three minutes and the remaining time available will be allotted to other speakers up to a maximum of two minutes each, at the discretion of the presiding Chairperson. Every delegate wishing to speak should give their name to the Speakers' Desk at the beginning of the session and should take his or her place near the podium five minutes before he or she expects to be called on to speak. Every delegate on rising must first announce his or her name and the name of his or her unit of the organisation. A speaker must cease speaking when instructed to do so by the Chairperson.

6. DECISIONS

Decisions will be made by a show of delegate cards. In the event of the Chairperson being unable to decide the outcome of any vote, a count will be taken by tellers, drawn firstly from the Executive Council and secondly by a decision of the Chairperson.

7. RELEVANCE

If any delegate is directed by the Chairperson to cease speaking on the grounds of irrelevance, he/she must do so forthwith. The Chairperson's decision on matters of relevance is final.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 16

GROUND FLOOR, CONVENTION CENTRE 1

- 7.30pm Opening Ceremony
- 8.00pm Ireland at the Heart of Europe and at the Centre of the World
Chair: Sen. Neale Richmond
An Tánaiste Simon Coveney TD
Min. Michael Creed TD
Min. Helen McEntee
- 9.30pm Q&A with An Taoiseach and Cabinet
Chair: Deirdre Duffy

HIBERNIAN BAR (IN HOTEL)

- 10.30pm Young Professionals Network

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

GROUND FLOOR, CONVENTION CENTRE 1

- 9.30am Constitution and Rules/Party Organisation
Chair: Gerry O'Connell
- 10.00am Making Life Easier for Families (Live TV)
Chair: Alan Farrell TD
Min. Richard Bruton
Min. Regina Doherty TD
Min. Joe McHugh TD
Min. Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD
- 11.15am Building for the Future (Live TV)
Chair: Maria Bailey TD
Min. Paschal Donohoe TD
Min. Simon Harris TD
Min. Heather Humphreys TD
Min. Eoghan Murphy TD
Min. Michael D'Arcy TD
Min. Damien English TD
Min. Helen McEntee TD
- 1.00pm Convention Centre 1 closes

- 4.00pm Doors open
- 4.30pm Warm-up
- 5.25pm Address by An Taoiseach (Live TV)

CARRAIG SUITE (LEVEL 1)

- 1.00pm Ethics Committee (Voting Appeals)

LAKES SUITE (LEVEL 1)

- Exhibition stands and catering
- 2.00pm Irish Times podcast

IRELAND v NEW ZEALAND

Join us in the Ballroom to watch the match on a big screen. K.O. 7pm.



(Special offer: Burger/chicken goujons and chips, or chicken salad - €15 including a pint.)

Social: Music provided by Eaton Park Band from 9.30pm in the Ballroom.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PARALLEL MEETINGS SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17

AVOCA SUITE (LEVEL 1)

1.00 pm A New Approach to Justice and Security

Chair: Colm Brophy TD

Min. Charlie Flanagan TD

Min. Paul Kehoe TD

Min. Catherine Byrne TD

Min. Patrick O'Donovan TD

2.30 pm Northern Ireland - Building Stronger Relationships

Chair: Fergus O'Dowd TD

Min. Charlie Flanagan TD

Min. Heather Humphreys TD

Min. Joe McHugh TD

Min. Brendan Griffin TD

SYCAMORE SUITE (LEVEL 2)

1.00pm Ageing with Opportunity, Dignity and Security

Chair: Kate O'Connell TD

Min. Regina Doherty TD

Min. Simon Harris TD

Min. Patrick Breen TD

Min. Jim Daly TD

Min. Damien English TD

2.30pm Empowering Members

Chair: Cllr. Laura McGonigle

Min. Simon Coveney TD

Min. Richard Bruton TD

Min. John Paul Phelan TD

Vótáil 100 display

OAK SUITE (LEVEL 2)

1.00 pm Diversity and Inclusivity in a Changing Ireland

Chair: Frances Fitzgerald TD

Min. Paschal Donohoe TD

Min. Josepha Madigan TD

Min. David Stanton TD

2.30 pm A Vibrant Future for Rural Ireland

Chair: Martin Heydon TD

Min. Michael Creed TD

Min. Michael Ring TD

Min. Seán Kyne TD

Min. Andrew Doyle TD

NEWCASTLE SUITE (LEISURE CENTRE)

1.00pm Ireland as a Leader in Responding to Climate Change

Chair: Hildegard Naughton TD

Min. Richard Bruton TD

RATHCOOLE SUITE (LEISURE CENTRE)

1.00pm: Councillors' Meeting

Chair: Cllr. Pádraig Conneely

Min. Eoghan Murphy TD

Min. Damien English TD

Min. John Paul Phelan TD

MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY



A very warm welcome to our 79th Árd Fheis in Citywest on Friday and Saturday 16th – 17th November 2018.

We are all following the Brexit negotiations with great interest, and hopefully we will see a successful conclusion in the coming weeks. Whatever the outcome, Brexit will have major implications for our country in the immediate future.

As we approach the end of the year, we are preparing for the Local and European Elections which are scheduled to happen in 2019 – and preparing also for a General Election, which could happen at any time.

We must and will be ready. In all three cases, we are dealing with significant boundary changes.

The Local Elections, in particular, pose a significant challenge, with conventions required in 166 Electoral Areas. We expect to have the bulk of these completed before the end of the year.

Due to the work of Fine Gael in Government, Ireland is on the right track. Now, we must ensure that to the greatest extent possible, every citizen is enabled to achieve their full potential. It is about fairness. It is about improving access to our health services; increasing the supply of affordable housing and making life better for families.

These ambitions cannot be achieved without long-term planning. That is why earlier this year we launched Project Ireland 2040. This gives us as a framework for Ireland's future development. That framework will enable our country to grow over the next twenty years in a manner that provides for better and sustainable regional balance, less commuting, and greater vibrancy in our villages, towns, cities and rural areas.

As always, thanks to you, our members, for your continued support throughout the country. It is greatly appreciated and always valued.

Please study this Clár and familiarise yourself with the weekend's events. I hope you have a constructive and enjoyable Árd Fheis.

On your behalf, I thank the members of the Árd Fheis Committee and all those who have helped plan this great gathering.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Curran'.

TOM CURRAN
GENERAL SECRETARY

MESSAGE FROM AN TAOISEACH LEO VARADKAR TD



Welcome to the Fine Gael Árd Fheis, on this the 85th anniversary of the founding of our party.

Reviewing our history, I believe we should be proud of what we have achieved in the service of our country and our people. Fine Gael is the party that rewards work, the party of enterprise and business, law and order, and equality of opportunity. The party which offers hope for the future.

When Fine Gael was founded in the Mansion House in 1933, W.T. Cosgrave set out our mission and values. Fine Gael would be, in his words, 'a single, united party, working for the achievement of its ideals through constitutional methods.... to save the farmers, help industries, reduce unemployment, protect individual liberty, work constantly for peace, and build up the whole of Ireland'.

I believe that 85 years on that still sums up our mission and values. We should be proud of our history and our achievements in office – as Cumann na nGaedheal in the 1920s and as Fine Gael thereafter. We founded the state and created its institutions such as the army and the Gardaí. We rescued the economy on more than one occasion when it was sabotaged by others. We helped Ireland take her place in the world, declared a Republic, brought our country into the United Nations, and placed us at the heart of Europe.

Today we face challenges, just as great as any which went before. The greatest challenge of all is to secure our future. To ensure that we bring Ireland forward together.

True to our history, and always looking to the future, I believe that we will meet those challenges head on.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leo Varadkar". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

LEO VARADKAR TD
TAOISEACH AND LEADER OF FINE GAEL

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL NOMINATIONS 2018

PRESIDENT (One to be elected)

An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD

VICE-PRESIDENT (Two to be elected)

Gerry O'Connell* (Tipperary)

John Paul Phelan TD* (Carlow Kilkenny)

PARLIAMENTARY PARTY

(Four to be elected)

Senator Jerry Buttimer* (Cork South Central)

Martin Heydon TD* (Kildare South)

Tom Neville TD* (Limerick)

Senator Joe O'Reilly* (Cavan Monaghan)

COUNCIL OF LOCAL PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES

(Two to be elected)

Cllr Laura McGonigle* (Cork South Central)

Cllr Barry Ward* (Dun Laoghaire)

CONNACHT/ULSTER (Three to be elected)

Edel Cadden (Mayo)

Willie Geraghty* (Mayo)

Gerry McMunn (Sligo Leitrim)

Donal Reilly* (Cavan Monaghan)

DUBLIN (Three to be elected)

John Hogan* (Dublin Bay South)

Brian Murphy* (Dublin Fingal)

Fiona O'Connor* (Dublin Central)

LEINSTER (Three to be elected)

Leo Butler* (Carlow Kilkenny)

John Delamere (Longford Westmeath)

Liz Dillon* (Wicklow)

Dr. Ahmad Jamal (Meath East)

Robbie McCabe (Wexford)

Emir Smith* (Meath East)

MUNSTER (Three to be elected)

Diarmuid Allman (Kerry)

Colm Breen (Limerick City)

Geraldine Lane-Gregan (Clare)

Conor Lehane* (Cork North West)

Lucy McCormack (Tipperary)

*denotes outgoing member

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE



AN TAOISEACH LEO VARADKAR TD

Leo Varadkar was elected Taoiseach on 14 June 2017.

He was appointed Minister for Tourism, Transport & Sport in March 2011. He was subsequently appointed Minister for Health (2014 to 2016) and then served as Minister for Social Protection until his election as Taoiseach.

He was first elected to Dáil Éireann in June 2007 for the Dublin West constituency.

He was elected to Fingal County Council in 2004 and during his period on the Council he served as Deputy Mayor.

Leo Varadkar studied medicine at Trinity College Dublin and qualified as a General Practitioner.

He was born in 1979 and lives in Dublin.

VICE-PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES



GERRY O'CONNELL Tipperary

Gerry O'Connell is a member of the Killenaule Branch in Tipperary and is the current Chairman of the Executive Council. He was first elected as Vice President of the Party in 2004 and has been re-elected to that position at each subsequent Árd Fheis.

Gerry was the National Returning Officer for the Fine Gael Leadership Election in 2017 and has served the Party in a number of leadership positions including President of YFG and Constituency Director of Elections in the 2007, 2011 and 2016 General Elections, the 2009 and 2014 Local and European Elections and the 2011 Presidential Election.

He was the MC for the Party's Commemoration of the 1916 Easter Rising in December 2016 and also was a speaker at the Party's recent commemoration of the 70th Anniversary of the Declaration of the Republic of Ireland.

Gerry is also the Secretary of the Collins 22 Society, has compiled various presentations on FG history and has acted as a motivational speaker for the Party at General Election Rallies, Michael Collins Rallies and Árd Fheiseanna.



JOHN PAUL PHELAN Carlow Kilkenny

John Paul Phelan, TD, was appointed Minister of State for Local Government and Electoral Reform in June 2017. He was re-elected Teachta Dála for the Carlow–Kilkenny constituency in the last election, having topped the poll in 2011.

Minister Phelan entered local politics at just 20 years of age and secured a seat on Kilkenny County Council on his first attempt while still a Business undergraduate at Waterford Institute of Technology. He qualified as a barrister and went on to serve as a Senator from 2002 to 2011.

He is a former member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and served as an Irish representative on the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly.

PARLIAMENTARY PARTY CANDIDATES



SENATOR JERRY BUTTIMER Cork South Central

Senator Jerry Buttimer was elected to Dáil Éireann in February, 2011 representing the constituency of Cork South Central. Senator Buttimer was appointed as Chairperson of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health and Children in July 2011.

Senator Buttimer served as a Senator, having been elected in July 2007, and was a member of Cork City Council from 2004 to 2007.

Under Jerry Buttimer's stewardship the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Health and Children examined a number of high profile policy issues.

He was elected to the 25th Seanad Éireann in April 2016 where he was appointed Leader of Seanad Eireann (Senate) by An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD.

He is also a member of the Fine Gael Executive Council and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Outside of representative politics Senator Buttimer is actively involved in his local community and the GAA. Senator Buttimer served on the GAA National Marketing Committee, as well as Chairman of his local Bishopstown GAA Club.

Education is also a key issue for Jerry who, prior to entering a career in politics spent many years as a teacher and also served as Director of Adult Education.

He is also an unwavering advocate for equality and social justice and founding member of Fine Gael's LGBT Group.



MARTIN HEYDON TD Kildare South

Martin Heydon TD is a member of Dáil Eireann since 2011 representing the constituency of Kildare South. He is also the Chairman of the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party.

Deputy Heydon is a member of a number of Oireachtas Committees, including: Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural, and Gaeltacht Affairs; Petitions, Climate Action and the Oireachtas Commission. He served as Chair of Fine Gael's Internal Committee on Agriculture & Rural Affairs between 2011 and 2016.

Deputy Heydon is part of the Fine Gael negotiating team for the review and extension of Confidence and Supply with Fianna Fáil.

Prior to being elected to Dáil Eireann, Deputy Heydon was a full time farmer. He was elected to Kildare County Council for the Athy Municipal District in June 2009. He is a native of South Kildare living near Kilcullen. He has been actively involved in community and sports activities and was an officer of his local GAA club St Laurence's for over 10 years.

Martin is married to Brianne and they have three small boys Martin D, Pádraic and John.

PARLIAMENTARY PARTY CANDIDATES



TOM NEVILLE TD Limerick

Tom Neville was co-opted to Limerick County Council in 2003 replacing his father former TD Dan Neville. He was county poll topper on his first attempt in the 2004 local election with 25% of the first preference vote. Opting not to stand in the 2009 local election, Tom emigrated to Australia for four years due to the lack of work in his field due to the economic collapse. Returning he was again elected on the first count in the 2014 local elections and subsequently elected to Dáil Eireann for Limerick County on his first attempt in 2016.

Tom is: Secretary of the Fine Gael Parliamentary Party; Member of Fine Gael Executive Council; Vice Chairperson of Business and Enterprise Joint Oireachtas Committee; Member of Future of Mental Health Care Joint Oireachtas Committee; Member of Children and Youth Affairs Joint Oireachtas Committee; and Member of Climate Change Joint Oireachtas Committee.

He was educated in Kilfinny National School followed by Crescent College Comprehensive. His third level education includes a B. Tech in Education from University of Limerick, a Grad. Diploma in Business, also from University of Limerick. Tom also holds an MA in Music, Media & Technology from University of Limerick and a Diploma in Digital Marketing from the Digital Marketing Institute. A trained actor he has had a Feature Film role as well as leading roles in Short Films.

Tom brings broad career experiences gained before his election to Dáil Eireann in 2016. Starting out as a secondary school teacher he has worked in IT Sales, Recruitment in IT/Technical Engineering/Digital Marketing/Accounting and Media.

His career has seen him work in Ireland, UK and Australia where he gained knowledge and experience of Asian economies.

PARLIAMENTARY PARTY CANDIDATES



SENATOR JOE O'REILLY *Cavan Monaghan*

Joe is married to Mary Tully, a native of Roscommon, and they have three sons.

Brought up on a family farm he received his early education at Carrickallen N.S. and Saint Aidan's Comprehensive School, Cootehill. He later graduated with a B.A. and an M.A. (Hons.) from UCD. A Teacher by profession he holds legal qualifications in addition to Education Diplomas.

After teaching in Dublin for a number of years Joe returned to teach in Cavan Town. He was involved in voluntary work over many years in the Disability Sector and in the Mental Health area. He was P.R.O. of County Cavan Multiple Sclerosis Society and founding Chairperson of Bailieborough Mental Health Association. He took part in amateur drama. Joe is an award winning debater and public speaker.

A Member of Cavan County Council for twenty years, he was Cathaoirleach from 2004-2005. He served on the then Cavan V.E.C. Currently in his third Seanad term, Joe served as a T.D. from 2011-2016 and is a Dáil Candidate for the next General Election. Joe was a Member of Seanad Éireann from 1989-1992 and from 2007 to 2011.

He has served on the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe since 2009 and he has led the delegation since 2011. He is currently Vice President of the Assembly.

Joe's mission in Politics is to do as much good for as many people as he can. He is passionate and committed to working in the best interests of all of his constituents. This, he says, is a dedication he will bring to representing his local community.

COUNCIL OF LOCAL PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES CANDIDATES



LAURA MCGONIGLE Cork City Council

Laura McGonigle has been a member of Cork City Council since 2007. Originally co-opted to replace Deirdre Clune, following the 2007 General Election, Laura was subsequently elected at the 2009 and 2014 Local Elections. She served the City of Cork as Deputy Lord Mayor in 2009/2010.

Laura was first elected to the Fine Gael Executive Council in 2012 to represent the interests of the Fine Gael Councillors across the country and was returned to that position at each subsequent Árd Fheis. She looks forward to continuing that work in the coming term alongside Cllr Barry Ward.

Laura is the current Vice-Chairperson of the Executive Council and a member of this year's Árd Fheis Sub-committee, which is tasked with overseeing the organisation of the Árd Fheis.

In her home constituency of Cork South Central, Laura has undertaken the role of SuperDraw Co-ordinator for a number of years with great success.



BARRY WARD Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council

Barry Ward joined the Executive of the Council of Local Representatives in 2016 and has represented Councillors and members of Údarás na Gaeltachta on the Executive Council, since then.

He is the Leader of the Fine Gael Group on Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council, where he has been a Councillor for the Blackrock Local Electoral Area since 2009.

Barry is a member of the Deansgrange Branch.

CONNACHT/ULSTER CANDIDATES



EDEL CADDEN Mayo

Edel Cadden comes from a very loyal Fine Gael family from North Mayo. She lives in Crossmolina and works in Castlebar.

Over the last few months Edel has been encouraged by numerous members of Fine Gael to contest the Connaught Ulster Panel to represent Fine Gael on the National Executive Council. It is many years since North Mayo had a representative on the National Executive. As a female and active Fine Gael member, Edel is confident if elected that she can represent the views and concerns of all Fine Gael members.

For the last four years she has been Chairperson of the Crossmolina FG Branch and a member of the Mayo Fine Gael Constituency Strategy Committee. She is also Delegate to the Ballina Fine Gael District. At all Local and General Elections Edel has organised and canvassed large areas of North Mayo for all Fine Gael candidates.

Her passions include politics, equality and inclusion for all in our community which is something that she promotes and encourages. Working in the disability sector in the West of Ireland Edel has had first-hand knowledge of the many challenges facing the most vulnerable members of our society.

She is asking delegates from the Connaught Ulster Region to vote No. 1 for her or your highest preference vote on Saturday November 17th at the Fine Gael Árd Fheis.

CONNACHT/ULSTER CANDIDATES



WILLIE GERAGHTY Mayo

Willie is an experienced and hardworking member of the Executive Council. Willie knows the large amount of work that must be done by the next Executive to ensure the best outcome for the party in the upcoming Local, European, Seanad and General Elections and he believes his experience and work ethic will continue to be instrumental in the successful organisation of the Party.

From Castlebar, Co. Mayo, Willie is a lecturer in Mechanical Engineering in GMIT, Galway and currently holds the position of Chair of the Party's Disciplinary Committee. He has previously held the positions of:

- Chair of the Affiliations Appeals Committee;
- Member of the Seanad Selection Commission;
- Member of the National Conference Committee; and
- Member of the 2016 General Election National Strategy Committee on Communications and Messaging chaired by An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD.

A keen political analyst, Willie has conducted post-election reviews in the Mayo, Donegal, Roscommon, Galway East and Galway West Constituencies on behalf of the Executive Council and prepared the Mayo Constituency Submission for the 2017 Local Electoral Area Boundary Commission.

In 2016 he acted as Campaign Manager for the then Taoiseach, Enda Kenny in the Mayo Constituency and is currently Chair of the Henry Kenny Branch, Castlebar and a member of Mayo Constituency Strategy Group.

Willie has a strong track record of hard work and fairness on the Executive Council, has worked diligently on behalf of all members and has an excellent attendance record.

CONNACHT/ULSTER CANDIDATES



GERRY MCMUNN Sligo Leitrim

Gerry is a 47-year old self-employed Certified Financial Planner and a part-time Farmer based in Sligo.

He is a lifelong member of the party ever since attending his first branch meeting when aged just 12.

Growing up in a strong Fine Gael political house meant it was natural for Gerry to serve at many officer positions of the party's local and constituency structures. Over the last 35 years as a loyal party member, running fundraising events or standing at church gate collections, Gerry always showed how proud he was to be a Fine Gael member.

Gerry would like to build on what Fine Gael has achieved to date and to strengthen the party by engaging more with its members so that each member has a role in taking the party forward.

He is eager to continue to broaden the appeal to the wider voting public of Fine Gael as a party combining economic competence with social justice.

Gerry would like to put his faith in you to select him for a first time position on the National Executive.



DONAL REILLY Cavan Monaghan

Donal Reilly is a native of Kingscourt, Co. Cavan. He is married to Ruth and they have one son, Harry. Donal works as a Production Manager with one of Ireland's largest food manufacturers.

He is an outgoing member of the Executive Council having been elected at the 2016 Árd Fheis. If selected for the next Executive Council he states he will give the same effort and commitment for the next two years.

He is a member of Kingscourt Branch of Fine Gael since the early eighties, where he has held numerous roles and is currently Branch Chairman, as well as Treasurer of the local District Executive.

He has been involved in every election since the middle eighties; organising canvassers, erecting posters, canvassing and doing tallies at election counts.

Up until recently he was an active football referee in County Cavan and still has a keen interest in the fortunes of both his local club and also his County clubs.

Donal strongly believes that his experience from the food industry, coupled with his GAA activity and keen political knowledge, makes him a suitable candidate for the Fine Gael Executive Council.

He thanks you for reading his biography and asks you for your first preference vote or next highest preference.

DUBLIN CANDIDATES



JOHN HOGAN Dublin Bay South

John Hogan is a member of the Garret FitzGerald Sandymount Branch. He is a Financial and Insurance Broker based in Dublin.

John has been an active member of the Dublin Bay South constituency and prior to that Dublin Central.

He has served as Chairperson of the Dublin Bay South Constituency for three years and as Director of Elections for the Local Elections and the 2016 General Election.

John is currently Director of Elections for Dublin Rathdown. Having been involved during both good and challenging times for the Party, John understands the importance of branch and constituency organisations in ensuring the Party remains rooted in communities.

He is a member of Executive Council and chairs the Affiliation Appeals and Árd Fheis committees. He will continue to work to ensure members' views are represented and links between neighbouring constituencies are developed.



BRIAN MURPHY Dublin Fingal

The next Executive Council will need to liaise closely with the membership as we prepare for the forthcoming Local and European elections, as well as continuing preparations for a General Election, whenever that might arise.

The party is going through a period of change with members being given a greater role whether in policy development through the opportunity to contribute to the Republic of Opportunity document or through changes to be voted on at this Árd Fheis to give the membership and councillors a say in whether the party enters Government after an election.

Brian believes that the opportunity for members in Dublin to contribute their thoughts and ideas both for the development of the organisation and for initiatives that we should pursue in Government needs to be embraced enthusiastically. He believes his wide experience in the party over twenty five years, from President of Young Fine Gael to serving as Chairperson of the Executive Council and within Government, would enable him to contribute significantly to this task and to being a strong voice for the Dublin membership on the Executive.

Brian has been an active member of the Dublin Fingal constituency for many years, including serving as Chairperson for three years. He served as Director of Elections in Dublin North East in 2007 when Fine Gael won back the seat lost in 2002 and in Dublin North in 2011 where the party took two seats for the first time in nearly thirty years.

DUBLIN CANDIDATES



FIONA O'CONNOR Dublin Central

Fiona O'Connor is the Membership Officer in the constituency of Dublin Central and a member of the Executive Council. She has previously been both Secretary and Chairperson in Dublin Central where her focus has been on ensuring members have an opportunity to make their voices heard in the Party, both locally and more widely.

Fiona was a member of the election strategy committees for the Local Elections in 2014 and the 2016 General Election, supporting the re-election of Cllr. Ray McAdam and Minister Paschal Donohoe. She has organised a number of fundraising events to assist with ongoing Fine Gael activity in Dublin Central. Fiona was co-opted to the Executive Council in January 2018.

She is also a member of the Fine Gael Vótáil 100 Committee, to celebrate the centenary of women's suffrage, and a board member of the Collins Institute, a policy think tank supported by Fine Gael but operating independently.

Originally from Kildare, Fiona lives in Stoneybatter and works in corporate public relations.

LEINSTER CANDIDATES



LEO BUTLER Carlow Kilkenny

Leo is an outgoing member of the National Executive having had the privilege of serving the people of Leinster. Throughout his time on the National Executive, he has served as the Chairman of the Affiliations Appeals Committee and most recently as a member of the Disciplinary Committee.

In his professional career he has served as Chairperson of the South-East Chamber of Commerce, where he co-authored the Chamber's development strategy document. He holds a BEng in Mechatronics and currently works as an automation engineering manager for an indigenous firm in South Kilkenny.

Leo has been active in Fine Gael for many years occupying roles both at branch and district level, while he currently holds the position of Vice Chair of the Carlow Kilkenny Constituency. He has been involved in assisting and managing first time candidates at Local, National and European Level.

Throughout his time on the National Executive Leo has worked to ensure that he represents Members by being their voice at National Executive level. This, he believes, to be of the utmost importance in the lifetime of the next National Executive as we face into a crucial time for our Party.

As we head into the next Local and European Elections as well as the possibility of a General Election Leo believes his record of representing members across Leinster along with his entrepreneurial experience will be an asset to the National Executive.



JOHN DELAMERE Longford/Westmeath

John Delamere is seeking to return to Executive Council, having previously served for 20 years up to 2016. During this time, he served as Chairperson for 5 years.

Additionally, he has chaired many sub-groups including Disciplinary, along with the Group that developed the proposal which gave a vote to the broader membership in the Leadership Elections.

At constituency level, John has served as Director of Elections in each of the last four General Elections in Longford / Westmeath. He also undertakes the role of Draw Co-ordinator for the Annual SuperDraw and is consistently among the top sellers nationally.

John believes that his vast experience of the party organisation throughout the country is needed at Executive Council level as we prepare for Local, European and possible General Elections over the next 6 months.

John is respectfully seeking your No. 1 vote, or highest preference.

LEINSTER CANDIDATES



LIZ DILLON Wicklow

Liz Dillon lives in Greystone's Co Wicklow with her husband Mark and four children. Liz works for Minister Andrew Doyle as a Parliamentary Assistant and is actively involved in Fine Gael on a local and national level.

She has served on a number of committees and roles within the constituency organisation including campaign manager for GE16 elections, member of Wicklow's strategy committee, secretary of the Greystones Branch, membership officer and member of Executive Council since 2016.

As a dedicated member of Fine Gael, Liz ran in the 2014 Local elections. An active member of her local community, Liz has served on many committees in the locality, including the Board of Management of Temple Carrig Secondary School and Chairperson of St Kevin's National School. Liz has also been actively involved in many local campaigns including Greystones No Fry Zone and the Tidy Towns.

With a huge passion for politics, Liz completed a Masters Degree in Political Communications in 2014. During this year Liz worked as an intern for Minister Simon Harris and completed her thesis on '*Gender Quotas in Politics*'.

Liz has enjoyed working with the members of Executive Council and would like to continue to contribute her voice and experience in the upcoming 2018 term. Liz Dillon would greatly appreciate your number 1 Vote.



DR. AHMAD JAMAL Meath East

Dr Ahmad Jamal is a consultant in Emergency Medicine in Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Drogheda and Our Lady's Hospital, Navan.

He has been actively involved in Fine Gael for more than twenty years. He has been canvassing for General and Local Elections and has been a successful campaign manager for Local Elections, both in 2009 and 2014.

Dr. Ahmad has a passion for scientific and targeted canvassing and plans to introduce canvassing training for campaign managers and teams for the party if given the opportunity.

He also feels he can help the party to counteract the scaremongering and disinformation spread by other parties regarding our health service. He believes that he can give his best to the party and asks for your support in his nomination.

LEINSTER CANDIDATES



ROBBIE McCABE Wexford

Robbie McCabe is an active member of Fine Gael being Chairperson of Gorey District, Assistant Secretary of the Wexford Constituency Executive and a member of the Wexford Constituency Elections Strategy Committee.

It was the 26th Dáil elections in 1989 when Robbie first canvassed for Fine Gael; the candidate was Monica Barnes and the constituency Dún Laoghaire. Robbie has had a long association with the party since then.

He lives just outside Gorey for the past 23 years and is married with one son. Robbie has worked in the education sector for the past 20 and seven years with FÁS in the South East and Dublin Regions. He spent 11 years as a co-ordinator of a Local Training Initiative with Waterford Institute of Technology Enterprise Support Unit. He is currently with Waterford and Wexford Education and Training Board (WWETB) employed as a Youthreach coordinator in Gorey Co. Wexford.

Robbie's main interests are education and youth affairs. He also sits on the Board of Management of two local schools and represents youth programmes on a QQI Steering Committee with WWETB.



EMIR SMITH Meath East

Emir is a strong local activist in East Meath. She has been a member of Laytown National School Board of Management for 16 years.

She previously served for 10 years as a Director of the National Ecology Centre in Co. Meath.

Emir is involved in a number of community projects, local, national and international. Before taking up her current employment she worked for the VEC for a number of years as a cookery demonstrator and ran her own very successful catering business.

Emir contested the Local Elections in Meath in 1999 and has held positions in Fine Gael at Branch, District and Constituency level. Emir was a central figure in three successful European Elections of 2004, 2009 and 2014. She has gained an in-depth knowledge of the workings of Fine Gael in the former Leinster and current Midlands North West Constituency in her current role as a Parliamentary Assistant.

MUNSTER CANDIDATES



DIARMUID ALLMAN Kerry

Diarmuid Allman is a lifelong member of the Ballymacelligott Branch in the Kerry Constituency. He works as a driver with Kerry County Council and is married to Carmel. They have one daughter, Mairead.

Diarmuid has been actively involved in Fine Gael since his early teens, having first held the position of Branch Secretary at the age of 16. Since then he has also served as Branch Treasurer and as Vice Chairman, a position he currently holds.

At District Level, he has served as Organiser for Castleisland and was Organiser for Councillor Pat McCarthy's campaign in the 2004 local elections.

At Constituency level, Diarmuid was a member of the Strategy Committee for Jimmy Deenihan in the 2007 General Election where Jimmy topped the poll in Kerry North.

He has always been passionate about Fine Gael and is proud of the way the party conducts itself - both in opposition in the past and currently in Government. Diarmuid is particularly proud of how the party has managed to turn the tide on the worst crisis to hit our economy in the history of the state and hopes we will continue to do into the future.

Given his experience at different levels within the party Diarmuid believe he has something to contribute towards the party organisation at National Executive Council level.

He would be extremely grateful for your support in this election.



COLM BREEN Limerick City

Colm believes the party has been the catalyst for the revival of our country over the last decade and that it is imperative that Fine Gael remains to the fore in Irish society. However, his view is that this cannot happen if we do not re-energise and strengthen our branches and listen to our members.

Having crossed Munster in the last few weeks Colm feels that we need act to ensure that there is a strong branch network to support our candidates and to supply the next generation of candidates.

If elected, he can help facilitate the renewal of our party. Not just as a new voice for Munster but also by listening to the members. As a constituency officer and Branch Chair Colm has learnt a lot, but it is his professional life that he has really seen how vital effective communication is.

Colm is the operations manager of a tech start-up and has developed and implemented procedures to grow a company while ensuring every voice is heard.

He believes his knowledge of communication, marketing and finance acquired on the job and as a graduate of Waterford Institute of Technology and University of Limerick have helped prepare him to be your representative.

Colm humbly requests your support in this election.

MUNSTER CANDIDATES



GERALDINE LANE-GREGAN Clare

Geraldine Lane-Gregan is a resident of Clarecastle, Co. Clare, currently serving as Equality Officer on the Clare Fine Gael Constituency Executive. Originally from Cork and having attended secondary school in Dungarvan, Co. Waterford, Geraldine believes that she has great life experience and close ties across Munster. Geraldine graduated from UCC with B.Sc (Dairy & Food Science) through which she began her career as a Food Scientist and Quality Control Manager.

A passionate advocate for Women in Politics - citing former Fine Gael TDs Nora Owen and Madeleine Taylor-Quinn as her early political inspirations - she is currently a member of the Fine Gael Vótáil 100 Committee. Her political experience includes serving as Chairperson and Secretary of Clare Fine Gael and Secretary of Ennis District Fine Gael.

Outside of politics Geraldine is an active member of Toastmasters International, an organisation in which she has served as Club President, Area Governor and District Governor. She also is a passionate supporter of Cork GAA – to the chagrin of her three Clare children! Geraldine believes that her professional and political experience gives her the leadership qualities needed to serve on Fine Gael's Executive Council.



CONOR LEHANE Cork North West

Conor Lehane (33) is a Fine Gael member in the constituency of Cork North West. Since joining the party in 2000, he has been an active member, serving in a number of branch and constituency officerships. Conor is a former Constituency Secretary in Cork North West and previously served on the constituency's General Election Strategy Committee. He is the current secretary of his own branch in Meelin.

Conor has been a member of the Executive Council of Fine Gael since January 2016. Since then Conor has listened to party members, attended constituency meetings and conveyed the views of the membership at meetings of Executive Council. If re-elected, Conor commits to continuing to be a strong advocate and an accessible, effective representative for our party members all across Munster.

Conor studied law at University College Cork before going on to study at the Honourable Society of Kings Inns in Dublin and qualified as a barrister in 2008. Conor works in the areas of civil and family law and primarily practices in Cork. Conor married his wife Lisa in September of this year.

MUNSTER CANDIDATES



LUCY McCORMACK Tipperary

Lucy was born and still resides in Drangan, Co Tipperary - a small rural village nestling in the foothills of the iconic Sliabh-na-mBan - and is from a strong Fine Gael farming background.

After completing secondary school she worked as a Civil Servant in various departments including the District Veterinary office in Kilkenny, before taking early retirement. This work experience gave Lucy a great insight into the workings of the various Departments and Government.

She is Chairperson of Tipperary Constituency Executive since 2017 and Secretary of her local branch, having previously served as Secretary and Chairperson of Carrick-on-Suir district. She was elected the first Secretary of the amalgamated North and South Tipperary Constituency in 2013.

Lucy was a member of the Task Force which was set up in 2016 after devastating election results where she played a very active role at all levels of this process from consultation and analysis to report and implementation phases. She was also a member of the Implementation Committee where the concept of holding hustings in the five districts was born to promote General Election candidates. This proved to be highly successful and energised our members. Lucy has always been very active in many General, Local and European election campaigns.

Given her work ethic "*hard work always pays*" and constituency experience, Lucy believes she has much to contribute to the party at National Executive level. She would very much appreciate your support in this election.

GENERAL ELECTION CANDIDATES

CARLOW KILKENNY



Pat Deering TD
John Paul Phelan TD

CORK SOUTH CENTRAL



Sen. Jerry Buttimer
Simon Coveney TD

DUBLIN FINGAL



Alan Farrell TD
Sen. James Reilly

DUBLIN WEST



Emer Currie
Leo Varadkar TD

CAVAN MONAGHAN



Heather Humphreys TD
Sen. Joe O'Reilly

CORK SOUTH WEST



Jim Daly TD
Sen. Tim Lombard

DUBLIN MID-WEST



Frances Fitzgerald TD
Cllr. Emer Higgins

DÚN LAOGHAIRE



Maria Bailey TD
Mary Mitchell O'Connor TD
Cllr Barry Ward

CLARE



Pat Breen TD
Joe Carey TD
Sen. Martin Conway

DONEGAL



Joe McHugh TD

DUBLIN NORTH WEST



Noel Rock TD

GALWAY EAST



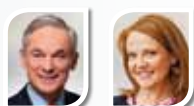
Ciaran Cannon TD
Cllr. Pete Roche

CORK EAST



Pa O'Driscoll
David Stanton TD

DUBLIN BAY NORTH



Richard Bruton TD
Sen. Catherine Noone

DUBLIN RATHDOWN



Josepha Madigan TD
Sen. Neale Richmond

GALWAY WEST



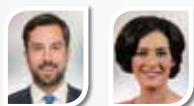
Seán Kyne TD
Hildegarde Naughton TD

CORK NORTH CENTRAL



Sen. Colm Burke
Julie O'Leary

DUBLIN BAY SOUTH



Eoghan Murphy TD
Kate O'Connell TD

DUBLIN SOUTH CENTRAL



Catherine Byrne TD

KERRY



Brendan Griffin TD

CORK NORTH WEST



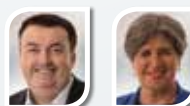
Michael Creed TD
Cllr. John Paul O'Shea

DUBLIN CENTRAL



Paschal Donohoe TD
Deirdre Duffy

DUBLIN SOUTH WEST



Colm Brophy TD
Ellen O'Malley Dunlop

KILDARE NORTH



Bernard Durkan TD
Sen. Anthony Lawlor

KILDARE SOUTH



Martin Heydon TD

MAYO



Alan Dillon
Sen. Michelle Mulherin
Michael Ring TD

WEXFORD



Michael D'Arcy TD
Paul Kehoe TD

LAOIS/OFFALY



Cllr. John Clendennen
Marcella Corcoran Kennedy TD
Charlie Flanagan TD

MEATH EAST



Regina Doherty TD
Helen McEntee TD

WICKLOW



Andrew Doyle TD
Simon Harris TD
Billy Timmins

LIMERICK



Tom Neville TD
Patrick O'Donovan TD

MEATH WEST



Sen. Ray Butler
Damien English TD
Cllr. Sarah Reilly

LIMERICK CITY



Sen. Maria Byrne
Sen. Kieran O'Donnell

SLIGO LEITRIM



Cllr. Sinead Maguire
Gerry Reynolds

LONGFORD WESTMEATH



Peter Burke TD
Cllr. Micheál Carrigy
Sen. Gabrielle McFadden

TIPPERARY



Garret Ahearn
Mary Newman Julian

LOUTH



Cllr. John McGahon
Fergus O'Dowd TD

WATERFORD



Sen. Paudie Coffey

ACCOUNTS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

(Extracted from Fine Gael's 2017 Audited Financial Statements which follow the format included in the "Annual Statements of Accounts Guidelines for Political Parties" published by the Standards in Public Office Commission)

Income	2017	2016
	€	€
State funding	4,659,455	5,086,657
Membership and subscriptions	467,994	405,105
Donations	4,101	13,249
Donations in kind (including notional donations)	2,375	2,052
Fundraising income	1,063,303	947,022
Other amounts remitted by branches	1,454	-
Miscellaneous income	420	-
Total income	<u>6,199,102</u>	<u>6,454,085</u>
Expenditure		
Staff costs	1,488,197	2,732,867
Administration	818,681	1,082,624
Premises costs	100,279	119,308
National Draw Rebates	312,032	235,358
Application of donations in kind and notional donations	2,375	2,052
Other Fundraising Expenses	198,197	173,489
Financing charges	92,764	78,754
Campaign and election costs	(9,552)	1,468,849
Depreciation	132,892	141,480
Miscellaneous expenses	429,668	285,245
Administrative supports provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas	<u>1,031,910</u>	<u>1,398,000</u>
Total expenditure	<u>4,597,443</u>	<u>7,718,026</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year before taxation	1,601,659	(1,263,941)
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year after taxation	<u>1,601,659</u>	<u>(1,263,941)</u>

ACCOUNTS

INCOME

State funding

	2017	2016
	€	€
<i>State funding comprises:</i>		
Parliamentary activities allowance	1,964,155	1,931,641
Electoral Act	1,663,390	1,757,016
Administrative supports provided by the Houses of the Oireachtas	<u>1,031,910</u>	<u>1,398,000</u>
	<u>4,659,455</u>	<u>5,086,657</u>

EXPENDITURE

Staff costs

	2017	2016
	€	€
<i>Staff costs comprise:</i>		
Salaries and wages	1,265,519	2,362,265
Employers PRSI	132,964	217,883
Pension costs	84,878	105,616
Staff training and development	<u>4,836</u>	<u>47,103</u>
	<u>1,488,197</u>	<u>2,732,867</u>

The average number of staff employed by the Party during the financial year amounted to:

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Headquarters	21	28
Press and research	<u>5</u>	<u>9</u>
Year-end staff numbers	<u>30</u>	<u>21</u>

Administration

	2017	2016
	€	€
<i>Administration comprises:</i>		
Constituency expenses	53,094	171,097
Research	94,926	2,938
Consultancy fees	114,646	228,514
Legal and professional fees	62,844	45,126
Print office	54,592	77,843
IT services	52,626	48,618
Press office and publicity	37,754	53,650
Telephone	29,995	57,373
Auditor's remuneration – other services	-	28,638
Auditor's remuneration and expenses	30,381	27,020
Repairs, maintenance, cleaning and security	33,478	38,150
Staff travel	11,308	24,581
Subscriptions	19,458	19,305
Ard Fheis / National Conference	112,357	155,381
Other administrative expenses	118,088	104,390
Surplus on disposal of asset	<u>(6,866)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>818,681</u>	<u>1,082,624</u>

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 1	IRELAND AT THE HEART OF EUROPE AND AT THE CENTRE OF THE WORLD	MAIN HALL Fri 8:00pm
Motion	Unit	
1.1	That this Árd Fheis recognises the work done by Government to ensure there will be no hard border on the island of Ireland following the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
1.2	That this Árd Fheis values Ireland's position at the heart of Europe and asks the Government to ensure that following the United Kingdom's exit from the European Union that it takes a leading role in ensuring there is greater engagement between the remaining 27 Member States.	Sligo - Strandhill District Executive, Sligo-Leitrim
1.3	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael to ensure that there are sufficient plans in place to minimise the impact of Brexit on the Irish agricultural sector and ensure that market diversification remains a key component of the Government response to the challenges posed by the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
1.4	That this Árd Fheis notes that the principal of subsidiarity is fundamental to the European Union and Fine Gael should adopt and apply it as a fundamental party policy.	Dublin Rathdown Constituency Executive
1.5	That this Ard-Fheis reaffirms Fine Gael's core values of equality, opportunity, enterprise & reward, security, integrity & hope and calls on Fine Gael representatives to stand up for these values and democratic principles within the European People's Party (EPP).	Knocklyon Branch – Dublin South West
		<i>Related motion received from:</i> Brussels Branch, Dublin Rathdown Constituency Executive
1.6	That this Árd Fheis endorses the increase in Overseas Development Aid (ODA) by €110m to over €800m in 2019 and to the achievement of the target of 0.7% of GNI by 2030. Fine Gael calls for the top priority in ODA spending to be placed on supporting educational programmes, in particular the education of young girls, as the best way of helping people out of poverty.	Navan Branch, Meath West
1.7	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael to support a referendum to give all Irish citizens the right to vote in future Presidential elections to strengthen our links with citizens living outside of the State.	Pearse Morris Branch, Dublin Rathdown
1.8	That this Árd Fheis calls on Government to explore ways to strengthen the Transatlantic Relationship, which is in under threat due to the current policies of the US Administration.	Mount Bolus Branch, Laois Offaly

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 2	CONSTITUTION AND RULES	MAIN HALL Sat 9:30am
2.1	<p>Amendment 1 : Notice of meetings</p> <p>That Rule 60 be amended by inserting '(including electronic correspondence)' after the word 'notice' such that it reads as follows:</p> <p>"Subject to any provision herein before in these rules contained, at least four days written notice (including electronic correspondence) of meetings of any Unit or Organ of the Party shall be given to members and in the case of</p>	Tipperary Constituency Executive
2.2	<p>Amendment 2 : Representation on Executive Council</p> <p>That Rule 39 (b) (paragraph six) be amended to read as follows:</p> <p>'three members elected by the Council of Local Representatives, one of whom shall be the Chairperson of the Council of Local Representatives, ex officio, and two of whom shall be elected by and from its membership at the Árd Fheis'</p>	Council of Local Representatives' Executive
2.3	<p>Amendment 3 : Election of members of Executive Council</p> <p>That Rule 54 (d) (vi) be amended to read as follows:</p> <p>'Election of three members to the Executive Council, one of whom shall be the Chairperson of the Council of Local Representatives, ex officio, and two to be elected by the Council of Local Representatives, by and from its membership at the Árd Fheis'</p>	Council of Local Representatives' Executive
2.4	<p>Amendment 4 : Definition of Council of Local Representatives</p> <p>To amend Rule 56 (a) to read as follows:</p> <p>There shall be established a Council of Local Representatives of the Party of which members of City and County Councils, any other Local Authorities as may be established, and Údarás Na Gaeltachta taking the Party Whip shall be members.</p>	Council of Local Representatives' Executive

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 3 MAKING LIFE EASIER FOR FAMILIES		MAIN HALL Sat 10:00am
	Motion	Unit
3.1	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> recognises the accomplishment of abolishing the Eight Amendment and that the passing of that referendum has improved women's healthcare. This <i>Árd Fheis</i> now calls on Fine Gael in government to implement a comprehensive strategy on women's healthcare informed by expert advice within 12 months.	Rathfarnham Branch, Dublin South West
3.2	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> is deeply concerned about the negative impact that excessive social media consumption is having on many children, endorses the recently published Action Plan for Online Safety and calls for the introduction of a Digital Safety Commissioner with real teeth.	Hugh Coveney Nohoval Branch, Cork South West
3.3	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael to ensure that the current system of social welfare provision be reformed to become a way back to employment so that those in jobless households may be integrated back into the workforce.	Ratoath District Executive, Meath East
3.4	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael to give parents more flexibility, choice and practical support when it comes to balancing work and home demands, including a full, integrated review of both taxation and labour market activation policies.	Laurel Lodge Branch, Dublin West
3.5	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> welcomes and commits to equal opportunity for everyone and calls on Fine Gael to secure a basic floor of protection for social essentials to ensure no one is left behind, and takes steps to fully implement international human rights laws and standards.	Cabra Branch, Dublin Central
3.6	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael to continue to resource and enhance the <i>Abhaile</i> service which provides much needed assistance and supports to distressed mortgage holders.	Rathangan Allen Branch, Kildare South
3.7	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael to place a focus on reducing medical costs faced by people through further expansion of free GP care to more people, the reduction of hospital charges, reduction of prescription charges and the lowering of the Drugs Payment Scheme thresholds.	Abbey-knockmoy Branch, Galway East
3.8	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael to continue to place a priority on reducing back to school costs faced by parents.	Westport Branch, Mayo
3.9	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> recognises the pressure that students and parents are under due to increasing student rents, endorse the National Student Accommodation Strategy and call for rent caps to be brought in for student accommodation.	Inniscarragh Clogheen Branch, Cork North Central
3.10	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael in Government to provide further funding to the Department of Children and Youth Affairs to be spend in the area of youth services.	Ballymore Eustace Branch, Kildare South

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 4	BUILDING FOR THE FUTURE	MAIN HALL Sat 11:15am
	Motion	Unit
4.1	That this Árd Fheis recognises progress in the building of key health infrastructure by Fine Gael in government such as primary care centres and the national children's hospital. That this Árd Fheis notes our aging population and increasing demand for healthcare calls on Fine Gael to implement plans to increase healthcare capacity.	Glantane Branch, Cork North West
4.2	That Fine Gael affirms its commitment to home ownership, believes that it should be in the reach of citizens, and that this must be reflected in public policy.	Schull Branch Cork South West
4.3	That this Árd Fheis endorses the establishment of the Land Development Agency and urges Government to ensure that it has the money, land and legislative backing so that it is able to build 10,000 new homes on state owned land as quickly as possible, and to deliver its long-term ambition of delivering 150,000 new homes over the next 20 years.	Cabra Branch, Dublin Central
4.4	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Government to ensure that the rental market in Ireland is well-regulated in line with European best practice, that tenants and landlords have clarity as to their rights and obligations and the Residential Tenancies Board has the legislation and resources to protect tenants.	Ballinalee Branch, Longford Westmeath
4.5	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael to outline a roadmap stating how and by when the Government will reduce the personal taxation burden.	Garret FitzGerald Sandymount Branch, Dublin Bay South
4.6	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael in Government to introduce a middle band for income tax.	Young Fine Gael, Dublin Bay North
4.7	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael in Government to ensure that businesses and workers are supported to deal with the inevitable challenges arising from Brexit, especially those in exposed sectors of the economy.	Cosgrave-Lynch Strandhill Branch, Sligo Leitrim
4.8	That this Árd Fheis believes that ongoing changes in technology, as well as the need to significantly reduce our use of fossil fuels, will radically change the way the global economy works over the next decade.	Tullow Branch, Carlow Kilkenny

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 5	A NEW APPROACH TO JUSTICE AND SECURITY	AVOCA SUITE Sat 1:00pm
Motion	Unit	
5.1	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls for greater Garda visibility in communities to deter criminals and promote community confidence and further calls for measures to promote cooperation between local Gardai and communities.	Cashel Branch, Tipperary
5.2	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on the Minister for Justice and Equality to ensure that victims are not subjected to further trauma in the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault crimes; and calls on the Government to ensure that victims of sexual assault feel confident in reporting such crimes and that crime data is collected in a comprehensive manner.	Emo/ Ballybrittas/ Vicarstown Branch, Laois Offaly
5.3	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> recognises the harmful effects of drug addiction, the increasing use of drugs amongst Irish people and the consequences of criminalising individuals and calls on Fine Gael to prioritise the treatment of these issues as a medical issue rather than a criminal problem.	Dublin South Central Young Fine Gael, Dublin South Central <i>Related motion received from:</i> Dublin Bay North YFG, YFG National Executive
5.4	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> is deeply concerned about the ease of gambling due to modern technology and the pervasiveness of gambling advertising. We call on Fine Gael in government to introduce legislation to end the practice of advertising of in game betting during sporting fixture, either online or on television.	BallyMacElligott Branch, Kerry
5.5	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> calls on Fine Gael in Government to review current legislation and ensure the State does not tolerate hate crime.	Fine Gael Intercultural <i>Related motion received from:</i> Dublin Fingal Constituency Executive, Fine Gael LGBT
5.6	Fine Gael resolves to critically appraise the current model of Direct Provision to ensure that the system is humane and fair and conforms to best practice in the European Union.	Dublin Fingal Young Fine Gael
5.7	That this <i>Árd Fheis</i> , recognising the value of diversity and the fact that immigrants enrich our communities, calls on the Government to ensure migrant communities are supported and empowered in order to enable them to fully engage in Irish society.	Fine Gael Intercultural <i>Related motion received from:</i> Dublin Fingal Constituency Executive

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

5.8	That this Árd Fheis reaffirms our commitment to UN peacekeeping missions and in seeking to build on Ireland's unbroken 60 year contribution to UN peacekeeping believes that we should continue to be a key interlocutor between the EU and UN in the development of the EU/UN Strategic Partnership.	Laois Young Fine Gael
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5.9	That this Árd Fheis recognises the vital role played by both An Garda Síochána and the Permanent Defence Forces in protecting our citizens and securing the State and calls on the Minister for Justice and Equality and the Minister with Responsibility for Defence to ensure partnerships and strategic connections continue to be actively pursued.	Bartlemy/Rathcormac Branch, Cork East
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Session 6	NORTHERN IRELAND – BUILDING STRONGER RELATIONSHIPS	AVOCA SUITE Sat 2:30pm
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	Motion	Unit
6.1	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael to ensure that the protection of the Good Friday Agreement is included as part of the Withdrawal Agreement in the Brexit negotiations.	Togher Glasheen Branch, Cork South Central
6.2	That this Árd Fheis recognises the work done by Government to ensure there will be no hard border on the island of Ireland following the departure of the United Kingdom from the European Union.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
6.3	That this Árd Fheis notes the continuing lack of representation for the people of Northern Ireland and urges both the Irish and British Government to come together to restore the devolved institutions.	Ballyconnell Branch, Cavan Monaghan
6.4	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Government to uphold the rights and interests of all Irish citizens on the island of Ireland, North and South, in the context of the Brexit negotiations.	Greystones Branch, Wicklow
6.5	That this Árd Fheis deeply regrets the exit of the United Kingdom from the European Union and calls on the Government to maintain and strengthen high level Ireland-UK relations in the years ahead through existing or new political structures.	Dalkey Glashule Branch, Dun Laoghaire
6.6	That this Árd Fheis notes the need to maintain and promote cross border links and cross border community initiatives in the context of Brexit.	Fivemilebourne Branch, Sligo-Leitrim
6.7	That this Árd Fheis calls on Government to improve connectivity across the island and fast-track the development of key North-South infrastructural projects such as the N2/A5 upgrade.	Castleblaney Branch, Cavan Monaghan

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 7

AGEING WITH OPPORTUNITY, DIGNITY AND SECURITY

**SYCAMORE SUITE
Sat 1:00pm**

Motion

Unit

7.1	That this Árd Fheis is extremely concerned that the vast majority of workers are not making provision for their pensions and call on Fine Gael to prioritise the introduction of auto-enrollment as soon as possible.	Tom Hyde Branch, Cork East
7.2	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Government to make it illegal for an employer to require a person to retire before the State retirement age, unless there are clear objective grounds to require such.	Kells Branch, Meath West
7.3	That this Árd Fheis encourages the Government to examine ways to facilitate older people to work past the retirement age if they so wish.	Dublin West Constituency Executive, Dublin West
7.4	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Government to consider initiatives that would encourage the construction of age-friendly accommodation in our villages, towns and cities so that people can downsize to more suitable accommodation when they are older but remain within their community.	Glenmore Branch, Wicklow
7.5	That this Árd Fheis opposes any change to the Free Travel Pass.	Clonmel Branch, Tipperary
7.6	That this Árd Fheis calls for greater Garda visibility to deter criminals and promote community confidence and further calls for measures to promote cooperation between local Gardai and communities.	Quin Branch, Clare

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 8

EMPOWERING MEMBERS

SYCAMORE
SUITE
Sat 2:30pm

8.1

Amendment 1. Special Delegate Conference

That a new part XI Rule 54 be included

Part XI

54

(a) Definitions:

"Partnership" shall mean an arrangement whereby Fine Gael is enabled to enter into Government supported by a Party, grouping, or individual/s from the opposition.

"Coalition" shall mean a Government enabled by the coming together of one or more parties to form a Government.

- (i) Following a General Election where Fine Gael are entering into a partnership and or coalition Government a Special Delegate Conference will be held.
- (ii) The Special Delegate Conference shall be held to approve the Programme for Government
- (iii) The Executive Council shall fix the date, time and venue for the Special Delegate Conference
- (iv) The meeting and its agenda shall be conducted by Executive Council
- (v) Executive Council shall appoint a returning officer who will oversee the process and will draw up whatever procedures are deemed necessary to ensure the proper conduct of the ballot. The returning officer shall submit the result of the ballot to the General Secretary.

(b) The following shall be entitled to attend and vote at the Special Delegate Conference

- (i) Members of Parliamentary Party
- (ii) 10 members from each Constituency including the Constituency Chairperson, Constituency Secretary, Constituency Organiser, Membership Officer & Youth Officer where available
- (iii) Members of the Council of Local Public Representatives
- (iv) Members of Executive Council

(c) The approval of the Programme for Government shall be carried out on the basis of an Electoral College system of voting with the votes of each elector weighted as follows;

- (i) The votes of the Fine Gael Parliamentary to comprise 50% of the total valid poll
- (ii) The votes of Constituency electors to comprise 25% of the total poll
- (iii) The votes of the Fine Gael Council of Local Public Representatives to comprise 15% of the total poll
- (iv) The votes of the Executive Council to comprise 10% of the total valid poll

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

8.2 Amendment 2. Enumeration of rules. As a consequence of alteration or variations to rules the following Rule 65 be included.

65

Where any incongruity in enumeration is evident as a consequence of alterations or variations made to these Constitution and Rules then any such enumeration, being out of sync, shall be interpreted having regard to the change in numeric sequencing made and the cumulative consequence to the pre existing enumeration.

Session 9

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSIVITY IN A CHANGING IRELAND

**OAK SUITE
Sat 1:00pm**

Motion

Unit

9.1	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael in Government to restate its commitment to hold a referendum on reducing the voting age to 16.	Young Fine Gael, Dublin Bay North
9.2	That this Árd Fheis calls for a referendum to remove divorce from the Constitution so that the law can be determined by the Oireachtas.	Laytown/Donacorney Branch, Louth
9.3	That this Árd Fheis calls for the simple deletion of the misogynist language of the Women in the Home clause in the Constitution.	Brian Jacob/Bernard McCormack Branch, Dublin Mid West
9.4	That this Árd Fheis endorses the Taoiseach's intention to build a new relationship between church and state in Ireland - a new covenant for the 21st Century.	Deansgrange Branch, Dun Laoghaire
9.5	That this Árd Fheis supports the rapid development of a pluralist primary education system that guarantees and maximises parental choice.	Nenagh Branch
9.6	That this Árd Fheis recognises the work which has been done to make Ireland a more open, inclusive nation and calls on Fine Gael in Government to redouble its efforts to ensure Ireland remains an island at the centre of the world.	Cork North West Young Fine Gael

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

Session 10

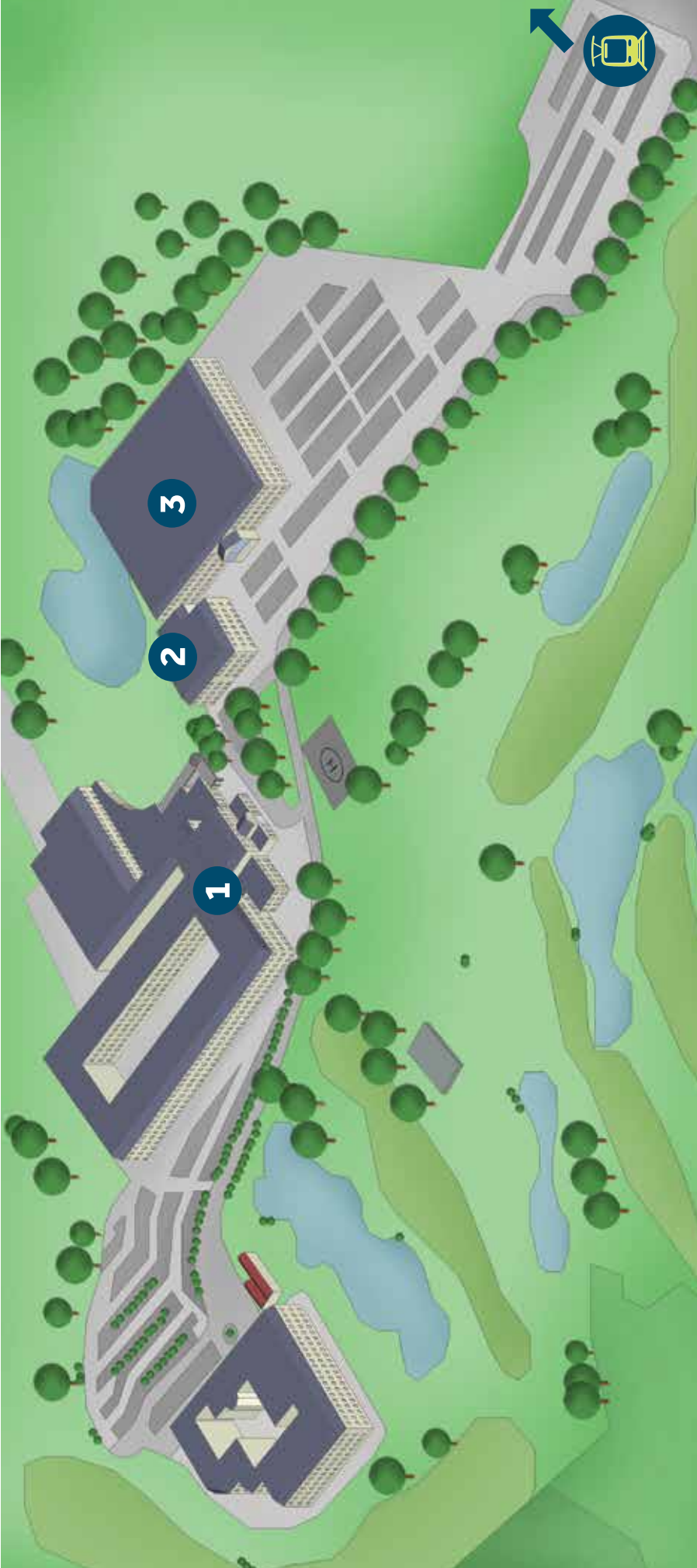
A VIBRANT FUTURE FOR RURAL IRELAND

OAK SUITE
Sat 2:30pm

	Motion	Unit
10.1	This Árd Fheis recognises the importance of continued job creation throughout every county of Ireland and calls on Fine Gael to ensure that jobs and investment continue to be delivered in order to deliver a vibrant future for rural Ireland.	Sligo - Strandhill District Executive, Sligo Leitrim
10.2	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Minister for Communication, Climate Action and the Environment to expedite the National Broadband Plan.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
10.3	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael in Government to put more supports in place to provide transport in rural areas.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
10.4	This Árd Fheis calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to consider reactivating the Early Retirement Scheme for older farmers over 65 as this will lead to increased generational renewal across rural Ireland and will improve local economies and the sustainability of local communities.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West
10.5	Go dtacaíonn an Árd Fheis seo leis an rún go mba cheart go mbeadh gach saoránach in ann a vóta a chaitheamh ar an lá céanna, muintir na nOileán san áireamh. <i>That this Árd Fheis supports same day voting for Ireland's offshore islands.</i>	Menlo Tirrellan, Galway West
10.6	Fine Gael call on the Government to ensure that funding is provided to rural communities for infrastructure and services to facilitate further housing developments.	Ballymore Eustace Branch, Kildare South
10.7	That this Árd Fheis recognize the urgent crisis in rural general practice and gives an immediate commitment to put in place the resources and finance to ensure a fully trained and GMS contracted GP for the rural community.	Sligo-Leitrim Constituency Executive

MOTIONS FOR DEBATE

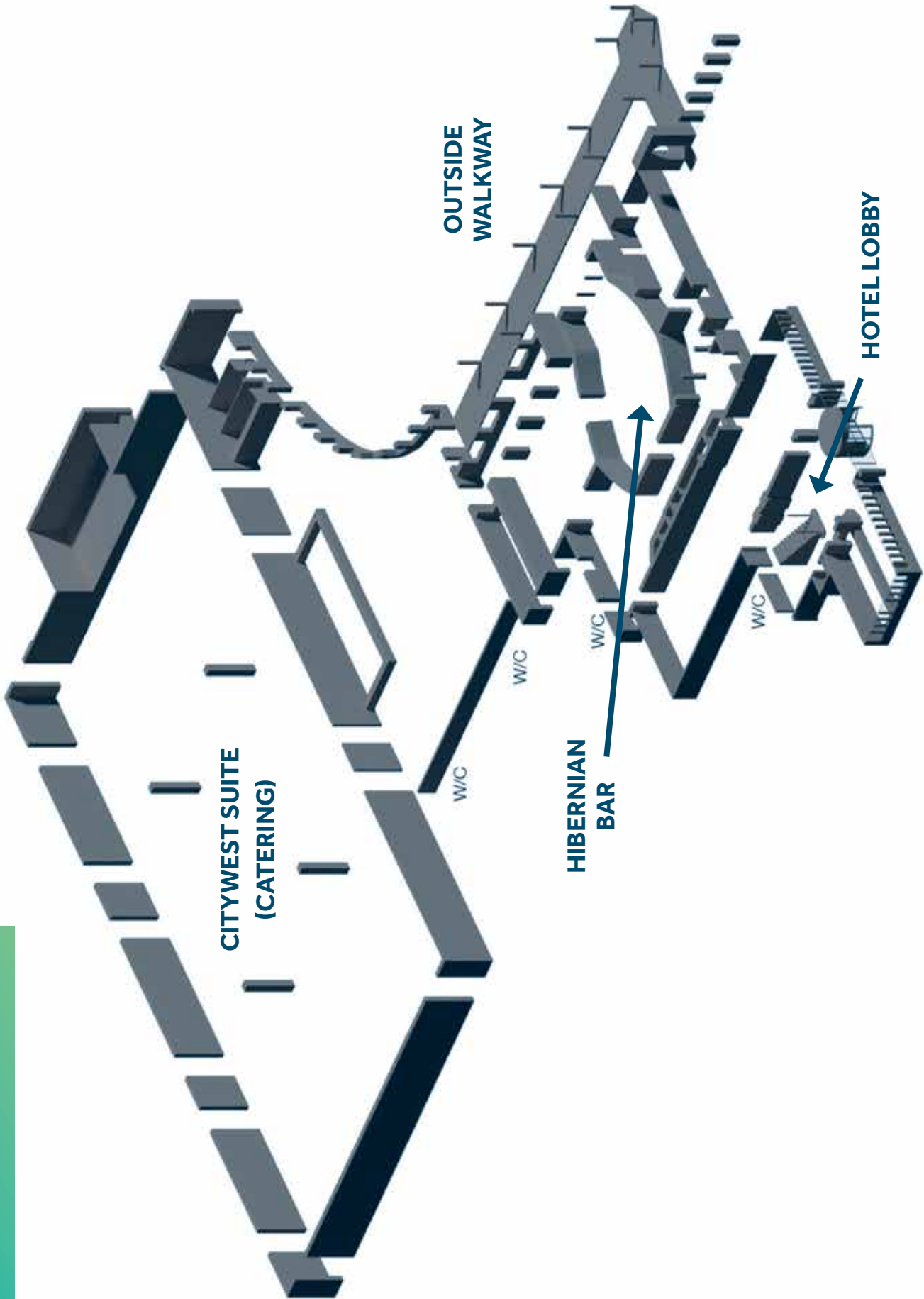
10.8	That this Árd Fheis calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to increase supports for organic farming initiatives.	Waterford Constituency Executive
10.9	That this Árd Fheis proposes the introduction of a scheme to encourage farmers to plant boundaries with native Irish trees.	Newtownmanor Branch, Sligo Leitrim
10.10	That this Árd Fheis support an increased Areas of Natural Constraints payment of €100 for the first 20 hectares for counties with high levels of afforestation.	Newtownmanor Branch, Sligo Leitrim
Session 11	IRELAND AS A LEADER IN RESPONDING TO CLIMATE CHANGE	NEWCASTLE SUITE Sat 1:00pm
	Motion	Unit
11.1	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael in Government to work with European institutions to implement a ban and restrictions on single use plastics.	Barrenbridge Branch, Galway West
11.2	That this Árd Fheis proposes we commit to meeting our climate targets and support small businesses in that transition, given the threats that climate change has posed to rural communities, as demonstrated by the impact of Storms Emma and Ophelia.	St Olan's Branch, Cork North West <i>Related motion received from:</i> Dublin Bay North - Young Fine Gael, Ashbourne Branch - Meath East
11.3	That this Árd Fheis calls on Fine Gael to support the World Wildlife Fund in putting together a "global deal" to protect wildlife population, similar to what the Paris Agreement does for climate change.	Laurel Lodge Branch, Dublin West
11.4	That the Árd Fheis calls on the special Oireachtas Committee on climate change to set a long-term carbon price for 2030 and a roadmap to that, so as to encourage behavioural change away from carbon intensive activity over the next decade.	Skerries Branch, Dublin Fingal
11.5	That this Árd Fheis believes local authorities should be given the powers to limit or ban high emission cars and other vehicles from city centres, as has been done in Hamburg and London.	Cabra Branch, Dublin Central

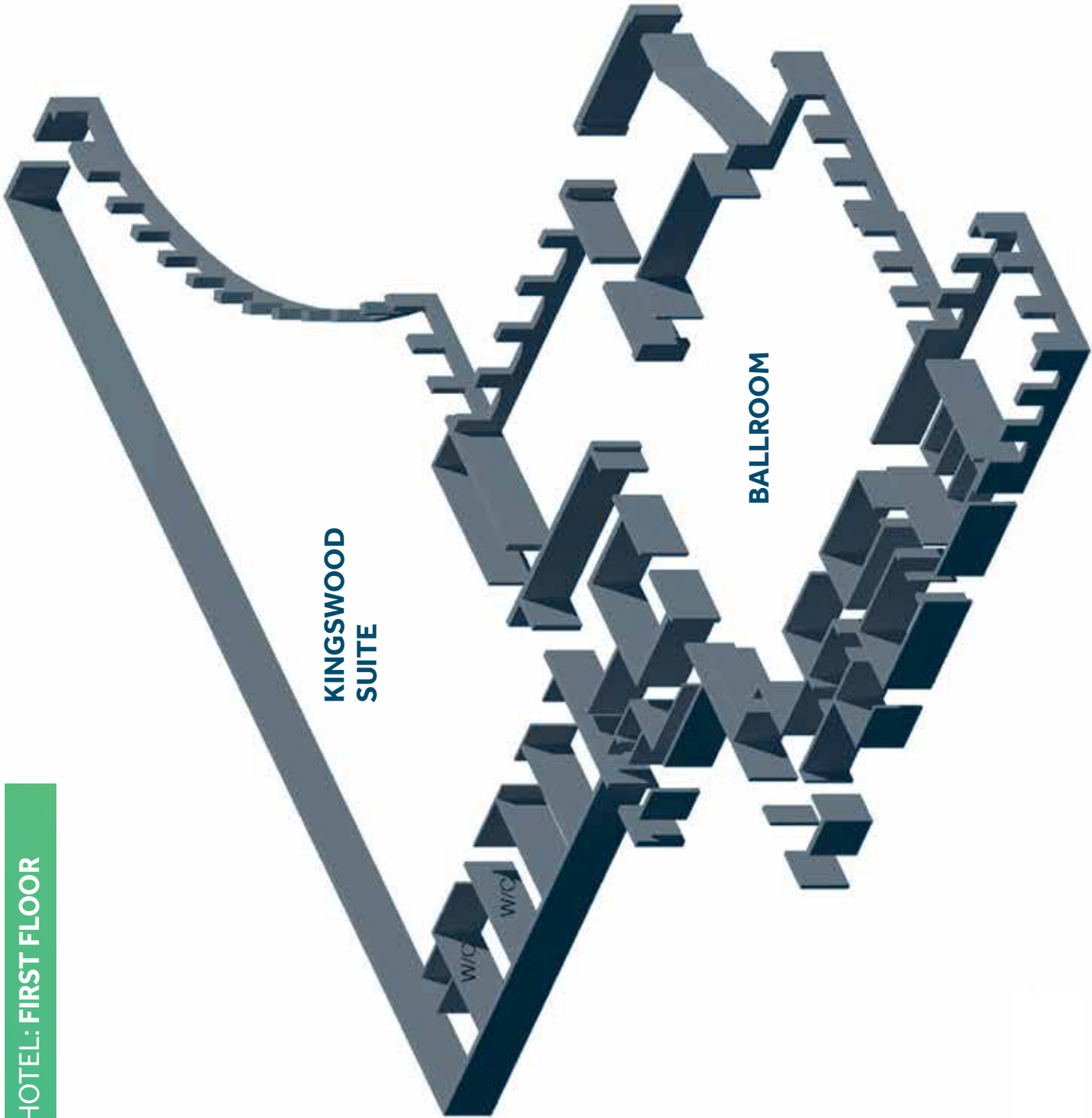


CITYWEST HOTEL: SITE MAP

- 1** Citywest Hotel
- 2** Citywest Leisure Centre
- 3** Citywest Convention Centre
-  LUAS

CITYWEST HOTEL: GROUND FLOOR





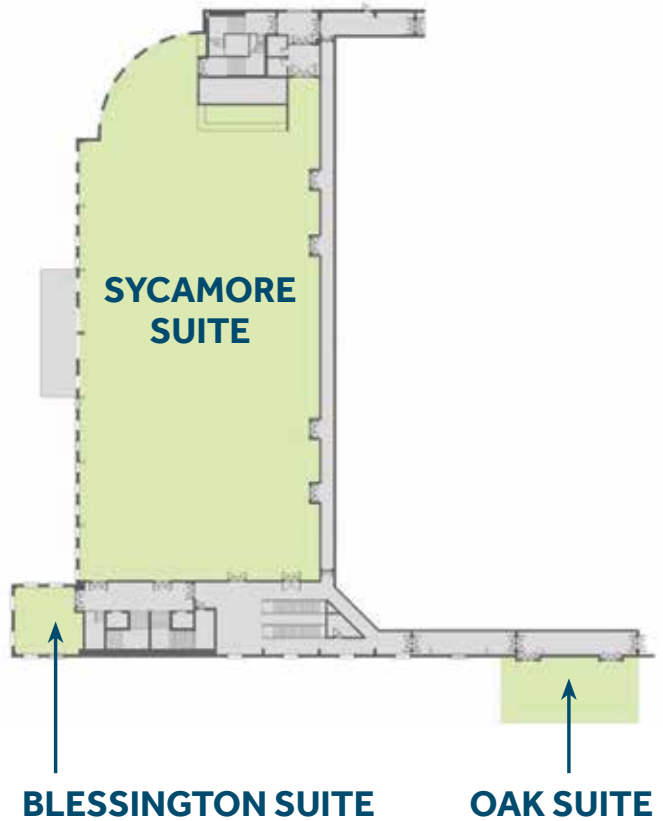
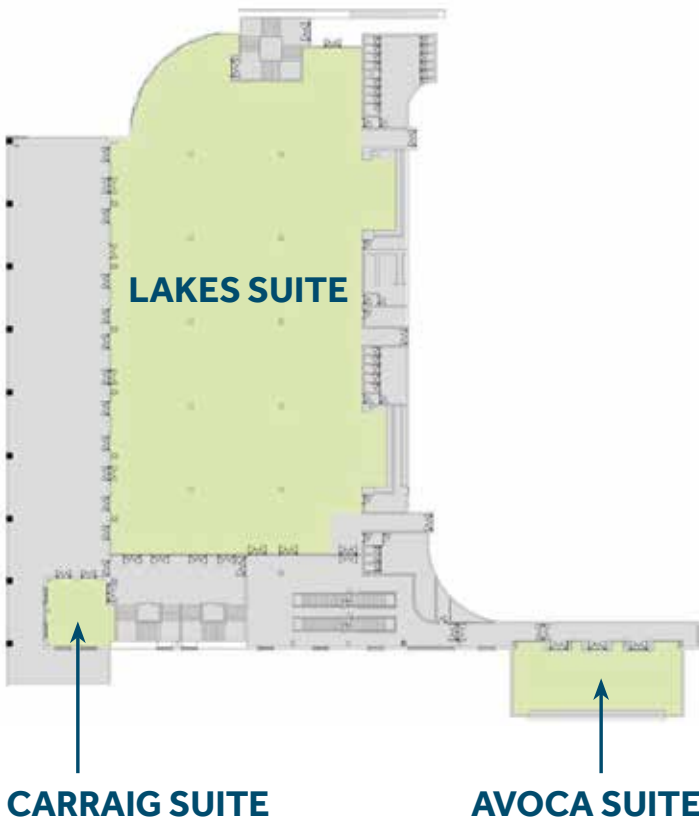
CONVENTION CENTRE: FLOOR PLANS

GROUND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR





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