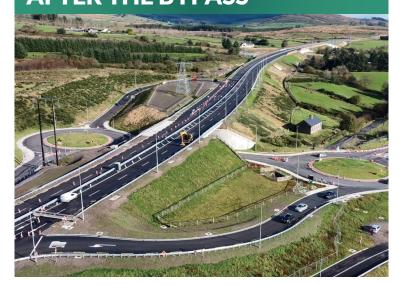


EMBRACING OPPORTUNITIES AFTER THE BYPASS



With the opening of the Macroom Bypass, a vibrant future beckons for the town and its surroundings.

This transformative development offers a unique chance for growth and rejuvenation. To seize this opportunity, Macroom must carve out a niche and promote itself as a desirable place to live and visit.

Our region boasts rich tourism potential, from the scenic Lee Valley and the Gearagh to cultural tourism in the Gaeltacht. Local food and historic trails further enhance its appeal. Recent funding of €1.3 million, part of over €7 million in total, will fuel regeneration efforts around key sites in the town like the old Church of Ireland, O'Riadas carpark, and the Square.

The reopening of the renovated Briery Gap theatre this September will enrich the cultural scene. Addressing parking, cycling and pedestrian safety will be crucial to support this revitalization. Tá deis ann chomhmaith chun an baile a fhorbairt mar baile seirbhís do phobal na Gaeltachta. Macroom stands at a pivotal moment.

By strategically promoting our unique offerings and improving infrastructure, we can secure a prosporus and vibrant future.

Other Items I have been working can be viewed on my youtube. Below is a sample of some of these key issues.

- Veoza availability on DPS
- Farmer wellbeing
- Free Travel pass for people with epilepsy
- Day services for older people
- Cost of living
- Garda numbers
- Broadband
- Gaolinn a chuir chun cinn
- Childcare



Scan Anseo

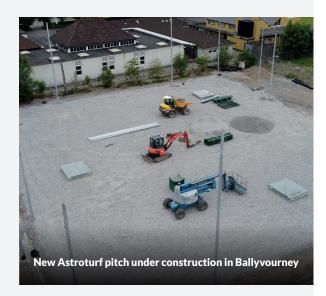
MEADOWLANDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING



The approval of a new Affordable Housing Scheme in Macrooms Masseytown is good news to people looking to buy a home locally. The new scheme in the Meadowlands development comprises 15 homes and is a mix of two and three bedroom terraced and semi-detached. The two-bed, mid-terraced houses are discounted 25% to €220,000.

The three-bed houses are priced €274,000 for a semi D and €283,000 for an end of terrace, representing a €75,000 discount on the open market values.

I was delighted to secure funding for these homes from Housing Minister Darragh O'Brien this summer and with construction at an advanced stage these homes should be completed by early 2025. The Council will in the meantime be advertising for applications via an online portal and its hugely important for applicants to be gathering the necessary documents in advance. Further details from my local office.



Improving amenities

Local community and sports groups do huge work on a developing amenities and sporting areas around us. They do this on a voluntary basis and for the benefit of their members and the wider community.

I'm pleased to have worked with many groups and clubs in accessing Government funding towards many of these local amenities including

- €289k towards Astroturf Baile Mhic Íre
- CLG Cill na Martra €116k chun an clós a fhorbairt don Comortas Peil na Gaeltachta
- West Muskerry Athletic Club: Four-lane 120m sprint track: €50,027
- Kilmurry Active Retirement Group €3,000
- Impact Volleyball €1,120 towards youth development project
- Sullane FC €12,350 towards new pitch mower
- Naomh Fionbarra LGFA €5,000 for training equipment & storage
- Kilmichael Rovers FC €26,456 towards sports equipment
- Aghinagh GAA €45,600 for replacing equipment and tractor/mower
- Carriganimma National School €42,300 towards astroturf
- Castletown Kenneigh Community Association €114k towards dressing rooms & toilets
- Laochra Óg Hurling & Camogie €135k towards new pitch development
- Úibh Laoire GAA €18,000 towards community walk
- Agus go leor eile



Great news for Macroom as the new Garda Station moves a step closer to reality with approval to proceed to tender for construction. Contractors will now submit their prices, and a builder will be selected. I have persistently raised the need for this new station with the Justice Minister and the Office of Public Works to push this project forward. The new facility near Millstreet Cross, adjacent to the new Macroom fire station, will be more accessible for locals and provide a better working environment for Gardai. It will also serve as the Cork HQ, bringing additional Gardai and services to the area. A significant milestone has been reached, with more work ahead to complete the tendering and construction. Céim mór agus dul chun cinn maith!



Tá moiniú suntasach €3.27 ceadaithe chun Coláiste Íosagan Baile Mhuirne á thabhairt chun cinn. Leis an tairgead seo beidh an t-Údarás abalta tiosnú ag athchóiriú agus Gteic agus oifig a oscailt sa sean fhoirgneamh. Beidh Údarás na Gaeltachta ag cuir moiniú dá chuid féin leis agus tá sé in aigine an obair a thosnú sa Fomhar. Le fada an lá táim sa tóir ar na húdaráis eagsula chun an Coláiste a athfhorbairt agus ar deireadh tá an lá ag druidim linn, go bfheicimid an solas ag lassadh agus beocht sa sean fhoirgneamh arís. Cuirfidh sé seo go mór leis an gceantair Gaeltachta agus beidh deiseanna fostaíochta, deiseanna in sna heallíon, coltúir agus go leor leor eile ann amach anseo.

Tá plean céimithe chun an ait a fhorbairt agus tá cuid des na reamhoibirithe déanta cheanna féin. Tá phás 1 dírithe ar lár an fhoirgneamh agus ar chúl. Tá bainistéoir fostaithe chun an togradh a chur i gcríoch agus chun na phásanna eile a thabhairt chun cinn chomh maith.

UPDATED INFORMATION ON HOME OWNERSHIP Scan Anseo

The Croí Conaithe Vacant and Derelict Property Grant

Regenerating and rejuvenating our cities, towns and villages is key to thriving communities. The Croí Conaithe Vacant and Derelict Property Grant is a direct State support for homebuyers and homeowners to refurbish a vacant or derelict property and turn it into a home. Grants of \leqslant 50,000, or \leqslant 70,000 if the property is derelict, are available from local authorities across the country.

Renters Tax Credit

The Renters Tax Credit is worth €750 to every eligible renter and it can be claimed simply online on the Revenue website. We are committed to helping renters and have also legislated for a 2% cap on rent increases and extended 'notice to quit' periods meaning renters are more secure.

Local Authority Home Loan

The Local Authority Home Loan is also making it easier for prospective buyers to get a State backed mortgage at competitive, long-term fixed rates. It's available to people who cannot get sufficient funding from commercial banks to purchase or build a home. It is available to first-time buyers and fresh start applicants to purchase a new or second-hand property, or to self-build. Fianna Fáil in Government have made enhancements to the Local Authority Home Loan meaning single applicants can earn up to €70,000 annual gross income and joint applicants can earn up to €85,000 annual combined gross income and still be eligible for the loan. This summer Government approvd a Local Authority Purchase and Renovation Loan (LAPR). The loan, which is an expansion of the Local Authority Home Loan, will support both the purchase and renovation of homes which are eligible under the existing Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant.

The First Home Scheme

The First Home Scheme shared equity scheme is where the State and participating banks pay up to 30% of the market value of your new home in return for a stake in the home. It aims to bridge the gap for first-time buyers and eligible homebuyers between their deposit and mortgage.

Help to Buy

The Help to Buy (HTB) scheme is an incentive for first-time property purchasers. It will help you with the deposit you need to purchase or self-build a new house or apartment up to €30,000. You must purchase or self-build the property to live in as your home. Where you meet the required conditions, you will receive a refund of:

- Irish Income Tax and
- Deposit Interest Retention Tax (DIRT) you paid in Ireland.

The refund will be from the four tax years prior to when you make your application.

Local Authority Development Charge Waver

Self builders will be very conscious of development charges they would have to pay the Council before beginning to build their home and which could cost them up to €10,000. The temporary Development Contribution Waiver Scheme has been extended to all permitted residential development that commences on site between 25 April 2023 and 31 December 2024 and is completed not later than 31 December 2026. The waiver will cover the full cost of the development contribution levy due saving thousands on the cost of a self build.

Local Authority Affordable Purchase Schemes

For the first time in more than a decade, under a Fianna Fáil Government, Local Authority Affordable Purchase Schemes are being developed by local authorities. These are homes which are made available to buyers at rates which are significantly discounted on open market rates. In total, funding of over €325m has been approved to date from the Affordable Housing Fund (AHF) to assist in the delivery of 4,000 affordable purchase and cost rental homes by local authorities across 21 Local Authorities. Meadowlands Macroom, Heathfield Ballincollig and Almans View in Bandon are local examples of properties under this scheme with more being made available in other areas.

HOUSING SCHEMES PUBLIC MEETING



SEPT 5

I will be hosting a meeting on these schemes and more on September 5th 2024. Please register your interest with my office or watch for advertising online or locally.





















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Call to the Office

At my office we provide up to date information on entitlements and services available to you, as well as representing people making applications. If you feel you may assistance with a query or an application, please contact the office and we will be of help.

Má tá ceist ar bith, cuir glaoch ar m'oifigse