

People Before Profit General Election Manifesto 2024:
100 years of FF/FG is Enough. Another Ireland is Possible.

Law

- **Oppose Racism and the Far Right**
 - Oppose all attacks on refugees and asylum seekers: stop deportations;
 - Oppose all forms of racism including anti-traveller racism;
 - Ensure International Protection Applicants are not homeless: Use empty public buildings to accommodate all homeless people;
 - End Direct Provision;
 - Give asylum seekers the right to work;
 - Establish an Independent National Housing Agency to oversee the delivery of safe and culturally appropriate Traveller Accommodation;
 - Recognise Travellers ethnic minority status in law;
 - Establish a right to family reunification for immigrants who have spent time in Ireland;
 - Hold a referendum to repeal the 27th Amendment. Give all children born here the right to citizenship.

Social Welfare/Protection

- **A Vision for Real Change**
 - Set up a State Construction Company to build social and affordable housing, renovate vacant homes and retrofit low BER-high energy poverty households. Use the Apple money to finance it.
 - Abolish the means test for carers allowance and give carers a Living Wage of €15 an hour.
 - Introduce 12 months' paid leave for each parent in the first two years of a child's life. Increase annual leave for all.
- **Tackle the Cost of Living Crisis**
 - End poverty rates for Pensions and Social Protection Payments: Raise them immediately to €300 per week with an additional €50 Cost of Disability payment for those on disability payments.
 - Immediately increase the Qualified Child Allowance by €12 for under 12s & €30 for over 12s.
- **Care for All Who Need It**
 - Massively expand investment in disability services and supports including increasing all disability related social welfare payments to €350 per week to take account of the additional costs of being disabled
- **For Real Gender Equality**
 - Introduce paid care leave so workers can look after sick children or elderly relatives without loss of income and increase annual leave for all workers
- **Housing for Everyone**
 - Eliminate homelessness with immediate actions to scale up social housing & expand and resource Housing First.

Education

- **A Vision for Real Change**
 - Abolish all education related charges, reduce the pupil/teacher ratio and double the capitation grant at primary level.
 - Immediately increase the number of SNAs and SETs by 2,000 and 1,000 respectively and employ 375 clinicians to clear assessment of need waiting lists.
- **Quality Education That's Genuinely Free**
 - Abolish all charges and provide free school books and uniforms.
 - Provide free school meals at secondary level.
 - Outlaw "voluntary contributions".
 - Double the capitation grant for primary schools.
 - Allocate teachers to primary and post primary based on a ratio of 15:1.
 - Ensure that every school in the State has an autism class and every school offers a summer programme.
 - Reinstate school management posts removed by austerity cuts.
 - Double funding for DEIS schools and implement enhanced DEIS+ funding for the most disadvantaged schools.
 - Increase the number of psychologist posts in NEPS by 50%.
 - End subsidies to private schools.
 - End church control of education.
- **Care for All Who Need It**
 - Invest in education to ensure that every school in the State has an autism class and every school offers a summer programme.
- **For Real Gender Equality**
 - Implement objective Sex and Relationship Education to empower young people to make informed choices.
 - Separate Church and State: Get the church out of public schools and health care services.
- **Radical Action on Climate and Biodiversity**
 - Provide free school transport for all who need it.
- **Promoting the Irish Language**
 - Ensure every child should have access to Irish language education at pre-school, primary school, secondary school.
 - Provide more incentives for teachers to improve their own level of Irish.
 - Provide additional support to help students with additional needs.
 - Fund free access to Coláistí Samhraidh for 3 school years.
 - Encourage exclusively Irish only lessons at primary level.

Early Years/Childcare

- **A Vision for Real Change**
 - Establish a fully publicly owned and funded National Childcare Service to provide free childcare for all.

- **Care for All Who Need It**
 - Immediately abolish childcare fees for parents.
 - As part of a programme to transition to a publicly owned and funded childcare system we would immediately invest €1.5 billion to expand the number of childcare places including by making better use of suitable state owned buildings and through compulsory purchase of suitable privately owned buildings.
 - Provide free preschool meals for all children in the ECCE scheme.
 - Extend paid Parent's Leave and amalgamate it with Maternity and Paternity Leave to provide 12 months' paid leave for each parent in the first two years of a child's life.
 - An immediate €2 per hour wage increase for all childcare workers;

Health

- **Universal Free Healthcare**
 - Introduce Free Primary Care for all including GP care.
 - The development and implementation of a new policy on children's palliative care.
 - A sustainable funding model for funding Childrens' Hospice care.
- **Care for All Who Need It**
 - Establish a centralised database from the moment a child is diagnosed to provide better data tracking and forward planning for a child's needs and a seamless transition to adult services and supports.
 - Introduce emergency measures to ensure full staffing of Children's Disability Network Teams and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, including speeding up the recruitment and recognition of the qualifications of international candidates for therapists.

Other

- **Arts, Culture, Sports and Youth Services**
 - Open schools and colleges for after-school artistic activities for children and teenagers;
 - Increase funding by 50% for sports and recreation projects and services;
 - Increase core funding for Youth Work with a substantial increase in 2025 to meet baselines costs.
 - Increase support to local community centres.