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UNITED IRELAND**

Taking time to listen the people

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

The votes have now been counted. In the South of Ireland, all elections are conducted by a system of rank-choice voting known as Proportional Representation (PR).

In large constituencies where there are multiple candidates such as the European election, the counting can take days. My European ballot paper was over two and a half foot long, with 27 candidates fighting for 5 seats. Finding the names of the candidates I wanted to vote for took some time.

There is no electronic voting, and PR election counts are cumbersome, but they do allow for a more representative result than a straightforward first-past-the-post, winner-takes-all system that will be used in the upcoming British General Election on July 4th.

Sinn Féin has gained two EU seats and lost one.

In the local council elections Sinn Féin's vote share has increased from the 2019 local government election and the party has gained additional seats on councils. The others who made gains were the Social Democrats and a diverse range of Independents.

The Government parties of Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael, and the Greens all lost vote share and seats. They failed to achieve a majority of votes across the state.

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their position as the two largest parties on local councils.

The Sinn Féin President, Mary Lou McDonald recognised the incredible work of candidates who fought hard to win additional votes and seats, but acknowledged that it was a disappointing result for many.

The people have spoken, and it is now time to work out what they said. A time to listen and reflect.

It would be wrong to compare different types of elections. In the 2019 Local Government elections Sinn Féin received an 8.5% vote share and rose to 24% in the 2020 General Elections. Sinn Féin in this recent election had a vote share of 12%, a rise of over 3% on a similar election in 2019.

The turnout in Irish terms this election was very low, registering 49%. In a General Election, turnout would be in the region of 62%-65%.

Support for the government parties continued to slide and there was a rise in unaligned voters.

In this election, incumbent local councilors have a huge advantage in terms of resources and name recognition. For the first time, immigration was a talking point in this election, driven by a housing and public service crisis of years of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael rule. A rise of overtly racist candidates did not come to pass.

For Sinn Féin we will look to build on the gains as we head into an expected general election in the Fall. That election will be a choice between more of the same with Fianna Fail and Fine Gael, the chaos of independents, or a government led by Sinn Féin that will deliver on housing, public services, and for communities. The road to building a new and united Ireland will be bumpy, but we continue to move ahead.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

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A post election message from Mary Lou McDonald TD



Sinn Féin gains seats in Local and European Elections

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All across the island, Sinn Féin gained seats in the Local Elections. With 102 seats won in the country's local electoral areas, Sinn Féin gained more seats than any other party in the country. It was the party's second-best ever finish in local elections.

Westminster election called for July 4, 2024

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the first of our Sinn Féin candidates for the upcoming Westminster election on Thursday 4th July.

!Sandra Duffy will run in Foyle, Catherine Nelson in Upper Bann, Cathal Mallaghan in Mid-Ulster, Dáire Hughes in Newry/Armagh, Chris Hazzard in South Down, Paul Maskey in West Belfast, Declan Kearney in South Antrim, and Philip McGuigan in North Antrim.

"In this election you can send a clear message about what you want for the future.

"By voting for Sinn Féin you are endorsing strong leadership, positive change, and a commitment to work for all.

"You have an opportunity to vote for the decisions about your life and your future to be made here at home, to support better funding for our public services, and to reject years of Tory cuts which have targeted workers and families.



"Change will only be delivered in the North by working together in the Executive and Assembly, but this election is our chance to send a clear message about the future we want.

"Let's seize the opportunity to return the strongest Sinn Féin team and keep moving forward to a new and better future.

"On 4th July vótáil Sinn Féin X."

A note from the Butler family in Limerick, New York, and Florida

Ed Butler, of Castleconnell, Co. Limerick went to his final resting place on May 2, 2024.

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nephews and extended family, friends, neighbours and comrades.

We would like to thank everyone who sympathized with us on the loss of our brother, sent mass cards, flowers, condolences, and traveled far and near distances to attend Ed's funeral.

A special thank you to Tom Hanlon for organising the honour guard and Martin Ferris for his oration.

A personal word of thanks to all of Ed's comrades from the 32 counties, especially those who paid the most profound respect and honour to Ed. This gesture of respect and honour will remain a wonderful memory.

As it is impossible to thank everyone individually please accept this acknowledgment of our gratitude and appreciation and Mass has been offered for your intentions.

Éire Nua - New Ireland

The 7th edition of the Sinn Féin online magazine 'Éire Nua' was published this week.

The magazine is a rich mix of analysis, commentary, academic reviews and history on the broad theme of Irish Unity.

It's free and you can [download it here](#) now!



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