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UNITED IRELAND**

A Home of Your Own - Sinn Féin's Housing Plan

A Letter From Ireland

a Chara,

This week Sinn Féin launched its housing action plan: "[A Home of Your Own](#)".

The housing crisis in the South has deepened under the current government of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael. Rents are unaffordable and institutional investors snap up available properties. Recently 80% of properties in a new-build development went to a single investor. Working families have no chance of owning a home.

House prices and rents are now above the previous high which led to a property crash and banking crisis.

The impact of the government's policy extends beyond the housing market. Emigration levels are growing with young professionals and trades moving to Canada, Britain and Australia to find places to live. Public services are undermined as teachers, police and care workers cannot access accommodation. Businesses are struggling to recruit with increased wages required to meet the cost of rent.

This crisis is sustained by government policy and the dogmatic belief that the market will resolve the issue. The housing market works for landlords and developers, not society as a whole. All sections of the community and economy are paying the price.

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enjoyed the security of tenure. Work was in short supply but housing was guaranteed.

In the North, discrimination in the allocations of housing was one of the drivers of the civil rights movement and was linked to gerrymandering and voter suppression. The fear of eviction and homelessness looms large in our history and psyche.

Housing has been and always will be a highly political policy. Through the late 80's a new policy was adopted. Housing was no longer about a home but became an investment commodity. The building of public housing slowed to a trickle, existing public housing sold off, and incentives given to developers. In the south, this was wrapped in an odour of corruption with an endless stream of inquiries and tribunals. Forty years on and in the South we have families that should have access to public housing and those who should own a home competing for inflated rents in the private rented sector. Rents increase, there is no security of tenure, and new developments go to institutional investors. The cycle continues.

That is why Sinn Féin's new policy document is so important. It is a common sense approach: build homes. Those who should be availing of public housing should have that opportunity with security of tenure. Those who can purchase should be able to buy affordable homes.

The private rented sector should be better regulated. Similar problems play out in communities in the US and Canada, with a generation without the hope of owning a home. That is wrong in Ireland and elsewhere.

This week Sinn Féin has demonstrated that it has the plan. It now needs the opportunity to be in government to deliver.

Have a great weekend.

Is mise,

Ciarán

Ciarán Quinn is the Sinn Féin Representative to North America

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Sinn Féin publish comprehensive and costed housing plan to solve the housing crisis

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Housing, Eoin Ó Broin, along with Party President Mary Lou McDonald and spokespersons on Finance, Pearse Doherty, and Public Expenditure Rose Conway-Walsh today launched A Home of Your Own, Sinn Féin's plan to solve the housing crisis.

Deputy Ó Broin said that the plan 'would make homes affordable and bring home ownership back into the reach of working people, and that it is comprehensive, fully costed and ready to go from day one in government'.

Teachta Ó Broin said, "Today, Sinn Féin launched A Home of Your Own, our plan to solve the housing crisis. The 109-page document sets out how in government Sinn Féin would deliver 300,000 public and private homes over five years; homes that are secure, adequate and affordable.

"The plan would make homes affordable and bring home ownership back into the reach of working people.

"In the coming weeks we will aim to put a summary of the document into every house in the state.

"We believe that housing will be the key issue in the next general election and we want people to know the full details of Sinn Féin's ambitious alternative.

"We believe that everyone should have a home of their own, a home that is secure, adequate and affordable. Today, we have set out how we would achieve that objective."

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A HOME OF YOUR OWN

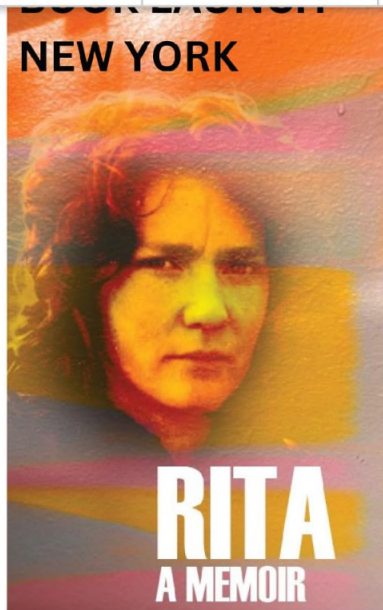
SINN FÉIN'S PLAN TO MAKE HOUSING AFFORDABLE

***Rita: A Memoir* - US Book Launch**

Join us in New York and Washington, DC for the United States launch of the newly published *Rita: A Memoir*.

Rita O'Hare was the Sinn Féin representative to the USA for over twenty years. She started writing a memoir when she took ill. When unable to continue, she dictated chapters. Her good friend Danny Morrison has done an excellent job in editing the book for publication.

It was launched on August 3rd in Belfast. We will be releasing the book in New York on Friday, September 13 and in Washington, DC on Thursday, September 19. More information in the graphics below.

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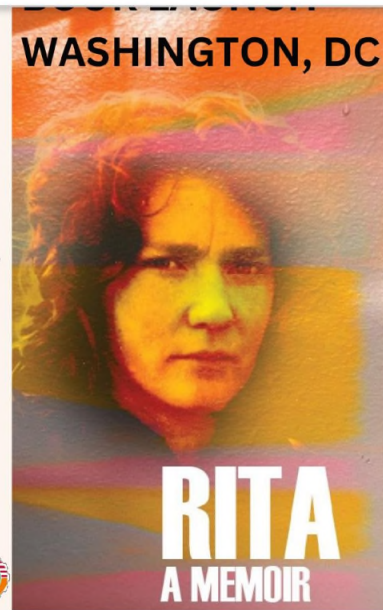
She was imprisoned three times—in Armagh Jail (twice) and Limerick Prison; survived being shot and gravely injured by the British Army; became a writer, editor, Director of Publicity, and Sinn Féin's representative in Washington. Nelson Mandela referred to her as his 'little warrior'. Of all republicans she was the longest 'on the run'.

But above all she was devoted to her beloved partner Brendan, to her four children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Rita is the memoir she was writing at the time of her death in March 2023.

Friday, Sept. 13, 2024
Bobby Van's
135 W 50th St, NY, NY
5:00pm

Books will be available,
guest speakers & more.



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Thursday, Sept. 19, 2024
Bobby Van's
809 15th St NW, WDC
6:00pm

Books will be available,
guest speakers & more.



People's Assembly: Diaspora Cleveland, Ohio

The Commission on the Future of Ireland and Friends of Sinn Féin will host a People's Assembly in Cleveland, OH on Tuesday, October 8, 2024.

Join us for a conversation with Dáire Hughes, Sinn Féin MP for Newry and Armagh. He will provide a briefing on the effort, progress, and next steps. Q&A and discussion will follow.

Tickets are free and limited, and registration is required.

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Tuesday, October 8th, 2024
Cleveland, OH
West Side Irish American Club

Featuring Dáire Hughes, MP

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.



AN COIMISIÚN
UM THODHCHAÍ
NA hÉIREANN

Now is the time to establish Pat Finucane inquiry

Sinn Féin MLA Linda Dillon has reiterated calls for a public inquiry into the murder of human rights lawyer Pat Finucane.

She was speaking after US Congressman Richie Neal wrote to the British Prime Minister voicing support for the repeal of the shameful Legacy Act and the Finucane family's continued pursuit of truth and justice.

The party's spokesperson on victims and survivors said, "I want to echo the words of Congressman Richie Neal who has once again called for an independent public inquiry into the murder of Pat Finucane."

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determination in an effort to establish the full truth of what happened to Pat; a husband, a father, a human rights lawyer.

“The British government must move beyond the years of gaslighting and insulting victims. It is time for them to finally offer families, including Pat Finucane’s, the opportunity of truth and justice.

“There must be no more delays, blockages or stoppages.

“Now is the time to establish a public inquiry and to deliver full truth and justice to Geraldine Finucane and her children.”

On Wednesday, Congressman Neal’s office released a statement saying, “Today, Congressman Richard E. Neal sent a letter to the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, Sir Keir Starmer, voicing his support for the Prime Minister Starmer’s commitment to revisiting and repealing the Northern Ireland Troubles (Legacy and Reconciliation) Act of 2023.

The legislation, which became law in September 2023, halted all historical inquests into more than 1,000 unsolved killings that took place during the Troubles and transferred the cases to the newly established Independent Commission for Reconciliation and Information Recovery. The law has also prevented new civil cases from being filed and offers conditional amnesty to those accused of killings during the Troubles. Prime Minister Starmer committed to repealing the Legacy Act during his first month in office.”

9/9/24, 12:17 PM

A Home of Your Own - Sinn Féin's Housing Plan

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RICHARD E. NEAL
First District, MassachusettsRANKING MEMBER
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
DEAN
MASSACHUSETTS AND
NEW ENGLAND CONGRESS ORAL
DELEGATIONS
DEMOCRATIC LEADER
FRIENDS OF IRELAND CAUCUS

September 4, 2024

The Rt Hon Keir Starmer MP
Prime Minister
10 Downing Street
London, United Kingdom
SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister Starmer,

I wish to once again offer my sincere congratulations on your recent election as Prime Minister. As you assume this role, I want to bring to your attention a matter of great importance to the United Kingdom and relations between our two countries.

I have long followed the Pat Finucane case since his tragic murder in 1989 – my first year in Congress. Since then, I have remained in frequent contact with the Finucane family, supporting their continued advocacy in pursuit of truth and justice. I am pleased that the British government will be revisiting the legacy legislation that passed Parliament last year, and I strongly encourage you to make this case a top priority.

The importance of establishing an independent public inquiry cannot be understated. My colleagues and I in the United States Congress have long supported such an inquiry, as have other democratic governments around the world. I believe the evidence is compelling and an investigation is the only way to deliver answers that families like the Finucane family deserve. The Good Friday Agreement, which the United Kingdom, Ireland, and the United States worked diligently to achieve, is underscored by the principles of truth and justice. Delivering on these principles for the victims of the Troubles is what will encourage those to look toward the future, not the past.

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I am optimistic that under your leadership, we will continue to advance the values set forth in the Good Friday Agreement and bring the perpetrators of crimes committed during the Troubles to justice. I look forward to working with you and supporting your government's efforts in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Richard E. Neal
Member of Congress

cc: Dame Karen Pierce DCMG, Her Majesty's Ambassador to the United States
The Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland

No excuse for further delay to enacting Occupied Territories Bill

Sinn Féin spokesperson on Foreign Affairs Matt Carthy TD has said that legal advice published today creates 'a legal imperative for Ireland to meaningfully sanction Israel and enact the Occupied Territories Bill and Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill'.

Authored by Professors of EU Trade Law at King's College London and the City University of London, Carthy describes the legal opinion as a 'scathing rebuke and correction of the advice the Taoiseach and Tánaiste have been using as a shield to avoid sanctioning Israel for nearly a decade.'

Speaking after attending the launch of the legal advice, Teachta Carthy said, "Israel's near year long genocidal campaign against Gaza has now killed at least 40,819 Palestinians, including more than 16,456 children.

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“They breach the most fundamental treaties of international law and international humanitarian law on a daily basis, more recently seeking to expand the scale of brutality already endured by Palestinians in the West Bank to equal that unleashed on Gaza.

“And yet the Irish government, which rightfully has taken action in support of Palestine, has as of yet cowed from introducing any meaningful sanctions against Israel.

“Government must now move to enact the Occupied Territories Bill and the Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill.

“Fine Gael and Fianna Fáil have been dragging their heels for too long as a genocide unfolds in front of our eyes.

“Israel is in breach of international law and Ireland has yet to meaningfully sanction it. “The Occupied Territories Bill was introduced more than 6 years ago, has passed in the Seanad and was approved by the Dáil to proceed more than 5 years ago.

“Sinn Féin’s Illegal Israeli Settlements Divestment Bill passed Second Stage in the Dáil last year and has since been the subject of every obscure legislative delaying tactic by government, meaning that Irish taxpayer money continues to be invested in companies which operate in illegal Israeli settlements within Palestine.

“Government is hiding behind advice from the Attorney General which has today been exposed as critically flawed at the time it was written, outdated and irrelevant in the context of Israel’s genocide and subsequent ICJ ruling.

“Not only does today’s legal advice lay bare that there is no excuse for not enacting the Occupied Territories Bill, but there is in fact a legal imperative as a matter of urgency to enact both bills.

“Sinn Féin welcome that the Taoiseach has sought fresh legal advice himself in relation to trade with Israel, but this advice cannot be limited to trade with the Occupied Territories – government must seek the Attorney Generals advice in relation to invoking Ireland’s right to challenge the European Commission on its failure to act regarding genocide.”

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2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

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The Martin McGuinness Peace Foundation 2024 Chieftain's Walk NYC

Walk for Reunification

Date: September 15, 2024

Location: Irish Hunger Memorial,
Battery Park City

Address: 290 Vesey Street, New
York, NY 10281

Get ready for an unforgettable day as we come together to honor the beloved Martin McGuinness and raise awareness for his Peace Foundation. This year, we're walking for the reunification of Ireland, and we want YOU to be part of this incredible journey!

Register Now:

<https://raceroster.com/events/2024/91998/2024-martin-mcguinness-chieftains-walk-nyc>

Check our website for more information

<https://martinmcguinnesspf.org/>

Email Marty Glennon at: mglennon@abgllaw.com



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Columbus, Ohio**

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THE COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF IRELAND



Thursday, October 10th, 2024
Columbus, OH
The Shamrock Club

Featuring Ciarán Quinn

Sinn Féin Representative to North America

A conversation with the diaspora, the descendants of Ireland, and all those who support Irish unity.



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UM THODHCHAÍ
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