

2024 Ireland General Election – Comparison of manifestos and key priorities (other party’s manifestos available on request)

CIOB	Fianna Fáil	Sinn Féin	Fine Gael	Green Party
Manifesto Link	Fianna Fáil – Moving Forward. Together.	Sinn Féin – The Choice for Change	Fine Gael – Securing your future	Green Party - Towards 2030: A decade of change
Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expanding the rate of homebuilding to 60,000 homes per year in 2030 and thereafter. - An allocation of €4 billion will be made available to the Land Development Agency to boost the delivery of social and affordable homes, and €2 billion will be allocated to a new Towns Investment Fund. - Build an average of 10,000 affordable units every year. - Fully capitalise the Land Development Agency out to 2030, and increase its target, enabling it to accelerate home delivery. - Establish a new Towns Investment Fund of €2bn to build and upgrade infrastructure to open up more serviced sites for building homes. - Invest a minimum additional €3bn in Irish Water to provide for water and wastewater facilities in villages, towns and cities and to allow more local homes to be built. - Establish a Buildings Standards Regulatory Authority to strengthen the oversight role of the State in respect of the design and construction of buildings. - Prioritise Housing infrastructure in Commission of Regulation of Utilities operational practices. - Work with the EU Housing Commissioner to revise State aid rules and to provide a new investment platform for affordable and sustainable housing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivering more than 300,000 homes over the next five years including 125,000 social and affordable homes. - Continuing delivery into 2030 with a further 31,500 public homes. - Holding a referendum to enshrine the right to housing in the Constitution. - Reforming and resourcing the planning system, overhauling the public spending code and procurement practice to speed up delivery. - Lowering carbon emissions by maximising use of new building technologies and through greater use of vacant and derelict homes. - Ending long-term homelessness and the need to sleep rough by 2030. - Transforming the Land Development Agency into an Active Land Management Agency to ensure an adequate pipeline of land to deliver our ambitious public housing programme. - Ending wasteful and inflationary schemes such as Croí Conaithe Cities, the First Home Scheme and the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund - Supporting small- and medium-sized builders and developers to deliver more good quality homes for people to buy through the provision of low cost finance, efficient site servicing and more timely planning. - Phasing out Help to Buy over five years as we ramp-up the delivery of affordable homes. - Publishing revised planning guidelines for rural, Gaeltacht and Island communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build around 300,000 homes by 2030. - Build 12,000 Social Homes per year. - Create a regularly updated, public audit of zoned, serviced, and unzoned land to help plan for 250,000 homes over the next five years. - Set specific social and affordable housing targets for each local authority. - Require local authorities to build homes on serviced land and fund these efforts, rewarding high-performing authorities. - Implement the Planning and Development Act to make the planning process clearer, faster, and more predictable. - Introduce a new housing plan to follow ‘Housing for All,’ based on recommendations from the Housing Commission and reflecting more ambitious targets. - will allocate €40 billion to the housing budget over the next five years, averaging €8 billion annually, to ensure resources meet our ambitious housing goals. - Raise the relief under Help to Buy to €40,000, a 33% increase since the last adjustment in 2020. Furthermore, maintain the Help to Buy initiative until 2030. - Expand eligibility of the First Home Scheme to cover first-time buyers of second-hand homes. Furthermore, extend the scheme until 2030. - Streamline the Purchase Process: Set a target of an 8-week turnaround from ‘sale agreed’ to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 15,000 state-backed affordable/cost rental homes, 12,000 social homes, and at least 4,000 renovated vacant and derelict homes. - Bring a focus to the renovation of vacant and derelict stock, recognising that the most sustainable way to deliver a new home is to bring an existing building back into use. - Make the development levies waiver permanent for the construction of apartments in our towns and cities, provided that they are sold to owner occupiers. - Establish a National Citizens’ Housing Fund as a new State Savings product to allow the public to make safe investments in affordable housing construction with a steady rate of return. This will provide much needed additional capital investment for homebuilding. - Penalise land hoarding with the new Land Hoarding Tax and the proposed Land Value Sharing mechanism. - Prioritise housing development around areas with good public transport links, safe walking and cycling routes, and safe routes to school. - Target the Help-to-Buy scheme at those who need it by aligning it with the property price caps of the First Home Scheme. - Introduce measures to support those who have returned to Ireland within the past five years and may not yet qualify for the Help to-Buy Scheme. - Establish a working group within the Department of Housing to support

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protect and extend the Help to Buy scheme out to 2030 and include a 'Rent Back Boost' in assessing the payment level. - Protect and extend the First Home "Bridge the Gap" Scheme to 2030 and expand it to support purchasing second-hand homes. - Protect and extend the Vacancy Refurbishment Grants to 2030 and increase the grant levels by €10,000. - Create an 'Above the Shop living refurbishment grant of €100,000 by topping up the vacant and derelict refurbishment grant. This will help make spaces above retail premises liveable. - Introduce further 'Above the Shop' living incentives through a commercial rates reduction pilot scheme. - Increase funding for both essential new road construction and road maintenance. - Help renters seeking to become home buyers with a Buyers Tax Credit, First Refusal rights, Capital Gains Tax exemptions for landlords who sell to their tenants, "Bridge the Gap" equity for tenants, and an increased Rent Tax credit. - A new Home Buyer Help package to make the process easier, quicker and cheaper for homebuyers. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce a €2,500 tax credit for legal, surveying and valuation fees for first time buyers. - Set an 8-week conveyancing target for the legal profession. - Fully implement e-conveyancing by 2027. - Dramatically reduce the time taken for the Probate Office to process applications to extract grants of probate. - Reform outdated legal practices like wet signature requirements. - Accelerate registration of land titles. 	<p>Delivering 100% redress to all those homeowners impacted by building defects and defective building materials through an end-to-end scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Investing in and reforming the planning and building control systems, providing an additional €50m as set out in A Home Of Your Own - Putting one month's rent back into renters' pockets with a minimum payment of €1,000 for each adult renter and banning rent increases for three years - Providing temporary and targeted Mortgage Interest Relief, with a maximum annual benefit per household of €1,250 - Scaling Irish SMEs through increased credit access and vital infrastructure, i.e. water, energy, transport and housing - Adopting a 'mission-orientated' approach to procurement spending, which coordinates spending to achieve policy objectives - Improving data collection, analysis and review of social clause use in public contracts - Adopting a Community Wealth Building (CWB) approach to regional development - Providing guidance to contracting authorities on Ethical Public Procurement - Placing the OGP on a statutory footing with an expanded mandate to act as a real central hub for public procurement and play more of a regulatory role - Establishing of Public Procurement Ombudsman that support SME participation by acting as an adjudicator for disputes between contractors and the contracting authorities - You can read the full details of Sinn Féin's alternative housing plan A Home Of Your Own including all of their commitments on housing at https://housing.sinnfein.ie/ 	<p>handing over the keys, supported by e-conveyancing and e-probate for faster processing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish an expert group to make the home bidding process clearer and more transparent, drawing on international best practices. - Task the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission with creating a step-by-step home-buying guide and establishing a dedicated portal for reporting bad practices. - Maintain the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant, provide additional Vacant Home Officers, and make it easier for authorities to acquire vacant properties. - Retaining the Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant. - Promoting "Over the Shop" Living: Fund demonstration projects to showcase successful conversions and extend planning exemptions for commercial-to-residential conversions until 2030. - Require local authorities to conduct annual rent reviews for a percentage of all tenants in social housing schemes. - Proceed with a 30% increase in the grant limits and a 25% increase in the income thresholds for the Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability Scheme. - Mandate local authorities to find suitable sites for housing specifically designed for older adults, ensuring accessible options within local communities. - Make it easier to convert houses into two flats, allowing older adults to continue living in familiar surroundings while adapting to changing needs. - Will conduct a comprehensive review of the Defective Concrete Blocks Scheme within six 	<p>community-led housing organisations, housing co-operatives, and community land trusts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a national online register of derelict sites, containing details such as the condition of the buildings, the site's planning history and zoning objective, and any outstanding levies due on the land. - Put a single permitting system in place for fire, accessibility, and planning while retaining high standards and ensuring independent oversight of works. - Produce simplified technical guidance on converting two- to four-storey, above-shop or commercial structures to residential use. - Target an eight-week turnaround time for completing both conveyancing and probate, and prioritise the digitisation of both processes, so that properties are not left vacant for too long. - Make it easier to secure the vacant property refurbishment grant by providing staged payments and reviewing the rate of grant funding. - Amend the Repair-and-Lease and Buy and-Renew Schemes so they provide cost rental as well as social homes and set local authorities output targets for each of them. - Provide greater powers and resources to local authorities to CPO derelict buildings. - Discourage owners from holding on to these properties without improving them. - Increase the vacant homes tax and expand its scope to include homes currently excluded because they are deemed uninhabitable. - Consider transferring the collection of the derelict sites levy from local authorities to Revenue, potentially merging it with the land hoarding tax.
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				<p>planning submissions and crosssectoral community issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Develop a compulsory public register of all land and land transactions.- Establish a Brownfield and Infill Register within the Office of the Planning Regulator to facilitate their development and to ensure compact growth of urban centres.- Allow An Coimisiún Pleanála inspectors to adjudicate on minor appeals, such as for garden sheds, with proper oversight. This will allow the Commission to maximise its resources.- Exempt bicycle sheds in front of houses from planning permission.- Implement the legal costs scheme proposed in the new Planning and Development Act to ensure that costs are not a barrier for those seeking to take action against a planning decision.- Better align regional and local development plans with transport, electricity grid, and water infrastructure planning.- Mainstream sustainable planning requirements for new residential schemes, such as infrastructure for rainwater harvesting, natural ventilation, and green roofs.- Plan our towns and cities to be 'safer by design', so that our public spaces discourage and prevent crime. This can be done with better lighting, fewer narrow passageways, and passive surveillance.- Review planning application and first party planning appeal fees to reflect the administrative work involved. We will remove the fee for planning observations.- Support and facilitate the making of Tree Preservation Orders in urban areas.
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Skills & Labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand the skills categories that can avail of the National Training Fund, to cover essential public services. - Launch a new 5-year Apprenticeship Action Plan for 2026-2030 to set a strategic vision for further enhancing the sector. - Immediately implement FF's Planning and Development Act, including recruitment of 400 additional planning staff to deliver homes faster. - Expand retrofitting training and apprenticeship places to meet demand. - Ensure that Solas will train the skilled workers we need to deliver retrofitting. - Facilitate plumbers in upskilling as heat pump installers through tailored apprenticeship training and Continuous Professional Development options for qualified plumbers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making the creation of apprenticeships and educational opportunities mandatory for contracts for capital works projects above a certain threshold - Adequate resources and training for procurement officers and councillors in local authorities regarding the procurement process - Abolishing apprenticeship fees - Extending the state support for allowances for craft apprentices by increasing the rates by 50% - Introducing a special allowance valued at €10,000 for craft apprenticeship instructors. - Providing local authorities with funding to recruit 1,500 craft apprentices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambition to create the conditions necessary to add 300,000 jobs by 2030, surpassing the milestone of 3 million people in employment. - Ensure An Coimisiún Pleanála and local authorities are adequately resourced with staff and financial resources to make decisions in a quick and predictable timeframe. - Target 12,500 new apprentices annually by 2030, with two-thirds of them in craft/construction, and strengthen links between education providers and the sector. - Increase permits for residential construction workers and actively recruit abroad through state agencies and embassies. - Increase access to third-level courses outside the points system, supporting students' diverse career paths. - Create a website to provide students across Ireland with comprehensive information on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase apprenticeships, especially in careers needed for construction, the digital economy, the green economy and any new areas as they emerge during the term of Government. - Improve coordination between state agencies to ensure that secondary and further education, upskilling programmes, and retraining address the economy's needs as we transition to green and digital futures. - Roll out the SOLAS/ETB Nature Skills Training pilot programme for the staff and contractors of public bodies working in sensitive environments and ensure certification is a component of relevant public sector procurement. - An IDA for skills: 'IDA for skills' will help people to find a job in Ireland, with a particular focus on public service positions, and support with re-location costs. It will operate globally, attracting people from diverse backgrounds, but will also be a key

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduce student contribution fees for apprenticeships in line with reduction for others in higher and further education. - Introduce a tax credit for apprentices for apprenticeship-related income. - Expand the CAO system to include more apprenticeship options and introduce a single application process for students applying for third-level courses, further education courses and/or apprenticeships. - Increase the Apprenticeship Employer Grant. - Enhance employment opportunities for people with disabilities by supporting programmes like WorkAbility. - Committing to broadening the legal pathways for skilled migrants to come to Ireland to work, including expanding the categories of roles eligible to include retail, hospitality, care work and construction trades. 		<p>third-level pathways, supporting students from both sides of the border.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will continue to decrease the Student Contribution Fee over the Government's term, easing the financial burden on students and families at the start of each academic year. - will triple the number of third-level pathways outside the Leaving Certificate points system, ensuring students can pursue higher education without limitations from their Leaving Cert points. - Will increase course options for people at any career stage who want to upskill, supporting lifelong learning across all sectors. - Increase funding for third-level institutions, ensuring they have the resources they need to excel. - Will abolish any registration fees associated with taking on an apprenticeship to incentivise more people to choose this learning pathway - Expand the apprenticeship system by increasing apprenticeship registrations to 12,500 by 2030. - will create clear pathways for those interested in apprenticeships, increasing the number of programmes to meet industry demand, building on the current 77 programmes, including both consortia-led and craft-led options. - Establish a Research Infrastructure & Talent Fund which will maintain Ireland's global competitiveness and stimulate growth across regions. - Will fund centres of research excellence across Irish universities and promote the Shared Island scheme to boost collaboration. - Encourage greater STEM uptake at third level by enhancing the curriculum at second level to stimulate interest. 	<p>mechanism for helping Irish people living abroad to return home.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regularly updating the Critical Skills Occupations List to ensure that we have enough workers for essential sectors of the economy. - Recognising that some small businesses in certain sectors are struggling with the introduction of crucial new worker's rights, including sick pay and auto enrolment, devising a targeted support scheme to meet the needs of these employers while also protecting these important advances in worker's rights.
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Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increase State support to homeowners to upgrade their home energy systems and retrofit their homes. - Scale up retrofitting of Local Authority homes, prioritising the least energy efficient homes first. - Enact the Energy Poverty Reduction Bill, requiring energy companies to divert surplus renewable energy which would otherwise be wasted to homes in fuel poverty. - Create a Minister of State for Energy. - Introduce a Boiler Scrappage Pilot to encourage households to switch to more renewable sources of home energy. Also accelerate the phase-out of fossil fuel boilers in new builds. - Increase SEAI grants for heat pumps and develop stronger pathways for households to work towards better energy efficiency. - Promote HVO and BIOLPG as alternative fuels homes. 	<p>Holding a referendum to enshrine the public ownership of the water and wastewater system and water utility in the Constitution</p> <p>Undertaking a comprehensive review of Uisce Éireann's capital programme to ensure it can meet the needs of our ambitious housing plan</p> <p>Increasing investment in the delivery of water and wastewater services by at least an additional €1.5bn over five years</p> <p>Ensuring greater transparency and accountability from Uisce Éireann through formal reporting mechanisms to Local Authorities and the Oireachtas</p> <p>Restructuring the utility as a non-commercial semi-state company</p> <p>Ensuring a continued footprint of water services in Local Authority offices and depots</p> <p>Not proceeding with the annual increases to carbon tax that have been scheduled by Fianna Fáil, Fine Gael and the Green Party</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Launch an Extreme Weather Event Assistance Scheme. - Require each local authority to create a Circular Strategy focused on waste reduction, with particular emphasis on food and construction waste. - Require every public project to meet an embodied carbon target, ensuring construction materials and processes are environmentally responsible. - Undertake deep retrofits of State buildings, such as hospitals and schools, to enhance comfort, improve energy efficiency, and reduce costs. - Ensure all new public buildings are zero-emission from 2028 onwards, setting a national standard for sustainable construction. - Install solar panels, renewable energy sources, or connect to district heating where feasible in all suitable public buildings. 	<p>Implement a new EU law on the energy performance of buildings and expand our policy of supporting home retrofits. This will reduce people's need to burn polluting fossil fuels to heat their homes</p> <p>Implement the new EU Directive on the energy performance of buildings by raising the minimum energy standards for new buildings and requiring the installation of solar panels where feasible.</p> <p>Introduce a Building Information Modelling system to assess and manage embodied carbon in planned developments.</p> <p>Get the public sector to take a leading role in measuring embodied carbon.</p> <p>Introduce an equity release scheme for retrofitting so that older people can live in warm homes.</p> <p>Extend the tax deduction for retrofitting works on rental properties beyond 2025</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pilot a dedicated rural retrofitting programme for homes currently using solid fuel or oil heating systems. - Increase incentives for data centres to use energy efficient technologies, renewable energy sources and innovative solutions like heat reuse to significantly lower their carbon footprint. - Fund the upgrading of the national electricity grid using State subventions. - Accelerate the transition to the use of sustainable and lower-cost renewables in electricity generation, moving away from expensive imported fossil fuels. - Increase State support to homeowners to upgrade their home energy systems and retrofit their homes. - Establish a new and separate statutory body, the Consumer Protection Agency, with a mandate to protect consumers from dubious business practices including those that inflate prices for consumers. - Empower the new agency in areas such as consumer advocacy, information and advice. - Review how the Government can assist with the faster roll out of EVs, by increasing the grant levels and linking the grant to income earnings. - Support decarbonisation of road freight and commercial coach with green fuels like HVO, hydrogen, and biomethane. 	<p>Reverse the two most recent hikes to excise duty on petrol and diesel for 12 months and offsetting the toll increases that are due in 2025</p> <p>Empowering the CRU to better tackle anti-competitive practices in the energy sector</p> <p>Targeting environmental taxes on excessive consumption through a pollution tax on private jets</p> <p>Reforming the PSO levy to one levied on total demand rather than peak demand, changing the flat-rate levy to a progressive charge.</p> <p>Resourcing the National Just Transition Fund review of workforce planning and increased resourcing to our state bodies involved in environmental planning including MARA, ABP, Local Authorities and the NWPS</p> <p>Developing and adhering to clear auction timelines</p> <p>Improving spatial planning by implementing the EU's Renewable Energy Directive III</p> <p>Publication of Wind Energy Guidelines and the adoption of a 'plan led' approach to energy development</p> <p>Reviewing lifetime planning permissions for any new onshore wind farm to assess alignment with the operational lifetime of the grid connection as set by the CRU</p> <p>A policy for the repowering of existing wind projects, under the Contracts for Difference model</p> <p>Resourcing existing renewable energy task forces and establishing a new task force to reduce the cost of renewable energy</p> <p>Increased investment in grid expansion and upgrade</p> <p>Enhancing off-grid connectivity including the development of a national energy storage strategy, investment in energy storage and establishing peer to peer 'Energy Sharing' initiatives</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Require each State body to conduct a Green Audit, assessing suppliers for sustainability. - Collaborate with industry to lower embodied carbon in construction and adopt consistent procurement standards. - Work with local authorities to develop decarbonising zones aimed at a 75% carbon reduction by 2030, focusing on pedestrianisation, cycling facilities, and renewable energy in transport. - Align sustainability goals with economic growth to create opportunities and lasting prosperity. - Develop Green Energy Industrial Parks to attract large-scale investments in regional locations, co-located with renewable generation, and inspired by successful international models. - Promote HVO and BIOLPG as alternative fuels for rural homes. - Focus on reducing emissions from Ireland's biggest industrial emitters to achieve the most significant impact first. - Develop a targeted roadmap to help manufacturers transition to low-carbon heating solutions in their production processes. - Increase awareness of grants, like the €10,000 Energy Efficiency Grant, to support small businesses in adopting energy-efficient technologies, cutting costs, and reducing their environmental footprint. - Continue to provide grants of up to 50% for homeowners who wish to retrofit, enhancing energy efficiency and reducing costs. We will ramp up our targets significantly to deliver 75,000 B2-equivalent home retrofits each year from 2026 to 2030, with a focus on lower income households. 	<p>and increase it from €10,000 to €30,000 and make this conditional on the provision of long and secure tenancies.</p> <p>Cut red tape to make it easier for people to retrofit their homes and businesses.</p> <p>Ensure that every home, including older ones, has access to retrofits.</p> <p>Increase the new 80% grant for attic and cavity wall insulation to 100%.</p> <p>Simplify the Development Plan process Our ambition is to end fuel poverty by 2040 by continuing to use carbon tax revenues to retrofit low-income homes.</p> <p>Introduce an equity release scheme for retrofitting so that older people can live in warm homes.</p> <p>Extend the tax deduction for retrofitting</p> <p>Better align regional and local development plans with transport, electricity grid, and water infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Mainstream sustainable planning requirements for new residential schemes, such as infrastructure for rainwater harvesting, natural ventilation, and green roofs.</p> <p>Provide 100% grants to low-income households at risk of energy poverty for the installation of rooftop solar panels.</p> <p>Building on the remarkably successful pilot Warmth and Wellbeing Scheme, enable healthcare professionals across the country to designate households for free energy-efficiency upgrades on health grounds.</p> <p>Establish a Community Energy Advice Service in every local authority, to assist households in applying for SEAI grants and to</p>
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		<p>Enhancing the power of the regulator to monitor and regulate hedging practices, to sanction anti-competitive behaviour and prioritise energy affordability</p> <p>Overhauling the national retrofit programme so that more ordinary householders can afford to access retrofitting</p> <p>Establishing a new tiered grants-based retro-fit scheme for low and middle income households in place of the Warmer Home Scheme and providing a substantial increase in Capital investment of 1.5 billion for the deep retrofit of over 100,000 homes</p> <p>Expanding the retrofitting of local authority homes with an additional capital investment of €850 million over a government term for the deep retrofit of over 44,000 social homes</p> <p>Establishing a dedicated scheme for the retrofitting of solid fuel homes with capital investment of €750 million over a government term to provide deep retrofits for over 30,000 homes.</p> <p>Establishing a dedicated scheme for heat pumps to shift the fuel source of deep retrofitted homes.</p> <p>Establishing a dedicated €300m nature restoration fund</p> <p>Expansion and restoration of our national parks and native woodlands through €2m additional current expenditure and €60m of capital beyond what has been pre-committed</p> <p>Expedited delivery of a Marine Protected Areas Bill</p> <p>Putting waste collection under the control of local authorities starting with a pilot scheme of the franchise model with Dublin City Council</p> <p>New measures to ban the practice of corporations dumping new and unused goods</p>	<p>€650 million for supports to farmers and other landowners to meet their nature restoration and water quality objectives</p> <p>Under this Government we have advanced two new interconnectors with the UK and France. In the next Government, we will promote two new interconnectors with the UK and two new interconnection points with the continent, including new hybrid interconnections with offshore wind projects in the DMAP development zones.</p> <p>This will allow renewable energy to flow across Europe, reducing prices for consumers, and ensuring a zero-carbon electricity system by 2035.</p> <p>Planning for renewables: We will implement a new spatial policy to ensure onshore wind and solar farms are situated in the right places, delivering real benefits to communities.</p> <p>Investing €500 million a year in walking and cycling infrastructure.</p> <p>Reducing people's need to drive by planning for new housing developments to be situated near centres of employment and education, and near public transport links.</p> <p>Continuing to use carbon tax receipts to expand our retrofitting programme, including by providing free retrofits for low-income homes and social housing tenants.</p> <p>Making attic and cavity wall insulation free for all households.</p> <p>Implementing revised EU energy performance standards for new buildings.</p> <p>Improving the tax deduction for retrofitting works in the private rental sector.</p>
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Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a €250m Modern Methods of construction innovation fund to accelerate home building. - Introduce a National Housing Procurement Strategy to support housing standardisation and to reduce costs and delays. - Establish a Central Construction Supply Unit to coordinate, monitor and track all major public sector construction projects to ensure accelerated delivery. - Ensure that small business are helped to achieve basic digital intensity, towards the target of 90% by 2030. - Reform funding eligibility for digital grants and consultancy to ensure it is simplified and accessible. - Ensure that the skills necessary for AI deployment, AI innovation and AI support are provided through our colleges, our schools and through professional learning networks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lowering carbon emissions by maximising use of new building technologies and through greater use of vacant and derelict homes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fine Gael will embrace new construction methods to make building faster and more sustainable. - Use MMC in public housing projects and expand modular housing options. - Standardise as much as possible the regulatory certifications required across our 31 local authorities. We will commission an audit and propose recommendations within 100 days of government. We will request the NSAI to harmonise Ireland’s regulations with EU regulations insofar as possible to minimise paperwork and open up new market opportunities. - Update our regulatory system to promote the use of timber in new buildings and ensure that multi-storey timber frame residential units can be built. -Develop new financing sources, especially for brownfield sites and small builders, with support from Home Building Finance Ireland (HBFi). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce regulations and changes to public procurement to minimise embodied carbon in construction, including by promoting the use of cross-laminated timber (CLT). - Encourage the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund and Enterprise Ireland to support the scaling up of a domestic industry in modern methods of construction (MMC), including ‘design-and-build’ contracts, CLT, and rapid-build modular units. - Amend the building regulations to facilitate and encourage greater levels of CLT use in public and private construction projects.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure adaptation of guidelines for use of AI in the public service. - Increase investment in critical infrastructure and the electricity grid. - Roll out nationwide 5G for high-speed, low-latency connectivity vital to data centres and tech industries. 			
<p>Other key pledges</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that a minimum of 60% of IDA Foreign Direct Investment goes to regional locations. - Support investment in commercial and passenger port infrastructure through a new National Ports Policy. - Reform the Smart Regions Enterprise Innovation Scheme to ensure it is responsive and effective to local needs. - Support the further development of Strategic Development Zones across the regions. - Establish Land Activation Units in each Local Authority. - Create a Land Price Register. - Implement statutory measures to penalise land hoarding. - Work with Ireland’s credit union sector to develop a structure to allow the sector to fund Approved Housing Bodies. - Continue to disincentivise investment funds from buying family homes. - Continue the Croí Cónaithe scheme to support homebuyers to purchase new apartments. - Maintain the Tenant Purchase scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Phase out of Help-to-Buy Phase out of Help-to-Buy - Abolish Local Property Tax Abolish Local Property Tax - Rent Relief - a month’s rent back in your pocket Rent Relief - a month’s rent back in your pocket - Abolish concrete products levy Abolish concrete products levy - Remove stamp duty for first time buyers (property values below €450K) Remove stamp duty for first time buyers (property values below €450K) - Temporary and targeted mortgage interest relief 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Establish a new, consolidated Department of Infrastructure, Climate and Transport to streamline and unify all aspects of infrastructure delivery, from planning to execution, under one dedicated leadership structure supported by relevant expertise within the Department. - Prioritise the delivery of Bus Connects, MetroLink, Luas Finglas, the DART+ Programme, and the Cork Commuter Rail Programme to improve urban connectivity and convenience. - Allow local authorities and the LDA to offer financial guarantees to developers for affordable housing units, reducing financial risk. - Incentivise the construction of new homes by keeping under review the time-limited arrangements for the waiving of local authority “Section 48” development contributions and the refunding of Uisce Éireann water and wastewater connection charges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that every major public transport infrastructure project is fully funded, enabling it to progress without delay. Ensure that every major public transport infrastructure project is fully funded, enabling it to progress without delay. - Reform the Infrastructure Guidelines and the Public Spending Code to halve the time it takes for critical public transport projects to move from inception to construction. Reform the Infrastructure Guidelines and the Public Spending Code to halve the time it takes for critical public transport projects to move from inception to construction. - Provide strategic coherence to transport planning by transferring approving authority from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to the National Transport Authority (NTA), retaining TII as an agency purely focused on delivery. Provide strategic coherence to transport planning by transferring approving authority from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to the National Transport Authority (NTA), retaining TII as an agency purely focused on delivery. - Extend the statutory remit of the NTA Extend the statutory remit of the NTA across the country and broaden the scope of Metropolitan Area Transport Strategies to include the wider region. - Continue to invest in the basics, such as town, village, and rural bus shelters, up-to date information, coordinated schedules for smooth transfers, and lighting and age friendly seating at bus stops.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Uphold the “Fresh Start” principle to allow separated people apply for first time buying supports and expand the Local Authority Home Loan to allow separated couples to buy the other person out. - Use the Local Authority Home Loan to support distressed mortgage holders and review and reform the Mortgage to Rent scheme. - Continue to grow the Local Authority Affordable Purchase Housing Scheme. - Transfer responsibility for Owner Management Companies from the Department of Justice to the Department of Housing. 			<p>Continue to invest in the basics, such as town, village, and rural bus shelters, up-to date information, coordinated schedules for smooth transfers, and lighting and age friendly seating at bus stops.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Invest in train and bus stations, ensuring they are accessible, clean, safe, well maintained, and attractive centrepieces of our towns and cities. - We will establish an Office of the Ombudsman for Future Generations, learning from the Welsh example of the Commissioner for Future Generations <p>We will establish an Office of the Ombudsman for Future Generations, learning from the Welsh example of the Commissioner for Future Generations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We will work at national and EU level to create a clause in procurement law that allows contract performance on past projects to be taken into account when a company bids for a new publicly funded contract
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Note: We have covered the manifestos of four of the largest parties according to Ireland’s voting intention. However, we are happy to provide further information on the other party’s manifestos. Please contact, policy@ciob.org.uk for any questions.