

COSTELLO



JOE

Message from Joe Costello

This General Election and the next five years of Government are about securing the future of our country. They are also about ensuring that the principles of fairness and equality guide our approach to the economic recovery that is now underway.

As we commemorate the centenary of the 1916 Rising we must ensure that the progress that has been made is not squandered and that the mistakes of the past are not repeated. We must ensure that the Ireland of the future is built on the idealism and vision of patriots such as James Connolly, founder of the Labour Party. Our independence must never again be taken for granted or put at risk.

I have always pursued the best interests of our community and country. My priorities for the years ahead are to achieve more jobs and opportunities for my constituents, improved living standards, well-funded schools, a better health service, more homes and stronger communities.

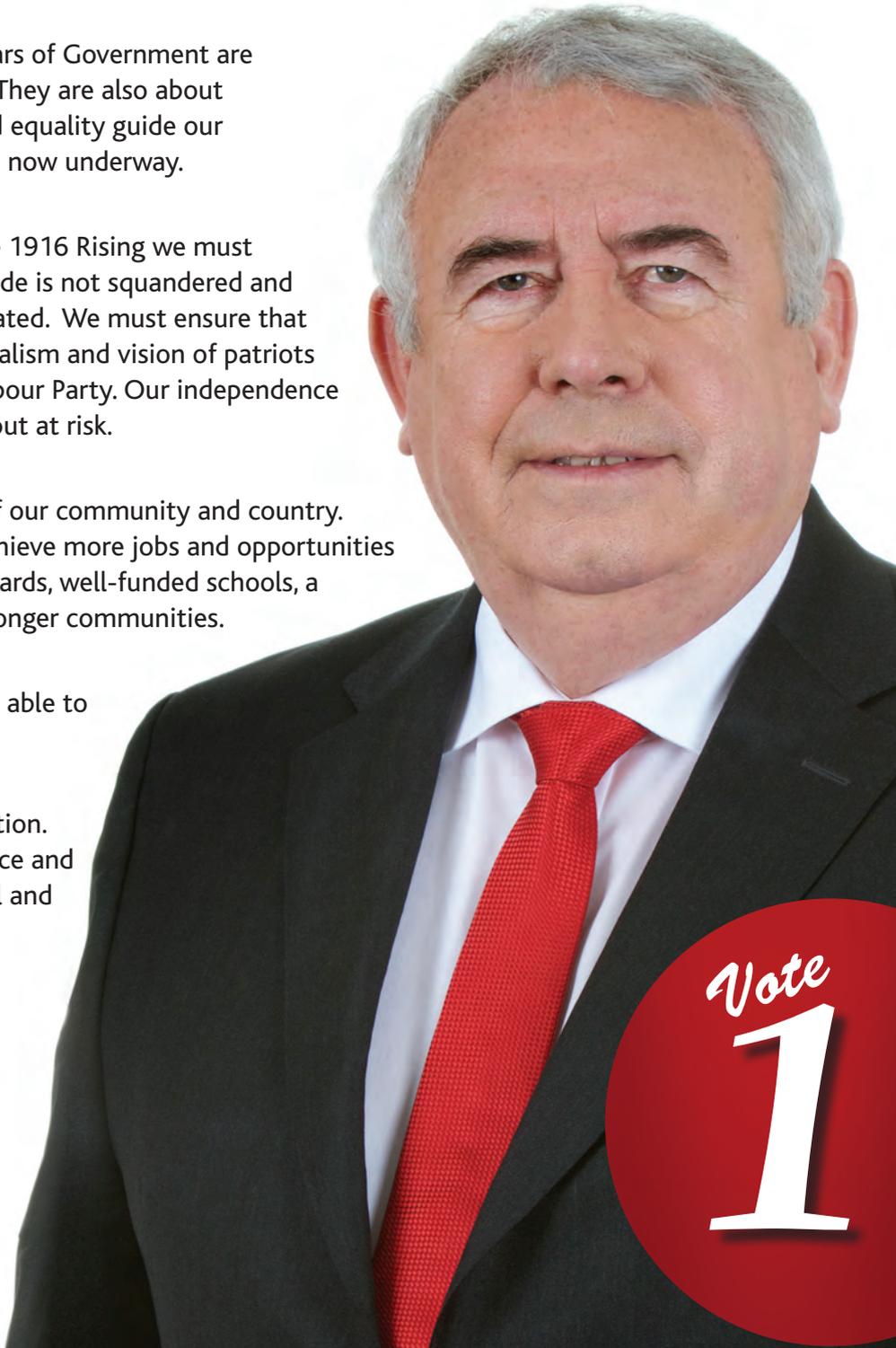
With your support in the election, I will be able to continue my work for local people.

I am asking for your No 1 Vote in this election. I stand on my strong record of public service and hard work for the people of Dublin Central and on my vision for Ireland's future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Costello".

Joe Costello TD



A National Politician with a Local Focus

Standing up for Ireland's future

Creating Jobs and Protecting Workers Rights

Over the past three years 140,000 new jobs have been created and we are creating over 1,000 new jobs per week. Unemployment dropped from 15.3% to 8.6%.

This contrasts starkly with the haemorrhaging of jobs under the previous administration. The moratorium on public sector recruitment is over and new nurses, teachers and Gardaí are now being recruited to rebuild our public services. We have tripled the number of apprenticeships and increased the number of sectors where apprenticeships are offered as a learning path to a career.

Low paid workers are being protected: We established the Low Pay Commission and we have already restored and increased the minimum wage twice after the savage FF cut. We have removed 700,000 low income workers from USC and have reduced the USC rates for low and middle income earners. Over 100 years after the 1913 Lockout we have introduced Collective Bargaining Legislation to protect workers' rights to join a union.

In Dublin Central Joe was to the fore of the Campaign for Justice for the Clery's workers and has been working closely to ensure that workers and their families are at the forefront of the recovery, that the relationship with their employer is transparent and respectful and that business deals exploiting employees, as happened in Clery's, can never happen again in Ireland.

We are committed to creating full employment by 2018. We are also committed to ensuring that these jobs will attract a fair day's pay for a fair day's work; ending zero hours contracts; introducing a living wage of €11.50; abolishing USC for people earning under €72,000; ensuring jobs for all by 2021.



Health

Primary Health Centres at Navan Road, Summerhill, North Strand and Grangegorman will all be completed in 2016 – providing local health care and taking the pressure off hospital A&Es



Joe protested outside the Mater Hospital for 10 years until the new A&E was built

Work as Minister

As Minister for Trade Joe opened up new markets abroad for Irish goods which helped our economic recovery. As Minister for Development he produced Ireland's policy on international aid for elimination of extreme poverty and disease in developing counties. On the Public Accounts Committee, he challenged without fear or favour.

Crime & Policing

As a Member of the North Inner City Drugs Task Force and Community Policing Forum, Joe is all too aware of the impact crime and drugs have on our communities in Dublin Central.

We have introduced far-reaching reforms of policing in Ireland including, the establishment of the new independent Policing Authority and the Human Rights and Equality Commission. We have restarted recruitment of new Gardaí. We are refurbishing the Bridewell Garda Station and will reopen Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station.

600 new Gardaí are being recruited at present, Gardaí will be fully resourced to tackle gangland crime and the Special Criminal Court will be maintained.



Housing & Regeneration

The collapse of the construction and banking industries heralded one of the greatest housing crises of our times. We are investing €3.8 billion for the delivery of social housing – the largest ever state investment in social housing with 14,000 new housing units due to be built this year. In addition, €52 million has been spent on the refurbishment and upgrading of 4,700 local authority units. We have also ensured a new deal for renters with the introduction of a two year rent freeze and the creation of deposit protection scheme. And we are working to help those with mortgage arrears by setting clear measurable targets for banks to propose sustainable long-term solutions.

In Dublin Docklands Joe is co-ordinating a group of stakeholders to ensure that the local community benefits from the NAMA €2 billion investment in the Strategic Development Zone (SDZ). He has secured commitments from NAMA and the Construction Industry Federation on a 20% local labour clause; on the long awaited social housing in North Docklands and from Dublin City Council on the provision of a community facility for the promotion of the rich heritage and culture of the Docklands.

Our Proposals

End the scandal of homelessness by building 20,000 new social housing units.
Introduce a save-to-buy scheme worth up to €6,000 for first-time buyers.
Restart the regeneration projects in O'Devaney Gardens, Dominick Street and Croke Villas.

An Gaelge

Seasann Joe agus Pairte an Lucht Oibre go laidir ar thaobh ár dteanga. Is í ár n-aídhm ná stádas na Gaelge ag ardú mar theanga choiteann agus a ról sa saol culturach agus acadúil a athneartú

Polling Day: Friday, 26 February 2016 7.00 am to 10.00 pm

Building a Fair Society

Marriage Equality

In 2015 Ireland voted to enable every citizen to marry the person of his or her choice. It was the highlight of the year and was a moment of emotion and great pride.

Joe championed the LGBT community in their long campaign for marriage equality and led a strong campaign across Dublin Central.



Joe with Pauline McLynn, (aka Fr Ted's Mrs Doyle) at a meeting he organised on Marriage Equality

Disability



Joe with disability activist Mick Keegan

We have made progress in tackling inequality. However, there are many other areas of inequality to be addressed. The Passage of the Assisted Decision Making Capacity legislation described as "ground-breaking legislation" by Inclusion Ireland, finally repealed the Victorian Lunacy Regulation Act and will now pave the way for the ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. We also launched the Employment Strategy for People with a Disability (2015-24) which sets out a ten-year approach ensuring support and employment opportunities and independent living.

In Dublin Central Joe Costello has run a Sign Language Advice Centre in the Deaf Village Cabra on a quarterly basis since 2012. Joe is committed to ensuring Government ratification of the UN Convention on the Rights of people with Disabilities to assist the tens of thousands of people with a physical or intellectual disability in accessing their rights. Joe is also committed to working with the Irish Deaf Society for the recognition of Irish Sign Language. He supports the proposal for a voucher scheme so that people with disabilities can access services independently.

Looking After Our Children

Child Benefit has been increased in the last two budgets.
Free GP care for under 6s will be extended to under 12's in 2016.
Paid paternity in 2016

A second free pre-school year from September 2016.

Our Proposals

Free GP care extended to everyone.

Extend parental leave

Reduce the cost of childcare to €2 per hour by 2021.

Education

As a teacher and former President of ASTI Joe understands only too well the importance of a good education. Tús maith leath na hoibre.

Despite the economic crisis we delivered €2 billion investment in school buildings including new schools in Dublin Central - Gaelscoil Bharra, Coláiste Mhuire, North Dublin Muslim School and D7 Educate Together.

After twenty years of false starts, the builders are now on site in Gaelscoil Bharra and the new school will be ready by September 2017

We maintained the pupil/teacher ratio during the economic crisis and are now recruiting more teachers and SNAs.

Joe was instrumental in ensuring that the Grangegorman Project was reinstated. The College is now a thriving university campus with the

first thousand students on site and a further 10,000 due to arrive by 2017. As a member of the Grangegorman Community Liaison Committee Joe is working to ensure that the local community will be consulted at every step and will have access to college facilities.

Across town, Joe is working with the National College of Ireland to access more space and better educational services for the local Docklands community.

The Arts & Sport

Joe is working with sporting and arts groups across the City including the Docklands Heritage Preservation Society, the Complex, the Five Lamps Arts Group and Phizzfest.

Joe was instrumental in brokering the deal with Dublin City Council to secure Dalymount Park, the home of Bohemian FC.



Joe at Bohemian FC Press Conference

Senior Citizens

We have restored 75% of the Christmas Bonus and increased the old age pension, fuel allowance, living alone allowance and carers' respite grant. We have also introduced free GP care for all senior citizens over 70 and have increased the funding for homecare packages.

Our proposals now include 100% restoration of the Christmas bonus and to increase the pension to €260 per week.

As a member of the Board of Management of Lourdes Daycare Centre, Joe understands the pressures facing senior citizens



After 20 years of false starts Minister Jan O'Sullivan launches Gaelscoil Bharra. The builders are now on-site and the new school will be opened in 2017.

Vote No 1 Joe Costello for a hard-working, accessible and committed representative

Polling Day: Friday, 26 February 2016
7.00 am to 10.00 pm

Vote
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COSTELLO

JOE

Acting Nationally - Delivering Locally

 <p>1</p>	 <p>2</p>	 <p>3</p>	 <p>4</p>
 <p>5</p>	 <p>6</p>	 <p>7</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Joe speaking at the 2015 Connolly Commemoration in Arbour Hill which he organises annually. 2. Joe initiated the Stoneybatter Cleanup. 3. Joe visiting a Syrian Refugee Camp in Jordan in 2012 with UN. 4. Joe as Minister for Development presenting the One World Award. 5. Joe and Cllr Brendan Carr discuss the Mast issue with Tommy Cooke in Claremont. 6. Joe at Africa Day in Farmleigh. 7. Joe was Director of Elections for Michael D Higgins successful Presidential Campaign. 8. Joe is working with Docklands stakeholders for community gain from new developments. 9. Joe speaking out for Marriage Equality. 10. Joe is one of the most active members of the Public Accounts Committee with 100% attendance record. 11. Joe meeting with Bill Gates to discuss the worldwide eradication of polio. 12. Joe with US Presidential Candidate Hillary Clinton at the United Nations. 13. Joe is married to Emer and they live in Aughrim Street.
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