Edward MacMANUS Ballymun Finglas

Edward Mac Manus has worked as a healthcare worker for many years. As a community pharmacist he has helped thousands of families in Ballymun. Edward is married to Janet and has two children.

He took part in the Ballymun Drug and Alcohol Task Force as a member of its Therapeutic Committee. He is also a former member of the National Drug



and Alcohol Task Force. Edward has worked as a pharmacist in Addiction

Services throughout Dublin and in particular Domville House, Ballymun and Wellmount Clinic, Finglas.

Over the years as well as providing a healthcare service, Edward is a member of Safer Ballymun and has been involved in community activism to help with local social

As a community activist, Edward organised a petition which raised over 10,000 signatures in 2014 as part of a campaign to redevelop rather than demolish the old Ballymun Shopping Centre which served as an important social meeting point for locals.

Over the years, he has been a sponsor and supporter of many local groups such as Ballymun United FC. Setanta GAA. Ballymun Kickhams GAA, Ballymun Tidy Towns, Community Organisations and Local Schools.

We're facing a housing disaster like never before. Total reform is required of Dublin City Council's approach to social housing. So many families are terrified in relation to the accommodation crisis. The threat of homelessness is a reality for thousands within our community.

Many families are trapped earning too much to qualify for social/affordable housing but too little to obtain a mortgage while ECB interest rates soar. These people are stuck paying enormous rents

920 COUNCIL HOUSES VACANT IN DUBLIN IN A HOUSING CRISIS

in the private rental sector or forced to live with family for years upon years. Many young people are now accepting that they'll never own a house in their lives. Aontu and Edward will work to change this.



Aontú Leader PEADAR TÓIBÍN TD

All this is happening while there are nearly 1,000 vacant council houses across Dublin with over 700 within the Dublin City Council area. This is a scandal, and it would not have come to light, if it were not for a housing investigation by Aontú. Our research has also shown that it takes on average 8 months for Councils to turn around a Local Authority house and re-let it. This is shocking given that a private sector rental takes 3 weeks to be turned around.

Your elected councillors are not doing their jobs. Edward Mac Manus will work to ensure that these homes are immediately brought back into use.







CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ON THE INCREASE

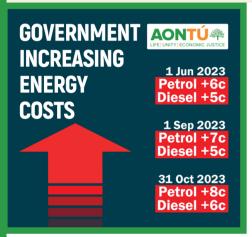
Dublin is currently experiencing a crime and anti-

social behaviour scourge. Many citizens are in fear not just at night-time, but even in the middle of the day. Restaurants are closing earlier in the evening for fear of attacks and violence. Children are being mugged for money and their phones on the way home from school. Public areas are off-limits due to open drinking and drug taking.

Communities, like our own feel under siege due to the increase in crime and anti-social behaviour. Sexual assault in Ireland has doubled in 10 years. Rape has doubled in 10 years. Serious unprovoked attacks are now commonplace.



Yet until recently this crisis did not feature at all on the government's radar. Every year that Helen McEntee has been the Minister for Justice, the number of Gardaí has fallen. Indeed, we have one of the lowest numbers of police per capita in the EU. Every year hundreds of Garda are being attacked. Every year hundreds of Gardaí are resigning and retiring. Garda morale is on the floor. Recruitment to Templemore has collapsed. The Government are distracted by the culture wars while communities suffer. Edward Mac Manus has worked solidly to make this community safer and will push hard for more Gardaí and community supports.



While Irish electricity prices are the highest in Europe, the Government is jacking up the price of petrol and diesel for the third time in just a few months. None of this is an accident. These are deliberate attacks on drivers and commuters many of whom have no alternative mode of transport.

Highly-paid ministers are purposefully pushing up the cost of commuting in the middle of a Cost-of-Living Crisis. Aontú has found out that the government are taking more on fuel taxes now than ever before. Edward Mac Manus will fight for lower Excise Duties on fuel and better public transport.

Ballymun needs a functioning modern transport system. The bus service needs to provide transport to local shopping centres from all parts

of Ballymun. Edward will continue to fight to ensure that Metro North, delayed from 2004, will progress immediately to properly connect Ballymun to the rest of Dublin City.

FIGHTING BACK AT THE CULTURE WARS

Aontú campaigned to ensure that women were not written out of the Work Life Balance Bill which reduced women to 'persons' in relation to maternity protections. The Bill would have removed the terms 'women',

'female' and 'mother' in maternity legislation.

We are the only party that brought this issue successfully to a County Council seeking to ensure that women would not be written out of future legislation. We have also pushed back against Government efforts to put ideology into SPHE classes in school.

Edward believes that parents must be listened to when it comes to their children's education. SPHE classes should be based on science and fact and not on political ideology.

PRIORITISING HEALTH

1 million people are waiting on hospital waiting lists, suffering pain and discomfort for years. Aontú has uncovered that there have been

500,000 adverse incidents in the health system in the last 5 years. 3,154 people have died in the health service in the same period due to mistakes. A dwindling number of Doctors and Nurses are under enormous pressure trying to make ends meet in the health service.

Edward Mac Manus is a leading member of the Connolly Hospital Campaign and has organised demonstrations in support of investment and reform. Edward believes that it is critical that Primary Care Centres such as the one in Ballymun should be at the forefront of Healthcare Reform. Pressure needs to be taken off hospitals by providing more services such as X Rays and minor injury clinics locally.