

HOUSING

Central government has sleepwalked into a housing crisis by not balancing supply with population growth. Now they're panicking and using emergency powers to override local democracy. For example, two small patches of green space at Ballinfoile Park will be built over despite the objections of residents and a two to one vote against by city councillors. Local representatives or hopefuls can't fix this. You can. Come out but don't vote for government parties in the local and European elections.

The University of Galway is rapidly growing the number of students) at a time when purpose-built student accommodation accounts for only one sixth of total student numbers. As a result, more students are pushed into house-shares which constricts rental supply.

If elected, I would press for more coordination between 'town and gown', argue for a carrot and stick (tax and rebuilding grants) approach to vacant property, and demand that the time taken in turning over Local Authority accommodation be shortened.



WHO ARE WE?

Aontú is a new and growing all-Ireland party. Led by Peadar Tóibín TD, Aontú has proposed workable solutions to the housing crisis, the challenges posed by migration, affordability of childcare, inadequate hospital capacity, and public order. Peadar Tóibín has urged that the international protection process be streamlined in order to function with 'compassion and common sense'. Aontú is also a strong voice for human rights including the right to life, free speech, parents' and children's rights, affordable childcare, and economic justice

Ní neart go cur le Chéile.

**PÁDRAIG
LENIHAN**



VOTE NO.1



TO GET IN CONTACT

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PADRAIG LENIHAN

TRAFFIC AND PARKING

HEALTH

Hello,

My name is Pádraig Lenihan and I will be asking for your support in next June's local elections. I have lived in Clifton Park in Newcastle for thirty-four years and reared a family here.

To the role of local councillor, I would bring a family background of public service, varied experience of life and work and a little wisdom acquired on the journey.

I served fourteen years in the Army and subsequently switched careers to become a lecturer in History at the University of Galway. I also qualified as a barrister. I serve on a school board, sporting club and residents association committees, all in Galway central. My e-mail is padraiglenihan386@gmail.com. My mobile number is 087-4442246.

Le gach dea ghúí,

Padraig



We all know about the bottlenecks on Seamus Quirke Road or the Quincentennial Bridge. I would press for actions now, rather than wait for a bypass that may never happen! I would push for year-round Park & Ride facilities, shuttle buses, protected cycle lanes, traffic light sequencing, an off ramp from the Quincentennial to the Moycullen Road, and enforcement of traffic regulations which are routinely disregarded: blocked box junctions, cyclists riding on pedestrian paths, to name but a few common infractions. I would also demand buses to service city centre schools and restrictions on school drop off and pickups.

Moreover, poorly planned facilities cause and will cause overspill into surrounding neighbourhoods as surely as night follows day. The proposed student accommodation near Crestwood in Coolagh has eight car parking spaces and 257 beds. Overspill is a particular nuisance in Newcastle and Dangan where university staff and students unable to find (or unwilling to pay for) spots on campus, park in residential streets.

If elected I will work hard to control the problem by liaising closely with residents' associations and community gardaí and exploring residents-only parking restrictions.



The numbers are all going in the wrong direction, ambulance response times, waiting lists, and A&E response, despite the best efforts of hard-pressed front-line staff.

Like the housing problem, this reflects the failure of joined up thinking by a government that would rather distract you with a fatuous constitutional referendum than solve real problems. Local government can do little about the broken health service except at the margins as, for example, by pressing for more visitor car parking in UHG.

THE CORRIB

The Corrib is the fastest flowing river in Europe which translates into enough untapped power for 5,000 households:

'...river, while you're rambling, you can do some work for me' (Woody Guthrie)

I would work on the City Council to encourage microgeneration without interfering with wildfowl or fisheries or other uses like competitive rowing and fishing or walking on the riverside paths developed by the City Council and the university which were a solace for young and old during lockdown.

It can be done.