



PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT

FIGHTING FOR WORKERS & ECO-SOCIALISM



PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT **BUDGET SUMMARY 2025**

END 100 YEARS OF
FINE GAEL & FIANNA FÁIL
ANOTHER IRELAND IS POSSIBLE

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End 100 Years of Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael: Another Ireland is Possible

Budget 2025 will take place with the prospect of a General Election in the next few months. In one form or another Fianna Fáil and Fine Gael (FFFG) have been in power for 100 years. They will seek, with the help of this budget, to be returned to power and continue their disastrous rule.

It also takes place at a time when Ireland has unprecedented wealth but also high levels of homelessness, inequality and deprivation. One in five children are experiencing deprivation. Many more are struggling with cost-of-living increases.

Public services are not fit for purpose and working people struggle to gain access to health care. Education is costly when it should be free and childcare costs amount to another mortgage for many households. Those with additional needs are locked out of basic services waiting for essential assessments and therapies and even school places. 40% of disabled people live on or below the poverty line.

The housing crisis deepens with many finding it impossible to gain access to affordable housing. The government continues to rely on the market and developers when we need an emergency programme led by a State Construction Company to build and renovate many thousands of social and affordable houses.

All of this in spite of the fact that the government has unprecedented resources available to it. The government refuses to go after the wealth which could be used to provide a decent living to the majority of the population. Indeed, it has worked flat out to try and give over €13 billion that is owed to the Irish people to Apple's shareholders.

As we head into a General Election People Before Profit is summarising our Budget here to highlight the key issues and present some of our key proposals which will be at the centre of our General Election campaign. (The complete budget document is also available and covers a more extensive set of proposals).

Its time to end the rule of FFFG and radically change Irish society. People Before Profit is the only party that has ruled out going into government with FFFG. While other parties dither we set out the radical action that is needed. **Another Ireland is possible and People Before Profit have the political will to make it happen.**

Our budget identifies the many sources of wealth in our society and identifies key actions to give working people a break and address the cost of living crisis, address the housing and climate crises, provides care for the most vulnerable and provides access to the basic

services that people need.

We identify almost €56 billion in additional resources, including the Apple Tax, that could be raised and added to the over €8 billion predicted government surplus. We propose additional expenditure of almost €48 billion.

In addition to previous years of budget surpluses and the Apple tax money, our budget will also generate a substantial surplus in 2025 of over €16 billion.

The monies from the Apple Tax would be used by us to capitalise a state construction company and build social housing.

Other monies will be used to fund multi-year capital expenditure projects, such as fully renewable energy transformation, public transport, healthcare, and education infrastructure projects.

PEOPLE BEFORE PROFIT SAYS

1. Tax the Multi-Millionaires and Give Working People a Break. An equal Ireland is possible.

5 Key measures to give working people a break and address the Cost of Living Crisis

- Abolish the USC for workers earning less than €100,000.
- Cap essential food prices, cut electricity bills by returning ESB to a not for profit mandate and cap energy prices.
- Cap mortgage interest rates to 3%.
- A Living Wage of at least €15 an hour for all. A €2 per hour increase for all childcare workers.
- End poverty rates for Pensions and Social Protection Payments: Raise them to €300 per week with an additional €50 Cost of Disability payment for those on disability payments.

5 Key Measures to Tax the Wealthy and Profits of Large Companies and raise nearly €50 billion:

- Introduce a Millionaires' Tax on wealth to raise at least €8 billion.
- Introduce four new tax bands on top earners to raise €4 billion.
- Higher PRSI rates for employers to raise over €3 billion.
- Raise Corporation Tax to 20% for large corporations and close tax avoidance loopholes to raise €20 billion.
- Use over €13 billion owed by Apple.

2. Take Radical Action to end the housing crisis: An end to the housing crisis is possible.

People Before Profit believes we need an emergency programme led by a State Construction Company to build many thousands of social and affordable houses. We would allocate the Apple money to capitalise a State Construction Company and build social housing. Our Budget says:

- Increase the annual social housing target from 10,000 to 25,000 per year.
- Increase both targets for cost rental and affordable housing to 10,000 per year.
- Introduce more punitive "use it or lose it" taxes on vacant and derelict buildings and sites.
- Remove the income limits for public housing.
- Increase the renter's tax credit to €3,000 and introducing real rent controls.

3. We need Quality Public Service for a wealthy country.

A National Health Service is possible. Our Budget says

- Introduce Free Primary Care for all including GP Care.
- Abolish charges and fees across the health sector.
- Add 1,000 permanent acute beds with appropriate staffing and an additional 50 level 3 ICU beds.
- Make the free contraception scheme universal & introducing free HRT for all women who need it.
- Bring staffing in public health teams to WHO recommended levels.
- Invest €500 million in Mental Health Services to bring spending towards 10% of overall health budget by 2027.

Genuinely free education is possible: Our Budget says:

- Abolish all school charges including so called voluntary contributions and provide free books and uniforms.
- Double the capitation grant for primary schools.
- Reduce the pupil teacher ratio to 15:1.
- Abolish all college fees.
- Double maintenance grants.
- Provide a fund to ensure PhD researches receive at least €30,000 a year.

4. For a Caring Society: Value care and look after the most vulnerable

The resources exist within our society to provide care for all our children and those with special needs and disabilities. A Caring Ireland is possible. Our Budget says:

- As part of a programme to transition to a publicly owned and funded childcare system invest €1.5 billion to expand the number of childcare places and provide free preschool meals.
- Provide 12 months paid leave to both parents in the first two years of their child's life.
- Invest €2 billion in disability services and supports including increasing all disability related social welfare payments to €350 per week to take account of the additional costs of being disabled.
- Abolish the means test for Carers Allowance.
- Pay carers a Living Wage of €15 an hour.
- Increase the number of Special Needs Assistants by 2,000, Special Education Teachers by 1,000 and increase the number of psychologist posts in NEPS by 50%. Hire 375 additional clinicians to clear waiting list for assessments of those with autism.
- By reducing pupil-teacher ratio and by hiring more staff to help students with additional needs, we will make sure that no child is left without a school place.

5. Protect the Planet- Make the Polluters Pay

Massive cuts to emissions are possible: Our Budget says

- Invest €5 billion in renewable energy as the first step in a state led programme to phase out fossil fuels and transition to 100% renewables.
- Abolish fares on all public transportation services and publicly contracted commercial services while doubling capital investment in public transport infrastructure. Provide free school transport for another 50,000 children.
- Invest €1 billion in low BER and high energy poverty households for retrofitting.
- Cap dairy herds at 200 cows and introduce a Dairy Herd Reduction scheme for farmers.
- Introduce a Farming for Biodiversity payment for small farmers.

People Before Profit

BUDGET SUMMARY 2025

2023 Accounts	€ million
General Government Revenue in 2023	123,715
Government Expenditure	115,387
General Government Surplus	8,328

PBP Budget estimates (as per our Budget document)	€ million
REVENUE	
Surplus carried forward	8,328
Introduce four new tax bands on top earners	4,005
Employer PRSI increases (total)	2,970
Corporate Tax (CT) - Apple Inc	13,800
CT - 20% headline rate	20,000
CT - pharmaceuticals & health	1,600
CT - energy companies	540
Millionaires' Tax	8,000
Tax on vacant homes	480
Tax on vacant land zoned for residential development	300
Non-Principal Private Residence Tax	631
Increase commercial stamp duty to 10%	145
Increase Capital Gains Tax from 33 to 40%	525
A 2.25% tax social media and largest ICT companies	896
Retrospective 12.5% tax on 20% of profits from Intellectual Property	722
Financial Transaction Tax	320
Tax on commercial aviation	325
Reduction in Pension Relief Threshold	121
Abolish the Special Assignment Relief Programme (SARP)	42
Total	€63,750

Expenditure (Costs)	€ million
Refundable tax credit	1,300
Acquire 15,000 additional properties for social housing	4,248

Expenditure (Costs)	€ million
Increase both targets for cost rental and affordable purchase to 10,000 per year (these targets to be achieved through a combination of direct construction and acquisition (part V, tenant in situ, CPO), ramping up direct construction and reducing acquisition as the states own construction capacity expands)	1,806
As an interim measure pending introduction of maximum rent controls and prior to housing list being cleared - increase HAP limits to level of average rents	1,097
Establish a state construction company to deliver social and affordable housing and renovate vacant and derelict property	500
Increase funding to DHRE and local authorities to improve the quantity and quality of emergency accommodation	50
Increase renter's credit to €3,000 pending rent controls and other rent reduction measures	900
100% redress for all defective homes built between 1991 and 2013 - €300 in the first year	300
100% mica redress - first payment	210
Increase social protection payment to €300 per week (excluding disability related payments)	2,798
Increase Disability Allowance, Invalidity Pension and Blind Pension to €350 per week	1,340
Reduce the State Pension age to 65	415
Increase the Qualified Child Allowance by €12 for under 12s & €30 for over 12s	274
Increase Child Benefit by 20%	434
Abolish the means test for Carers' Allowance	600
Increase public sector pay by 10% for all those earning below €100,000	2,600
Index linking tax credits by 2%	470
Abolish USC for earners under €100,000 and introduce a Higher Income Social Charge of 10% on income over €100,000	3,200
Extend eligibility for the Fuel Allowance to all pensioners and to all in receipt of the Working Family Payment	499
Abolish the waiting period of a year for Fuel Allowance for those on Job Seekers Allowance	15
Increase Fuel Allowance by €20 per week for current and proposed new recipients	540
Extend Child Benefit to 6,372 children under the age of 18 in the international protection process	13
Cap energy prices at EU average levels and fully renationalise the energy system	1,800
Abolish childcare fees for parents	332
Free preschool meals for all children in the ECCE scheme	67
A €2 per hour wage increase for all childcare workers	152
Expanding the number of public childcare places	1,016

Expenditure (Costs)	€ million
Extending paid Parent's Leave and amalgamating it with Maternity and Paternity Leave to 12 months' paid leave in the first two years of child's life.	479
Abolish all charges (including voluntary contributions) and provide free school books and uniforms.	497
Provide free school meals at secondary level	223
Double the capitation grant for primary schools	100
Increase the Minor Works Grant by 20% and the Ancillary Grant by €10 million	16
Reduce pupil teacher ratios to 15:1 in primary and post-primary	468
Reinstate the number of assistant principals to the highest previous level	28
Increase the number of Special Needs Assistants by 2,000	82
Increase the number of Special Education Teachers by 1,000	71
Increase the number of psychologist posts in NEPS by 50%	16
Invest in Equal Start Model to support children who experience disadvantage	50
Double DEIS funding	180
Abolish the student contribution charge	255
Abolishing fees for EU postgraduates and mature or repeating students	100
Fund to ensure all PhD researchers receive a stipend of at least €30,000 per year	102
Double maintenance grants and reduce adjacent rate to 24 kilometres	94
Increase mental health supports on campuses to ensure one counsellor per 1,000 students	18
Provide 30,000 extra affordable student beds by 2029 (€300 million in first year)	300
Add 1,000 permanent acute beds with appropriate staffing. Costs €439 in running costs and €850 in capital expenditure	1,289
Additional 50 level 3 ICU beds. Costs: €43 million in running costs and €95 million in capital expenditure	138
100 additional speech & language therapists: €5.9 million 100 additional clinical psychologists: €8.7 million 100 additional occupational therapists: €5.9 million 100 additional physiotherapists: €6 million 100 additional consultants: €32 million	59
Free Primary Care including GP Care	672
Abolish all Emergency Department charges for public patients	105
Reduce Drug Payment Threshold to €10 per month	200
Scrap Prescription Charges for Medical Card Holders	100
Reinstate pre-crisis Dental Treatment Services Scheme	34
Abolish car parking charges at HSE Statutory Hospitals	9
Introduce a state funded universal contraception scheme	105
Free hormone replacement therapy (HRT)	10

Expenditure (Costs)	€ million
Invest in Mental Health Services to bring spending in line with Mental Health Reform recommendation of 10% of overall health budget by 2027:	500
Investment in transgender healthcare: including upskilling and reskilling of healthcare professionals, and provision of free transgender healthcare	6
Hire additional 375 clinicians required to clear assessment of needs waiting lists for children with autism and the estimated full-year cost of ensuring that the timelines for assessment of needs outlined in the Disability Act 2005	34
Invest additional €2bn in 2025 as a year 1 increase as part of a multi-year programme of transformational increases in funding in disability services to end poverty and exclusion.	1,000
Additional funding youth information services	15
Investing in autism supports	58
Additional funding for Local Drug and Alcohol Task Force	6
Additional funding for Local Authorities	800
Additional funding for arts and culture (other than the RTE and public media)	370
Increase funding for Údarás na Gaeltachta, Roinn na Gaeltachta and Foras na Gaeilge for investment and supports in the Gaeltacht and to support Irish speaking outside the Gaeltacht	41
Additional investment in TG4	26
Transform RTE and public media	600
Additional funding for sports and recreation services	150
Basic Income for the Arts	109
Abolish residential waste collection charges	400
Investing in 100% renewable energy	5,000
Additional investment in low BER and high energy poverty households for retrofitting	1,000
Free school bus funding	96
Additional invest in the Safe Routes to School Scheme	54
Investment in additional bus services - including purchase of electric buses	500
Doubling capital investment in public transport infrastructure	1,042
Abolish fares on all public transportation services and publicly contracted commercial services	665
Abolish parking charges at park and ride facilities	25
Abolish M50 and East Link tolls	154
Farming for Biodiversity payment	975
Dairy Herd Reduction scheme for farmers	1,247
Referendum on the Rights of Nature and the Right to a Healthy Environment	20
Total	€47,669

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