



# Senator Ged Nash

# VOTE No.1


## on February 8th 2020

*Dear Resident,*

*I wanted to let you know about my priorities for you and your family in East Meath. I want to describe what I will do for the area if you elect me as your TD. In this leaflet I'm outlining my ideas on health, on housing, on jobs, on childcare and education and on our environment.*

*As you know, I have a long history with the area. I work hard. I'm passionate about where we live and I want to help to deliver progress for the area.*

*Let's work together to deliver real progress in East Meath. I'm asking you to give me your Number 1 vote.*

*Very best wishes,* 

## WE'LL FIX HEALTH – LOCALLY AND COUNTRYWIDE

More of our taxes than ever before are going into health spending, but the government still gives us record overcrowding and long waiting lists. We can fix this – with more hospital beds and by ending the staff recruitment embargo. We can care for more people at home by providing enough funding for home-help and respite care, and we will train more GPs so every community has access to a doctor.



**Let's get the Bettystown Primary Care Centre open**

Here in East Meath we will keep the pressure on the HSE so that the new Bettystown Primary Care Centre opens as soon as possible. Local residents have waited long enough already. The Centre's facilities will include occupational therapy and speech and language therapy, as well as other essential health services for our area. We need the Centre open now!

## MY 5 PRIORITIES FOR EAST MEATH.

- 1** More energy-efficient and affordable homes for young families in the area.
- 2** Keeping pressure on to complete Bettystown Primary Care Centre and other facilities.
- 3** Ensure our children have enough school places, by building schools such as Whitecross NS and delivering second level places.
- 4** Paying people a living wage and giving people a pension at 66, not older than that!
- 5** Fight the Climate Crisis by reducing fares from Laytown and developing more local bus services.



**Ged launching our Commuter Plan**

## WE'LL BUILD HOMES – IN EAST MEATH AND NATIONALLY

My party has a long record of delivering new homes to families. The late Jimmy Tully, former East Meath TD and Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, was responsible for delivering homes for thousands of people in the area and beyond.

Labour will build 80,000 energy efficient homes on public land, investing €16 billion without raising taxes. And we will make sure the infrastructure is there to support these homes.

We'll put the schools and the health facilities in place **before** the homes are occupied.

Everyone, from all walks of life, will be able to rent or buy these new homes. The private market has failed to provide affordable housing. Labour will get the state building again and end Ireland's homeless crisis.

## A FAIR START FOR EVERY CHILD



***Our children deserve the best of facilities and supports***

We need to make sure that no child is left behind because of their background or circumstance. So, we'll make primary education genuinely free-of-charge – for instance, by providing schoolbooks and healthy school meals.

Childcare costs too much. Parents are stretched enough with other costs. We will develop a public Childcare Scheme to help working parents. We will strengthen online safeguards and deliver on child and adolescent mental health services.

In East Meath I have been in contact with many local families who worry about their children securing a first-year place at C6laiste na hInse for the next school year. I have called on the Minister of Education to make sure there are enough places available, and I will continue to push for sufficient school places in the area, like we did at Whitecross National School, for which I secured the funding in 2015.

## BETTER PAY AND JOB SECURITY FOR EVERYONE

How we work is changing. A job for life doesn't exist anymore. Labour will guarantee better conditions, job security and give everyone a right to flexible work, to help parents balance work and family. Too many people are underpaid, and wages aren't keeping up with the cost of living. Labour will raise the minimum wage to be a real living wage.

**And we will freeze the State Pension age at 66!**

At a local level I've been proud to support the campaign for all school secretaries to be paid a decent wage. Our school administrators are the glue that holds our school communities together and it is unacceptable that all too many of them are in jobs where they can earn as little as €12,500 per year and where they have to sign on the dole during school holidays.

## REAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS

Time is running out, so we must invest in climate action now to build a low carbon economy. Across Ireland we will invest in public transport and cycling, give grants for electric vehicles, and start an insulation programme for 100,000 homes a year, creating local jobs, lower energy bills and warmer homes.



**Ged with the D1**

Locally, our transport, planning and development policies must be sustainable. I have been pushing for the Julianstown bypass – a scheme which is needed on health and environmental grounds, as well as for enhanced public transport options, such as the D1 and D2 services. Schemes such as these will help to ensure sustainable development.

Transport by rail is one of the best ways of combatting climate change. At the moment commuters from East Meath are paying higher rates per kilometre for their journeys than commuters in North Dublin. I want fair fares for East Meath Commuters. So, we will introduce fare caps on LEAP tickets to Laytown station.

**Lower fares = more passengers  
= less emissions into our atmosphere**

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## Working Together in East Meath

# LABOUR