

Dáil Éireann:

Notes that:

- Fine Gael have been in Government for twelve years, propped up by Fianna Fáil for the past seven years and Darragh O'Brien TD has been Minister for Housing for three years
- during that time the housing crisis has deepened and is the biggest threat to Ireland's economic and societal wellbeing

Further notes with extreme concern that :

- adult homelessness has increased by 44% and child homelessness has increased by 39% since this Government was formed, meaning last month, the total number of people in the Department of Housing-funded emergency accommodation was 12,441, including 3,699 children
- rents are up 23% since this Government was formed and average rents across the State are now €1507 with new rents in Dublin €2063, while thousands of renters have received eviction notices
- according to the latest Residential Tenancies Board Q4 2022 rent report, there was a 7.6% increase in new rents across the state in 2022 and thirteen counties have experienced double digit rent increases

Acknowledges:

- the housing emergency is inhibiting the capacity of businesses to expand, limiting potential investment in respect of new jobs and more importantly adding to the recruitment and retention crisis and delivery of key public services across the State.

Condemns that:

- the Government have missed their social and affordable housing targets for three years
- the Department of Housing has underspent its social and affordable capital budget by €1bn
- the Department of Housing capital budget for 2023 is behind profile by 28% as of June

Resolves that:

- Fine Gael and Fianna Fail cannot solve the housing crisis that they have created and only a change of Government which prioritises the delivery of public housing can fix the housing emergency.

Calls for:

- a 3 year ban on rent increases and the creation of a refundable tax credit to put a month's rent back in every private renter's pocket
- an emergency response to stem the rise in homelessness including a temporary reintroduction of the ban on no fault evictions; an expansion of the tenant in situ scheme for social and cost rental tenants; and the use of emergency planning and procurement powers combined with new building technologies and vacant homes to provide an additional stream of public housing to reduce the numbers of people in emergency accommodation