



CLAIMING OUR FUTURE

a progressive movement for an equal,
sustainable and thriving Ireland

Power at your front door

**We don't just want to change the Government
we want to change the country**

Some big questions to ask the canvasser and candidates.

'Claiming our Future' is a national, broad-based, non-party-political movement committed to the emergence of an equal, sustainable and thriving Ireland. In late 2010, over 1,000 people from all walks of life and all parts of Ireland came together to discuss values and policies for a new alternative Ireland. We don't just want to change the Government, we want to change the country.

We believe that the values and policy ideas set out that day enjoy a broad level of support among people throughout Ireland. However, the political parties and candidates that will be seeking our votes over the next few weeks are very often out of touch with our deeper hopes and aspirations. The election offers us an opportunity to put these priorities, values and ideas on the political agenda and demonstrate that only those politicians and parties which embrace a long-term, sustainable and equal vision for Ireland will win our votes.

Too often when canvassers or candidates turn up at your door, the conversation turns to complaints and local services. Important as these are, they do not convey the profound desire for change in the way we run our society and our government. This note aims to assist voters, who share Claiming our Future's goals, to be better prepared to ask the big questions that communicate the scale of our ambition for change, social justice and sustainable prosperity.

It is not suggested that you ask all the questions here, but rather that you use them to prepare your own list which reflects your own priorities and language. You could use them to:

- **Tape the reverse side of this memo beside your door and ask questions of canvassers and candidates at your doorstep.**
- **Make a point of going out to attend a meeting that candidates are holding, and raise these points from the floor.**
- **Organise a meeting on these issues yourself, and invite all the candidates. Go to www.claimingourfuture.ie for local convenors who you could work with this.**
- **Write to the local papers raising these points.**
- **Raise these issues and share this note with neighbours, family, work colleagues and friends.**

You can sign up to hear more about this movement at claimingourfuture.ie



CLAIMING OUR FUTURE

a progressive movement for an equal,
sustainable and thriving Ireland

Some big questions to canvassers

WE NEED POLITICIANS WITH VALUES THAT WILL CHANGE THE WAY THINGS ARE DONE

Claiming our Future proposes five values which should inform all policies:

Equality, Environmental sustainability, Accountability, Participation and Solidarity.

- What values would you bring to Government that would make a difference?

WE NEED TO CHANGE OUR BOOM-AND-BUST ECONOMY

- Does your party have a vision for a more sustainable and balanced way of developing our economy?

WE NEED A MORE EQUAL SOCIETY

- Does your party have policies to close the gap between the rich and poor?
- Do you support the idea of a minimum and a maximum income?

WE NEED TO CHANGE THE WAY WE GOVERN OURSELVES

- Does your party have any policies which would promote greater participation of the public in decision making on issues that affect them?
- What policies does your party have to reform the Dáil, Seanad and Local Government so that they are accountable, efficient, effective and genuinely reflect the diversity in our society?

WE NEED DECENT AND SUSTAINABLE JOBS

- In government, would you introduce a stimulus package to maximise job creation in a green/social/rural economy that is environmentally and socially sustainable?

WE NEED RADICAL BANKING REFORM

- If elected what would your party do to ensure tighter regulation of banks?
- If elected, what would you do to ensure that banks make credit available to local enterprises in the community?

WE NEED REFORM OF PUBLIC SERVICES

- Do you have a policy for reforming public services which ensures quality, effectiveness and equality?
- Does your party support the universal provision of healthcare, childcare and services for older people?
- What would you do to ensure greater equality in access to and participation in all levels of education (preschool to university)?

T: 01 8870726

E: info@claimingourfuture.ie

www.claimingourfuture.ie