

Poblacht na nOibrithe

Uachtar na bhFál, Aibreán, 2011

A vote for éirígí is a vote against cuts!

Over the next few years the Westminster and Stormont regimes will slash funding to healthcare, education, housing and other vital public services. Communities like West Belfast which rely heavily on these services will suffer most as a result of these cutbacks. Once again it is ordinary working families that will be forced to accept ill-health and sub-standard education and housing, while at the same time the wealthy in our society will remain untouched.

All of the parties in the Stormont coalition claim that they are opposed to the cutbacks, but they are still going to implement them. How can you oppose and support cutbacks at the same time? It just doesn't make any sense.

As things stand all ten councillors that represent the Lower and Upper Falls belong to either Sinn Féin or the SDLP. And both of these parties are in the Stormont coalition. So where is the opposition? And who is going to take a real stand against the cuts?

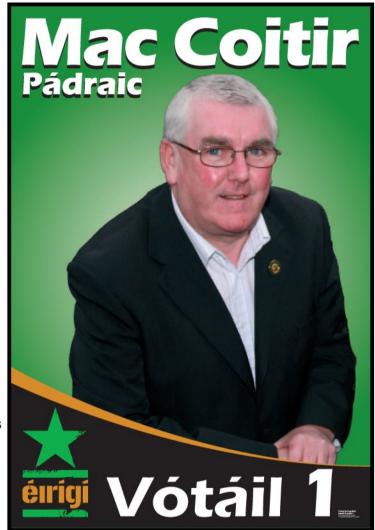
On May 5th you will have an opportunity to tell the parties in Stormont what you think of their cutbacks. You can vote for the cutbacks by supporting one of the parties that are in the Stormont coalition, or you can vote against the cutbacks by voting for éirígí. A vote for éirígí will send a very strong message to the political establishment – 'West Belfast will not accept your cutbacks and we will not pay for the greed of the rich.'

West Belfast needs a radical new voice that will stand up for our proud community. A voice that will demand dramatic changes to how power and wealth are distributed within Irish society. With your support Pádraic Mac Coitir can become that voice both inside of City Hall and on the streets.

Vótáil i gcoinne giorruithe, vótáil éirígí

Sna blianta amach romhainn gearrfaidh rialtas Londain agus réimeas Stormont maoiniú do chúram sláinte, oideachas, tithíocht agus seirbhísí riachtanacha eile. Arís eile is iad teaghlaigh lucht oibre a bheas orthu glacadh le drochthionchar na gciorruithe seo. Éalóidh na saibhre slán sábháilte.

Deir na páirtithe ar fad i gcomhrialtas Stormont go bhfuil siad i gcoinne na gciorruithe, ach cuirfidh siad iad



i bhfeidhm. Cén dóigh ar féidir freastal ar an dá thrá seo? Níl aon chiall ann. Is as páirtithe i gcomhrialtas Stormont na deich gcomhairleoirí i dtoghcheantair na bhFál faoi láthair. Cá bhfuil an freasúra?

Ar 5ú Bealtaine beidh deis agat do bharúil a nochtadh le páirtithe Stormont faoina gcuid ciorruthe. Thig leat vótáil ar son na gciorruithe trí thacú le ceann de pháirtithe Stormont, nó thig leat vótáil i gcoinne na gciorruithe trí vótáil ar son éirígí.

Tá glór nua radacadh de dhíth ar Iarthar Bhéal Feirste. Glór a sheasfaidh ar son ár bpobail, agus a éileoidh athrú radacach sa dóigh a roinntear cumhacht agus maoin sa tsochaí. Le do thacaíocht, is féidir le Pádraic Mac Coitir an glór sin a thabhairt – taobh istigh de Halla na Cathrach, agus níos tábhachtaí arís ar na sráideanna.

Caithfidh Beairic Shruthán na Coille Imeacht

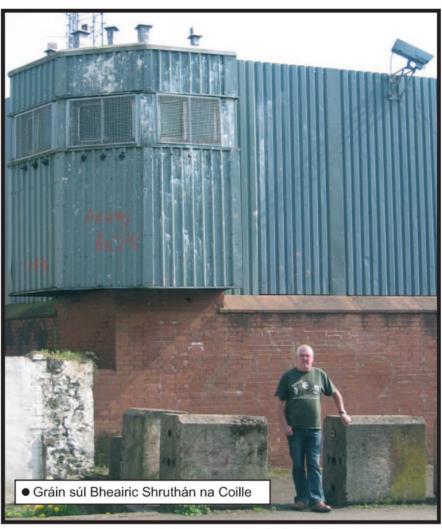
Tá druidim agus scartáil bheairic PSNI Shruthán na Coille éilithe ag Pádraic Mac Coitir. Tá an dúnfort i gceantar Léana an Dúin ina smál ar an tírdhreach áitiúil leis na scórtha bliain.

Dúirt Pádraic: "Tá beairic Shruthán na Coille ina gráin súl ar leac dorais mhuintir Léana an Dúin agus Suffolk le ró-fhada, ní hathróidh nuamhaisiú ná brat péinte ar bith an fhírinne sin. Mar chuid de chlár athghiniúna do Bhóthar Suffolk, ba chóir an bheairic a scartáil agus tithíocht shóisialta agus áiseanna oiriúnacha a chur ina hionad ar son mhuintir na háite."

Chuir Pádraic leis: "Níl feidhm ag beairic Shruthán na Coille don phobal áitiúil. Roimhe, bhí sé ina hionad ceann réime d'ionsaithe RUC-Arm na Breataine ar dhaoine áitiúla agus, anois, níl ann ach ionad spiaireachta glóirithe, ornaithe le ceamaraí agus trealamh bailithe faisnéise MI5-PSNI."

Ag diúltú maíomh go bhfuil ról ag beairic Shruthán na Coille i mbac a chur ar thrioblóid ag 'comhéadan' Léana an Dúin-Suffolk, dúirt Pádraic: "Tá lámh agam féin agus ag neart gníomhaithe pobail eile ar bhonn laethúil ag tógáil caidreamh níos fearr idir mhuintir Léana an Dúin agus Suffolk; níl ról dearfach ag an PSNI sa phróiseas seo."

Chríochnaigh Pádraic: "Tá an acmhainn ag Bóthar Suffolk bheith ina limistéar áilleachta nádúrtha agus ina limistéar forbartha sósialta inbhuanaithe araon. Tá Páirc Foraoise



Ghleann Chollann ann, Loch Leathghealaí agus is bealach isteach é chuig an Sliabh Dubh agus ar aghaidh. Chomhlánódh baint amach na beairice, agus lonnú acmhainní pobail agus tithíocht shóisialta ina háit, chomhlánódh sin na sárthréithe seo."

Andersonstown Site Holds Great Potential for Community

The site of the demolished DHSS office in Andersonstown and the ground adjoining it holds great potential for the local community says éirígí's Pádraic Mac Coitir. The relevant plot of land includes the former DHSS office site, an adjoining large green area, a play park and the closed library.

Pádraic said: "What we have now is a large area of unused land, a dilapidated play park and a shuttered-up library right in the very heart of Andersonstown. At the same time the people of the area need housing, educational resources and recreational facilities for their children. These could all be provided for on the space in question if the necessary political will existed."

Pádraic added: "Bringing the play park up to a similar standard to the ones in Lenadoon and the Falls Park, combined with the provision of 3G pitches would provide badly needed amenities for local children and young people. A suitable social housing development would go some way to address the local accommodation shortage and the refurbishment of the library would provide a valuable educational resource. éirígí believes this is no less than what the people of Andersonstown deserve and we are willing to work with them to ensure that this site is used for their collective benefit."

Casement Park Redevelopment Welcomed

éirígí's Pádraic Mac Coitir has welcomed the news that the funding for the long overdue redevelopment of Andersonstown's Casement Park is now to be provided. The home of Antrim GAA, which can currently hold 32,000 people, is to be redeveloped into a fully-seated stadium with a capacity for 40,000 people.

"It is long past time that Casement Park was recognised as the preeminent GAA venue in Ulster. This redevelopment will make that case beyond doubt and I congratulate local Gaels on their achievement. It is also encouraging that all

concerned have recognised the folly of building a socalled national stadium on the site of Long Kesh."

Pádraic continued: "The redevelopment works and the increased attractions that will come to Casement as a result of the redevelopment provide massive opportunities for Andersonstown and the greater West Belfast area. These opportunities must not be squandered. Every effort needs to be taken to ensure



that sustainable, well-paid and unionised employment is created for local people off the back of the redevelopment.

I also call on the GAA to ensure that the new stadium has an Irish language ethos at its core, giving appropriate recognition to the many people in our community who use, or wish to use, our national tongue on a daily basis."

Woodbourne Barracks Must Go!

Pádraic Mac Coitir has called for the closure and demolition of Woodbourne PSNI barracks.

The heavily-fortified base has been a blight on the Lenadoon and Suffolk landscapes for decades.

Pádraic said: "Woodbourne barracks has been an eyesore on the doorsteps of the people of Lenadoon and Suffolk for far too long, no amount of makeovers or paint jobs can change that fact. As part of a regeneration program for the Suffolk Road, the barracks should be demolished and replaced with amenities and social housing for the people of the area.

Woodbourne barracks serves no useful purpose to the local community. Previously, it was a staging post for British Army-RUC attacks on local people and now it is nothing but a glorified spy post, festooned with MI5-PSNI cameras and intelligence gathering equipment."

Rejecting claims that Woodbourne barracks has a role to play in preventing trouble at the Lenadoon-Suffolk 'interface', Pádraic said: "I and many other community activists are involved on a daily basis in building better relations between the residents of Lenadoon and Suffolk, - the PSNI has no positive role to play in this process.

Pádraic concluded: "The Suffolk Road has the potential to be developed as an area of outstanding natural beauty which would bring both social and economic benefits to our community.

"I and many other community activists are involved on a daily basis in building better relations between the residents of Lenadoon and Suffolk..."

It has Colin Glen forest park, the Half Moon Lake and is also a gateway to the Black Mountain beyond. The removal of the blight that is the barracks and the situating of community resources and social housing in its place could only complement these outstanding natural qualities."

Pádraic Mac Coitir

Padraic Mac Coitir is a 53-year-old native of Andersonstown and long time Lenadoon resident. He has been imprisoned by the British state on four separate occasions for his republican activities. Since being released from the H-Blocks in 1996, Pádraic has been heavily involved in socialist republican and community politics, including working with the large ex-prisoner population in West Belfast. He is an active trade unionist, a former Chairperson of the National Graves Association, an Irish language enthusiast and a keen follower of Gaelic sports.

If elected, Pádraic will continue his lifelong fight for the rights of his community and country. He hopes you will join him in rebuilding a strong, vibrant and radical community of resistance in West Belfast.



éirigí – The Socialist Republican Alternative

éirígí is an all-Ireland socialist republican political party which was founded in Dublin in 2006. From Cork to Belfast and Dublin to Donegal éirígí has now established itself as an energetic campaigning party and a credible alternative to the establishment political parties.

éirígí understands that many of the problems we face today, such as under-funded public services, unemployment, poverty, and anti-social behaviour are largely caused by the underlying economic system — capitalism. Until that system is replaced by a socialist one that puts the needs of the people ahead of the greed of big business these problems will continue to plague our communities.



éirígí also understands that the Irish people will not be able to establish such a democratic economic system until our right to self-determination is restored. In other words we can't have economic freedom without national freedom. Here in the Six Counties éirígí has been to the fore in:

- Opposing the Stormont cuts to healthcare, education, housing and other vital public services
- Challenging the 'normalisation' of the British occupation through opposing events like the 2008 RIR parade through Belfast
- Working with communities to tackle the root causes of crime and develop viable alternatives to the PSNI

In the Twenty Six Counties éirigí has led the way in:

- Directly challenging the bank bailouts, the establishment of NAMA and the savage cutbacks to public services
- Opposing the giveaway of the Corrib gas field to Shell and other energy corporations
- Building popular opposition to the state visit of Elizabeth Windsor

éirigí is made up of ordinary people who have had enough of partition and a rotten economic system which allows the rich to get forever richer while the rest of us struggle to survive. People just like you. If you want to find out more about éirigí please log onto www.eirigi.org. If you are interested in joining or helping éirigí please contact éirigí in Belfast by phone on 079 3595 0601 or email at eirigibealfeirste@gmail.com.