

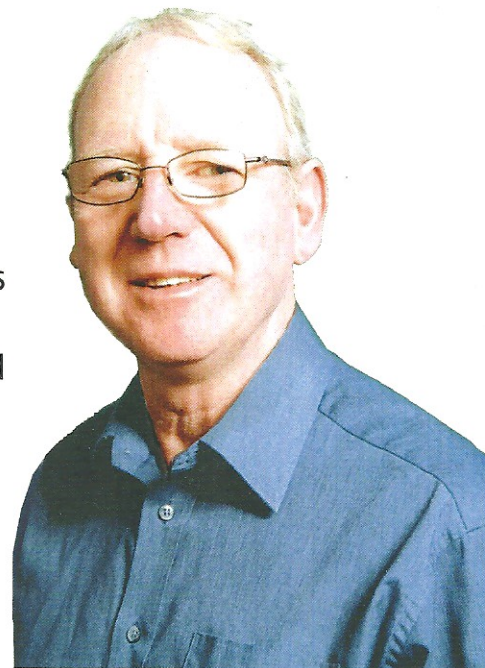
COST OF LIVING CRISIS

- Nationalise Energy Companies



Eating or heating is the appalling choice facing households this winter. For low-income families and the elderly this is a frightening prospect. The lack of action by government is shameful and adds to the fear.

The Fianna Fail/Fine Gael/Green parties are showing their class - they represent the wealthy. They refuse to tackle the obscene profiteering by energy companies. These companies must be nationalised - publicly owned and controlled. Energy is an essential asset for households and the economy. Countries such as France have acted to nationalise - Ireland must also.



Cllr. Ted Tynan
President of The Workers' Party

COST OF LIVING AND ENERGY PRICES ROCKETING

- FUEL POVERTY for Irish households is now at 43% and rising (ESRI)
- Basic food items - milk, bread, butter, rising drastically
- Wage rises are minimal and workers in some sectors such as construction and hospitality are suffering actual pay cuts.
- Families will be forced to make the choice to **eat or to heat** this winter
- Children and the elderly are especially vulnerable - an eminent consultant paediatrician worries 'that children will die this winter.'

MEANWHILE

Energy companies enjoy obscene levels of profiteering. This obscenity must be stopped.

Nationalisation of energy companies is urgently needed in order to **restore control of an essential asset and secure the welfare of households**. The cost-of-living crisis cannot be controlled until energy prices are tackled.

Other countries such as France have nationalised - Ireland must also.



Protect People Not Profits - Take Back Public Control of Energy

- Ted Tynan

Cllr. Ted Tynan, President of the Workers' Party has condemned shameful government inaction for allowing the continuing obscene profiteering by energy companies on the back of young and old facing choices of food or electricity in the coming winter. Nationalisation of energy companies is urgently needed in order to restore control of an essential asset and secure the welfare of households.

SSE Airtricity is the latest to announce whopping price rises, raising electricity bills by 35% and gas 39%. This is despite their boast that their energy sources are 100% green. Justification for these increases is highly questionable and the company is unashamedly following other energy companies taking advantage of the current fuel supply crisis to rake in obscene profits. SSE parent company earlier reported over a billion pounds sterling in profit.

The disgraceful contrast is the growing fuel poverty of households which the ESRI puts at 29 per cent and rising. The elderly are obviously going to suffer but children are also vulnerable. The threat to health and lives is such that a Belfast consultant paediatrician is 'concerned that children will die this winter' and she is 'praying for a mild winter.'



Protect People Not Profits
Take Back Public Control of Energy

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