



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

National Economic Dialogue 2021

Building a sustainable recovery post-Covid

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#Budget22

#NED21

Hosted by the Department of Finance and the
Department of Public Expenditure and Reform
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National Economic Dialogue 2021

Building a sustainable recovery post-Covid

28-29 JUNE 2021

Detailed Programme

DAY 1 – MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2021

14:00

OPENING SESSION


ONLINE

THEME: Building a sustainable recovery post-Covid

OVERALL CHAIR: Professor Alan Barrett

STREAMING: Session will be live streamed


14:00 Welcome and introduction

 Chair: Professor Alan Barrett


14:05 Opening address

 An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin T.D.

14:20 Scene setter: economic and fiscal context

 Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohoe T.D.

14:30 Scene setter: expenditure policy supports for social and economic development

 Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath T.D.

14:40 Direction to breakout rooms

14:45

COMFORT BREAK

14:55

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS (10)

ONLINE

16:55

Wrap up and closing of day one

ONLINE

 Chair: Professor Alan Barrett

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DAY 1 – MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2021 – BREAKOUT SESSIONS

14:55

[PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS](#)

ONLINE

BREAKOUT 1: DELIVER A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT ECONOMIC RECOVERY (INCLUDING THROUGH THE WORK OF THE COMMISSION ON WELFARE AND TAXATION)

CHAIR: Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohoe T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Stephen Kinsella

BREAKOUT 2: BUDGETING FOR A BETTER IRELAND

CHAIR: Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Michael McGrath, T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Larry O'Connell

BREAKOUT 3: SUPPORTING ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND JOB CREATION IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19 AND MEDIUM-TERM CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

CHAIR: Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Leo Varadkar, T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Conor O'Toole

BREAKOUT 4: DELIVER A LOW-CARBON, CLIMATE-RESILIENT AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY

CHAIR: Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Professor Eleanor Denny

BREAKOUT 5: DELIVER A MORE RESPONSIVE AND INTEGRATED HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICE FOR A POST-COVID WORLD

CHAIR: Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Sara Burke

16:55

[Parallel Breakout Sessions Conclude](#)

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DAY 1 – MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2021 – BREAKOUT SESSIONS (CONTINUED)

14:55

PARALLEL BREAKOUT SESSIONS

ONLINE

BREAKOUT 6: ACTIVATION AND EMPLOYMENT SUPPORT TO SUPPORT A DYNAMIC RECOVERY

CHAIR: Minister for Social Protection and Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Professor Philip O’Connell

BREAKOUT 7: SKILLS PROVISION IN IRELAND: ENSURING A WELL-BALANCED AND RESPONSIVE TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM

CHAIR: Minister for Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science, Simon Harris T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Darragh Flannery

BREAKOUT 8: BRIDGING THE VIABILITY AND AFFORDABILITY GAPS IN HOUSING AND INVESTING IN OUR CITIES

CHAIR: Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O’Brien T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Ronan Lyons

BREAKOUT 9: AGRI-FOOD POST-COVID AND LOOKING TOWARDS THE FUTURE

CHAIR: Minister of State with special responsibility for Research and Development, Farm Safety and New Market Development, Martin Heydon T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Professor Michael Wallace

BREAKOUT 10: REBUILDING TOURISM IN A POST-COVID ENVIRONMENT

CHAIR: Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin T.D.

RAPPOREUR: Dr Denise O’Leary

16:55

Parallel Breakout Sessions Conclude

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DAY 2 – TUESDAY 29TH JUNE 2021

14:00

OPENING SESSION


ONLINE

THEME: Building a sustainable recovery post-Covid
OVERALL CHAIR: Professor Alan Barrett
STREAMING: Session will be live streamed

14:00 Introduction from Chair

 Chair: Professor Alan Barrett

14:05 Opening address

 Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment,
Leo Varadkar, T.D.

14.20 Feedback from the parallel thematic breakout sessions

 Rapporteurs

15:10

COMFORT BREAK

15:20

PLENARY SESSION

ONLINE

THEME: Building a sustainable recovery post-Covid
OVERALL CHAIR: Professor Alan Barrett
STREAMING: Session will be live streamed

16:35

CHAIR'S SUMMARY


ONLINE

 Chair: Professor Alan Barrett

16:45

CLOSING REMARKS

ONLINE

 Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and
Minister for Transport, Eamon Ryan T.D.

17:00

END OF EVENT

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RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

ROLE OF THE OVERALL CHAIR

The Overall Chair, who is independent, will be responsible for:

- Chairing all plenary sessions
- Ensuring that discussions remain on track and within the overall framework
- Inviting participants to speak
- Imposing strict time limits as necessary
- Preparing the Chair's Summary of Discussions for publication

The assistance of officials will be provided to the Chair, if requested, for note taking and in preparing the summary note. The decision of the Chair in calling on participants to speak and in deciding on time limits will be final.

ROLE OF THE BREAKOUT SESSION CHAIRS

The breakout sessions will be chaired by Members of the Government. With the support of Rapporteurs they will be responsible for:

- Chairing the breakout sessions.
- Ensuring that discussions remain on track and within the overall framework
- Ensuring that as far as possible, all participants in breakout sessions have an opportunity to contribute.
- Respecting the limited time available for the session.

ROLE OF THE RAPPORTEURS

An independent Rapporteur has been appointed for each of the breakout sessions. The role of each Rapporteur includes:

- Introducing the Chair, welcoming participants, setting out the structure for the breakout session discussion, and providing support to the Chair to facilitate inputs from participants.

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- Supporting the breakout session Chair in ensuring that the discussion remains focussed on the main topic and the guiding questions set out in the thematic background paper.
- Intervening during the session to highlight commonalities, contradictions or inconsistencies between different contributions.
- Intervening during the session to ensure that the discussion does not lose sight of the overall budgetary framework and the EU fiscal rules.
- Intervening during the session to highlight relevant issues which may be overlooked.
- Drawing together the key strands of the discussion to produce a short summary note and to deliver a short oral report to the plenary session on the second day of the Dialogue. This summary note will be incorporated into the overall Chair's report of the Dialogue, which will be publicly available.

The assistance of officials will be provided to the Rapporteur, if requested, for note taking and in preparing the summary note.

GENERAL RULES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- Mutual respect should be shown to all participants and participants should not interrupt other participants.
- Time limits imposed by Chairs or Rapporteurs should be respected in order to ensure that all participants have the opportunity to contribute.
- Plenary sessions will be public and live streamed. A recording of the plenary sessions will also be kept. Contributions during the plenary sessions may be attributed.
- In light of the virtual nature of the plenary session this year, there will not be an opportunity for 3 minute intervention slots. Participants are asked to provide concise inputs to maximise the opportunities for all participants.
- Breakout sessions will not be live streamed. Rapporteurs' summaries from breakout sessions will not attribute individual contributions.
- Both the Rapporteurs' summaries and the Overall Chair's summary will be produced under the sole authority of the Rapporteur / Overall Chair and should not be perceived or understood in anyway as agreed documents.

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- Attendance at breakout sessions will generally be on a first requested / first facilitated basis. It may, however, be necessary to restrict attendance in some sessions owing to size constraints and to ensure a good mix of participants across all sessions.

VIRTUAL EVENT GUIDELINES FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS

- The event is taking place virtually for the first time and the Zoom platform will be used to host delegates.
- Participants will be sent links, personal to them and restricted to the email address they supplied, that will allow them to join the plenary sessions and their nominated breakout room.
- Participants are asked to login 10-15 minutes before the event starts, to ensure they have a stable connection capable of allowing them to join the Zoom event.
- Participants can signal their interest in intervening in the discussion by using the 'raise hands' function on the digital platform Zoom.
- Participants are asked to remain muted, until invited by the Chair or Rapporteur to intervene. Following their contribution participants should return to mute.
- Participants are encouraged to use a headset to help to ensure clear audio, limiting background noise, when intervening in the discussion.
- Participants should be mindful of background noise, their surroundings, and the position of their camera. Participants are encouraged to look into the camera when providing their input.

MEDIA ATTENDANCE

- Plenary sessions will be live streamed on www.gov.ie/ned and open to full media coverage.
- The hashtags for the virtual Dialogue are: #Budget22 #NED21

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BIOGRAPHIES

CHAIR

PROFESSOR ALAN BARRETT

Alan Barrett is Director of the Economic and Social Research Institute (ESRI). He began his career with the ESRI in 1994, following the completion of his doctoral studies at Michigan State University. Between 2001 and 2003 he was seconded to the Department of Finance. Between 2011 and 2013, he spent another period on secondment, this time at Trinity College Dublin. He is a Member of the Royal Irish Academy, a Research Fellow with the Institute for Labour Economics (IZA) in Bonn, Germany, an Honorary Fellow of the Society of Actuaries in Ireland and an Adjunct Professor at the Department of Economics, TCD. In March 2021, he was appointed a Member of the new Northern Ireland Fiscal Council by the NI Minister for Finance, Conor Murphy. He was a member of the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council from 2011 to 2015.

RAPPORTEURS

DR SARA BURKE

Sara Burke is a Research Assistant Professor in the Centre for Health Policy and Management, School of Medicine, Trinity College Dublin. She is currently Principal Investigator on the HRB-funded Foundations project, researching the potential of the Irish COVID-19 health systems responses to inform Sláintecare's implementation. More <https://www.tcd.ie/medicine/staff/burkes17/>

PROFESSOR ELEANOR DENNY

Eleanor Denny is a Professor in Economics at Trinity College Dublin (TCD) and a Fellow of Trinity College Dublin (FTCD). Her research interests are in energy, behavioural and environmental economics and she has published widely in these fields. She is the coordinator of the Horizon 2020 project CONSEED and partner of the H2020 project SocialRES. She is an independent expert on the National Economic and Social Council (NESC), an external advisory board member of the Irish Government Economic Evaluation Service (IGEES) and the Behavioural Economics Unit at Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland (SEAI).

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DR DARRAGH FLANNERY

Darragh Flannery is a lecturer in economics at the University of Limerick's Kemmy Business School. He has over ten years teaching experience in higher education at undergraduate, postgraduate and executive education levels. Darragh's primary area of research focuses upon the economics of higher education policy. Specifically he has published extensively in areas related to the geography of higher education participation, higher education financing and the fiscal returns to education. He has also previously co-edited a book entitled "Economic Insights on Higher Education Policy in Ireland: Evidence from a Public System" which provides an analysis of prominent issues within the higher education sector from an economic viewpoint.

DR STEPHEN KINSELLA

Stephen Kinsella is Associate Professor of Economics at the University of Limerick's Kemmy Business School, Senior Fellow at the Melbourne School of Government, University of Melbourne, and Research Associate at the Rhodes Centre for International Finance at Brown University. He co-directs the Immersive Software Engineering programme. Stephen leads the +CityxChange and INCASE research projects at UL.

DR RONAN LYONS

Ronan Lyons is an Associate Professor in Economics at Trinity College Dublin, where he is also Director of Trinity Research in Social Sciences. His research focuses on housing markets, urban economics and economic history. Before undertaking a doctorate in Oxford on Ireland's housing market bubble and crash, he worked as a consultant at the IBM Centre for Economic Development, economist to Ireland's National Competitiveness Council, and as Junior Diplomat in Irish Aid. He is a consultant to the IMF on residential property prices, a frequent contributor to national and international media on the Irish economy and the author of the quarterly Daft.ie Reports on the Irish housing market.

DR LARRY O'CONNELL

Larry O'Connell is the Director of the National Economic and Social Council (NESC) and Chief Officer of the National Economic and Social Development Office (NESDO). As

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senior economist in NESC, he worked on a range of policy areas including Ireland's transition to low-carbon and digital future; housing and land; climate change and sustainable development; higher education funding; and Ireland's five part crisis. He has a degree in Agricultural Economics, Masters in Business Studies, PhD on the Internationalisation of Irish Business from University College Dublin and was the Greencore Newman Scholar in Competitiveness at UCD Business School.

PROFESSOR PHILIP O'CONNELL

Philip O'Connell is an Emeritus Professor at University College Dublin. He is the former Director of the UCD Geary Institute and Professor of Applied Social Science at University College Dublin. Prior to that, he was Research Professor and Head of Social Research at the ESRI and Adjunct Professor of Sociology at Trinity College Dublin. He received his doctorate from Indiana University, Bloomington and taught at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. He has served as a consultant to the European Commission and the OECD. He is a government-appointed member of the Irish national Labour Market Council and he chairs its Programme Evaluation sub-group. Most of his work focuses on the labour market and on migration. He has an enduring interest in equality at work and in access to employment, publishing papers in the leading journals on wage inequality, on working conditions and workplace practices, on the transition from unemployment to work, and on the experience of migrant workers in Ireland.

DR DENISE O'LEARY

Denise O'Leary is Assistant Head of School of Hospitality Management and Tourism in Technological University Dublin. She has extensive experience as a manager, lecturer and researcher in third level institutions and over 10 years of experience as a consultant in the private sector in Ireland and the United States. During that time, she has been involved in tourism development at a community level as well as development and delivery of tourism education. A current focus of her academic research is on meeting tourism skills needs. To that end, she is a key member of the Next Tourism Generation Alliance, an EU funded project which includes education, training and industry partners in 8 countries, tasked with developing a Blueprint for addressing skills needs in tourism across Europe.

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DR CONOR O'TOOLE

Conor O'Toole is an Associate Research Professor at the Economic and Social Research Institute where he works in the areas of housing and household financing, corporate finance and banking. He also works with the ESRI's macroeconomic forecasting group as a contributing author to the Quarterly Economic Commentary. He previously held the position of Manager – Real-Financial Linkages Team and Senior Economist at the Financial Stability Division of the Central Bank of Ireland. His research has been published in a range of international journals including the Review of Finance, Journal of Corporate Finance, Journal of Banking and Finance, and the Journal of Housing Economics.

PROFESSOR MICHAEL WALLACE

Michael Wallace is Professor of Agriculture and Food Economics at UCD School of Agriculture and Food Science. He has BSc and PhD degrees in Agricultural Economics from Queen's University Belfast and an MSc in Economics from the University of Warwick. He has previously held academic positions in quantitative agricultural economics at Queen's University Belfast, and Newcastle University, UK. His research interests include the modelling of innovation and technical change in the agricultural sector, particularly in the context of business economics and managerial decision-making. He also researches extensively on the impacts of agricultural and environmental policies on farm households and rural communities.



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