



# Irish Republican Socialist Party Belfast Newsletter

## IRSP Highlight and Challenge Huge Rent Increases by Slum Landlords

Page 2

## North Belfast Call on Parents to keep kids away from Interface

Page 2

## IRSP Launch Immigration Document

Page 4



**Costello House Advice  
Centre**

**Open Monday - Saturday  
(11am - 2pm)**

**Housing/Landlord Advice  
& Action**

**Benefits Advice**

**Community Engagement,  
Mediation and Support**



## Activists Force Landlord Agency to Repair Apartment Block

The IRSP in Belfast have successfully pressured a landlord agency to finally commence much needed repair work and renovations on an apartment building in the Mid Falls area of Belfast.

Representative Maria Quinn has said, “families in this building were in unacceptable conditions and continuously ignored by their landlord. The IRSP applied consistent pressure and threatened protest action which has forced the landlord to act”

“This shows that our communities when organised and willing can hold these landlords to account.”

### Contact Details

**costellohouse@irsp.ie**

Also find us on Facebook and X (Formerly known as Twitter)

## REMEMBRANCE

**VOL HUGH FERGUSON -**  
Assassinated 20th February 1975

**VOL GINO GALLAGHER -**  
Assassinated 30th January 1996

**COMRADE GERARD**  
**ANDERSON- Died 19th February**  
**2015**



This year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Irish Republican Socialist Movement.

Easter 2024 will mark this special milestone as we remember those who gave their lives for National Liberation and Socialism in Ireland.

## IRSP Highlight Huge Rent Increases and substandard Housing Conditions

IRSP activists in Belfast are highlighting this housing case to bring to light what people within our communities are facing with their living conditions and due to lack of political pressure from elected positions, at the mercy of slum landlords in the city.



This young family of 4 from Beechmount, were recently told their rent will be increased from £400 to £750 a month, a rate that is unaffordable and will undoubtedly result in homelessness, adding to the other 12,000 who are currently on the housing list

in Belfast.

The property (a former housing executive home) has major damp issues, resulting in the children experiencing related health issues, insulation faults and suspected structural damage to name a few.

IRSP representatives have attempted contact with the landlord to resolve these issues and to come to an arrangement that will suit the family going forward. Failure to respond to our requests will result in further direct protest action.

This is just one case in the dozens of cases the IRSP are dealing with in the city, communities abandoned and failed by the elected institutions who have a duty to provide safe and affordable housing.

## North Belfast Activists call on Parents to keep kids away from troubled interface area

The IRSP in North Belfast are calling on parents to ensure their kids stay away from the Oldpark and Girdwood Interfaces following recent nights of sporadic trouble.

Over the past number of weeks, there has been confrontations, fighting and damage to property due to youths organising fights on social media.

Kids getting caught up in this senseless activity could get seriously hurt or will find themselves with life changing criminal records that will hamper their future employment or even travel opportunities.



Costello House - 392 Falls Road, Belfast

## Prepare for Taxes

The IRSP are calling on Working Class communities across the North to prepare for opposition against an increase in rates or the implementation of additional charges in order to pay for the New Stormont Deal announced last week.

### Prepare for Opposition Against Rate Increases!

*Unlike these deals made  
behind closed doors, the  
people deserve  
transparency and answers  
from our Stormont  
politicians as to how they  
are going to manage this  
without implementing  
further financial devastation  
on already struggling  
families"*



**join@irsp.ie**

IRSP spokesperson Maria Quinn has said, "Last week, Sinn Féin and the DUP as part of their new agreement for power sharing backed a financial package from London that clauses Stormont to raise an additional £113 million through taxes with water charges specifically mentioned."

"In the event Stormont does not raise this, Stormont will have to implement further cuts and Austerity to make up the shortfall. Unlike these deals made behind closed doors, the people deserve transparency and answers from our Stormont politicians as to how they are going to manage this without implementing further financial devastation on already struggling families"

## Drop The Rents Continues

Our Activists in the Mid Falls area continue their Drop the Rents action against landlords by direct protest action, IRSP representative Dan Murphy has directly challenged Northern Property.





## IRSP Launch Immigration Document

The IRSP launched our much anticipated policy document around the issue of Immigration into Ireland.

Titled; Migration, Immigration, Refugees and Asylum Seekers - a position for the Working Class.

The Document explores the economic context behind immigration highlighting how it is exploited by capitalism to drive down wages, terms of employment and to increase demand on services such as housing to drive up rental prices.

The IRSP also call out the far right who use immigration to politically manipulate their own racist ideology, wanting to blame the exploited and not the exploiters.

The IRSP will be holding a public meeting in Costello House on the 7th March to discuss the document as part of our Dr Miriam Daly debating Society.



## IRSP and Residents hold Protest against PSNI Meeting in the Lower Falls

The IRSP in the Lower Falls organised a protest outside a planned PCSP meeting at St Colmgalls in February.

The PSNI are a disgraced organisation who in the past number of years have had members caught

stealing drugs from “drug busts”, caught taking photos of suicide victims in the Falls area and sharing them mockingly with other PSNI staff and have engaged in a campaign of harassment against community activists and their families in the Lower Falls.

The PSNI have been proven to be unaccountable and irreformable, controlled by MI5 and the same RUC special branch that inflicted so much pain and suffering on our community for decades.



## IRSP Support Palestine

