



BUDGET 2021

What does it mean for you

Covid-19 Support

- **€4 billion** to the health system's Covid-19 response.
- VAT reduction for the hospitality sector to **9%**.
- Weekly rebates of **up to €5,000** for businesses closed at Level 3 or higher.
- Most people on the Pandemic Unemployment Payment will get a Christmas bonus.

A Disorderly Brexit

- Budget 2021 was prepared on the basis that there will be no trade deal between Britain & EU.
- **€340 million** will be spent on Brexit supports in 2021.
- This includes money for ports and airports and 500 staff for customs.

Going Green

- A **€7.50 hike in carbon taxes** from €26 to €33.50 per tonne of CO₂.
- VRT & Motor Tax reform to incentivise electric and low-emission cars, and penalise polluters.
- Investment in bus and rail projects worth **€1 billion**.

Public Sector Employment

- **620** additional trainee Gardaí
- **307** Primary Level posts
- **268** teachers to meet demographic needs
- **145** Special Education Teachers
- **258** additional special class and special school teachers

- **990** additional Special Needs assistants
- **80** Occupational, Speech and behavioural therapists
- **30** National Educational Psychological Services personnel

Pensions & Welfare



The pension age will stay at 66

Housing



- €500m to build 9,500 new social housing units next year
- Help-to-Buy Scheme extended to December 2021

Alcohol & Cigarettes



A packet of cigarettes to rise by 50 cents

Self Employed



People earning up to €480 per month will be allowed claim the Covid-19 welfare payment

Home Carers



Carer's Support Grant to increase by €150

Family



The parent's benefit is to be extended by 3 weeks. This leave may be taken any time in the first 12 months after the child is born.

Elderly



The Living Alone Allowance will increase from €14 to €19 per week