



**KEEP OLWYN
WORKING
FOR YOU**



Please continue your preferences to **Molly Buckley** and **Charlie Flanagan** in order of your choice and to the Labour Party.

OLWYN'S MESSAGE TO FARMERS

Fine Gael, more than any other party, is absolutely committed to supporting farm families in Laois/Offaly and throughout Ireland and ensuring that the high quality food they produce is delivered safely to the consumer and at a fair price. That price must respect the value of the farmer's work and encourage quality and innovation. Both the consumer and the farmer are entitled to insist that all imported products meet the same high standards of quality and safety as food produced on Irish farms.

1. **Securing a Viable Future for Irish Farmers**

We will remove the barriers to consolidating holdings or transferring them through generations by tackling anomalies in our tax code, most notably by restoring Capital Gains Tax rollover relief.

2. **Investing in R&D**

Fine Gael will support R&D to develop new products, meet new market conditions and match farm output with consumer needs and tastes. In tandem with this we will develop efficient, easily transferred farm practices.

3. **Smarter Marketing of Irish Food**

We will introduce a single food label for all Irish produce, 'Green Ireland'. This will emphasise Ireland's ability to produce green, quality, healthy food.

4. **Making Freedom to Farm a Reality**

During our first 18 months in Government we will conduct an audit of existing regulations with the target of reducing all bureaucracy by one quarter.

5. **A Fair Inspections Regime**

Fine Gael believes farmers are entitled to: advance notice for cross compliance inspections, the opportunity to rectify infringements before they face penalties and a code of practice for the conduct of inspections.

6. **Targeted State Supports for Key Commodity Sectors**

Farmers in all sectors will be given greater assistance to improve the quality of their food product and respond to consumer demands.

7. **Bringing Fine Gael's European influence to bear on international trade negotiations**

Fine Gael is part of the largest political grouping in the EU. This puts us in a strong negotiating position on agriculture. Our position on WTO is clear: WE HAVE GONE FAR ENOUGH!

8. **Bio-Fuels and Irish Farming** - Fine Gael will:

- Remove all excise duty on bio-fuels produced from renewable energy crops
- Provide Establishment Grants for Producer Groups of up to 50% of set-up costs subject to a maximum of €300,000
- Provide grant support for the establishment of Bio-Fuel Processing Plants

The FF/PD Government has let down Laois/Offaly farmers. Their failure to stand by the farming community on the issue of Sugar Beet Compensation has created genuine fears about the future of Irish farming.

**A NUMBER ONE VOTE FOR ME WILL SECURE THE
FUTURE OF LAOIS/OFFALY FARMING FAMILIES.**

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