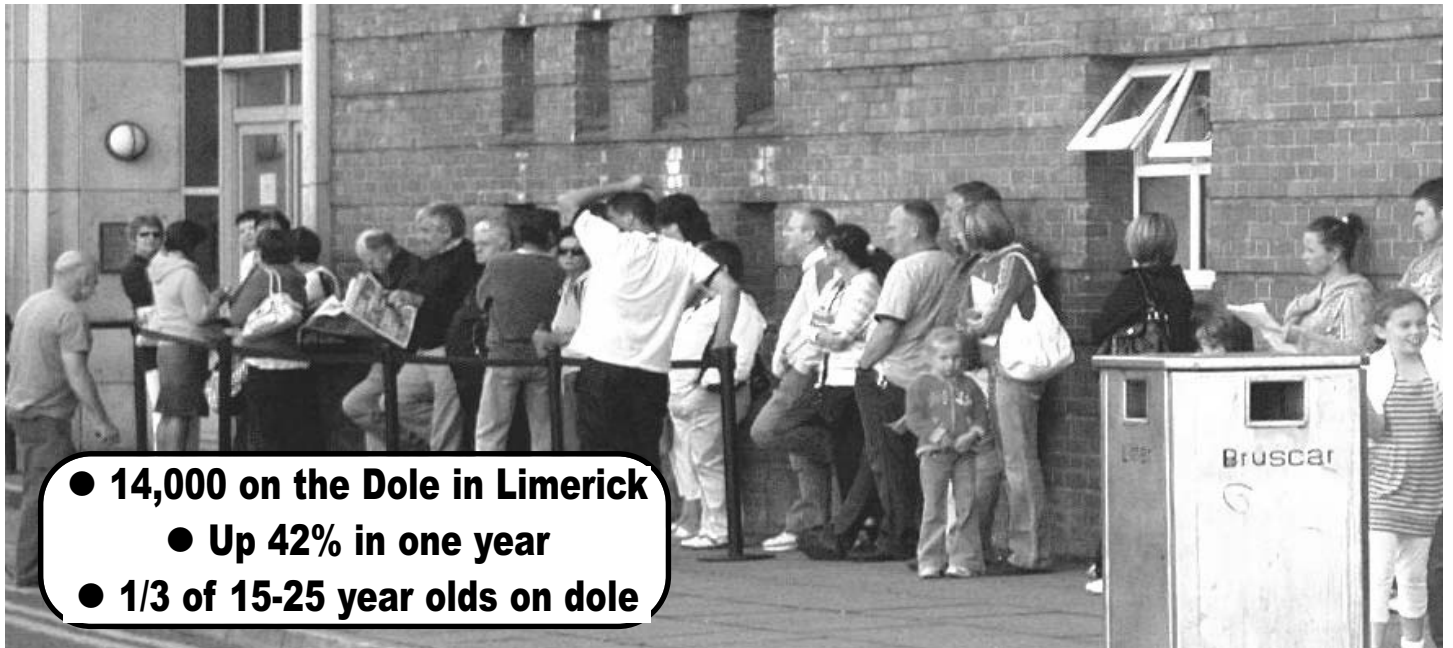




# NO TO DOLE CUTS!



- 14,000 on the Dole in Limerick
- Up 42% in one year
- 1/3 of 15-25 year olds on dole

## State must act to create jobs!

Queuing for hours, filling out countless forms, waiting for up to 15 weeks to get your entitlements - the unemployed are treated effectively like criminals. But it was these workers who created the Celtic Tiger.

Every single day in the last month 33 people were forced onto the dole in Limerick alone. That's 1,000 people in 30 days. And this is only one year into what many are predicting will be a 5 or 10 year recession. Nationally, the total unemployed figure is expected to be 600,000 by the end of next year! The government has squandered the boom and now workers are paying the price - with their jobs.

The sharp rise in unemployment has led to huge delays in processing new applications. Some people are being forced to wait months before getting on the dole. Not satisfied with this, Brian Lenihan and Mary Hanafin intend on making deep cuts to the dole. They cut the Christmas bonus. Then they cut rent allowance. Next it will be the dole payment itself or further slashing of rent allowance.

The Socialist Party is calling on the Department of Social Welfare to stop all these cuts and to immediately hire the extra staff necessary to deal with the increase in unemployment - they need look no further than their own front door for workers to hire!

**SOCIALIST PARTY** Public Meeting

### Capitalism: *Destroying the economy & our future?*

**Speakers:**  
Cllr **MICK BARRY**  
& A Young Worker

**How we can fight back!**

7pm Wednesday, July 8th, Pery's Hotel

The government's attempt to deal with the crisis is not only failing, it's making things worse. The introduction of general tax hikes, cuts in public spending and the imposition of the public service levy have reduced spending in the economy leading to further job losses.

Already in the last months in Limerick, jobs have been lost or threatened at: Dell, Banta, Flextronics and in Shannon Airport & industrial park to name a few.

These companies should be nationalised in order to save the jobs and stop rising unemployment in Galway. Once in public ownership, these companies should be placed under the control and management of the workers themselves.

## Reverse the dole cut for under 20s

Over 3,000 under 25s are now unemployed in this city. Given that there are less than 10,000 people between the age of 15 and 25 living in Limerick, and many of these are in education, the scale of the crisis is far worse than many assume. Those under 20 face a cut in payment to €100. 18-20 year olds are considered old enough to work and pay tax, yet when it comes to receiving basic social welfare they are treated as some sort of lesser being.

This cut comes on top of the likely introduction of third level fees, further attacking young people's right to a decent future. UL and LIT should be opened up for a broad series of free courses for all who want them during the day and evening to allow people to further their education.'

## Demand Jobs not Dole

Rather than policies that promote job losses, the government should invest in job creation, including a massive series of public works, building schools, hospitals, public transport and other vital infrastructure. The state shouldn't bail out bankers and the super-rich, they should bail out ordinary people.

## Fightback - Get Organised

In the 1980s, because of mass unemployment, campaigning groups of unemployed people like the Unemployed Alliance developed. This is what is needed now to link up with the trade union movement and force the government to respect the rights of the unemployed and fight for a job creation programme.

The Socialist Party is launching a campaign to fight for the rights of unemployed workers. To assist us in this fight please join us today.



### • Hire extra dole staff

The Department of Social Welfare should hire hundreds of staff to deal with the huge increase in applications for Jobseeker's Allowance and Jobseeker's Benefit. This would reduce waiting times and improve services while providing extra jobs.

### • Scrap the Rent Allowance cut

Rent Allowance is already hard enough to get by on without the recent cuts. The government should increase rent allowance and the amount of social and affordable housing.

### • No cuts to the Dole

Cuts of up to 3.4 billion euro could be made in the Social Welfare budget in December. Ireland already spends the third least in Europe on social welfare. All cuts to the dole should be resisted.

### • Share out the work

Introduce a 35 hour week, without loss of pay to create more jobs in the economy.

### • State must act to create jobs

The state should cut across spiralling unemployment by nationalising job shedding companies and by investing in a massive series of public works.

*If you want to find out more, then contact us today by phone, text, email or post....*

**I want to join the Socialist Party**

**I want more info on the party**

Name  E-mail

Address

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Return to the Socialist Party, PO Box 3434, Dublin 8 / 087-7675890  
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