

KASPress Ireland



News Summary

Top Story

Politics shifted a little in the Northern Ireland elections which finally came to a conclusion on Saturday afternoon. The Northern Irish Assembly will now look like this:

DUP, 38 seats (no change); Sinn Féin, 28 (down one); the Ulster Unionist Party, 16 (no change); the SDLP 12 (down two); Alliance, eight (no change); the Greens, two (up one); People Before Profit, two (up two); Traditional Unionist Voice, one (no change), and Independent unionist Claire Sugden returned in East Derry. To read more on the elections in Northern Ireland, [click here](#).

Politics

Sinn Féin President Gerry Adams has admitted he “made a mistake” when he said he would resign as party leader ahead of the next general election. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Labour chairman Willie Penrose has said that he believes the party should avoid a leadership election and pick a “consensus candidate” to lead the party over the coming days. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

We have a national emergency in the housing sector according to Simon Coveney. The new Housing Minister has said that homelessness and housing are the single biggest issues facing the new administration. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Taoiseach Enda Kenny is coming under increasing pressure to appoint more women to ministerial roles after his failure to reach a 50-50 gender divide in Cabinet. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Two Independent Alliance TDs who have signed up to support the government have confirmed that they haven’t paid water charges. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

06.05.16 – 12.05.16

Welcome to **KASPress Ireland**, our weekly summary of relevant and interesting news from the Irish press.

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung

London Office

Labour party leader Joan Burton warned the Dáil that Fianna Fáil will hold the new government to ransom. To read more on Ms Burton's comments, [click here](#).

After months of electoral uncertainty, Michael Noonan's return to the Department of Finance is seen as a signal of fiscal continuity. To read more on what the new government might mean for the Irish economy, [click here](#).

Taoiseach Enda Kenny has made radical changes to his Cabinet, which include the promotion of Simon Harris to the position of Minister for Health. To read more on the Fine Gael cabinet, [click here](#).

Economy

Department store chain Debenhams has sought the appointment of an interim examiner to its 11 Irish stores. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

The Irish Government is targeting banks including Standard Chartered and Royal Bank of Scotland as it seeks to lure finance jobs to the country should the UK opt to exit the European Union, people familiar with the discussions have said. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

The retail sector enjoyed a strong performance in the first quarter but the outlook is uncertain with Brexit posing the most immediate threat to the sector's fortunes, a new report says. To read more on the Irish retail sector, [click here](#).

Luas drivers are set to stage a series of four-hour strikes in June as part of the latest phase of their campaign of industrial action to seek improved pay and conditions. To read more on the on-going employment dispute at Luas, [click here](#).

A chronic supply shortage has seen the cost of renting a home in Ireland rise dramatically over the last year. The national monthly rent in March was €1,006. It is the first time since May 2008 that the average has been above €1,000. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Bank of Ireland has lost a £27m tax avoidance case in Britain after an attempt to exploit a loophole that did not exist. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Long-serving Intel workers have been given three weeks to decide whether to take a voluntary exit deal as part of a global cull of 12,000 jobs. To read more, [click here](#).

The Irish construction sector continued to grow in April but at a slower pace than in recent months, a new survey shows, with both new orders and employment rising at slower rates. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

AIB has cuts its variable mortgage rates for both new and existing customers, reducing its standard variable rate to 3.4 per cent, amid mounting political pressure. To read more on this, [click here](#).

Ireland is in the running to build a facility for researching satellite equipment for military, enterprise and commercial use in Saudi Arabia, which could yield 200 new high-end engineering jobs. To read more on this story, [click here](#). [08]

The number of people claiming unemployment benefits has fallen by almost 40,000, or 11%, in the last 12 months according to the latest figures from the Central Statistics Office. To read more, [click here](#).

Society

Irish towns across the country have breached the safety levels for air pollution, according to the World Health Organisation. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Christian bakers who refused to make a cake with a pro-gay marriage slogan could not sin by going against their consciences, their lawyer has told an appeal hearing. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

A 100-bed emergency hostel has reduced the number of rough-sleepers it will accommodate by more than 50 per cent three weeks before it is due to close. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

The HSE and Tusla are to be called in for questioning after it emerged another young person was left in a foster home despite allegations of sexual abuse against a carer in the home. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

The Government is planning to “dismantle” the HSE and replace it over time with a new health commission. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

The only surviving child of an executed leader of the Easter Rising has been honoured at a commemoration service in Kilmainham Gaol in Dublin. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Eight out of 10 people want to donate their organs but only half have discussed the issue with their family, it has emerged. Research commissioned by the HSE Organ Donation and Transplant Ireland (ODTI) found that more than a third of people (36%) carry an organ donor card — a 12-point increase since 2003. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Secondary school teachers in Ireland could be €31,000 worse off if they withdraw from 33 non-teaching hours, according to the Department of Education. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

A Free dental healthcare programmes for every child under 12 will be introduced by the new government. To read more on this story, [click here](#).

Headlines

- [12.05.2016] [Labour should avoid leadership election, says Penrose](#) [Irish Times]
- [12.05.2016] [Gerry Adams admits mistake about next election leadership](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [12.05.2016] [Debenhams' Irish stores seek examinership](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [12.05.2016] [Revealed: Ireland's worst air polluted towns and cities](#) [Irish Independent]
- [11.05.2016] [Housing is national emergency says Simon Coveney](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [11.05.2016] [Retail sector enjoys strong first quarter Brexit poses major threat](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [11.05.2016] [Luas drivers to stage series of four-hour strikes in June](#) [Irish Times]
- [10.05.2016] [Renting in Dublin now costs more than bubble era peak](#) [Irish Times]
- [10.05.2016] [Bank of Ireland will not appeal £27 million British tax avoidance judgement](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [10.05.2016] [Intel targeting most experienced staff for voluntary redundancy offers](#) [Irish Independent]
- [10.05.2016] [Pro-gay marriage cake would be a sin, court told](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [09.05.2016] [Kenny comes under pressure to appoint more women ministers](#) [Irish Independent]
- [09.05.2016] [Construction sector expands at slowest pace since last November](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [09.05.2016] [AIB cuts standard variable mortgage rate to 3.4%](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [09.05.2016] [Emergency hostel in Dublin cuts number of beds by half](#) [Irish Times]
- [09.05.2016] [Fresh foster care concerns prompt calls for inquiry](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [09.05.2016] [Government to replace HSE with health commission](#) [Irish Times]
- [08.05.2016] [Two government TDs confirm they haven't paid water bills](#) [Irish Independent]
- [08.05.2016] [Ireland in running for 200 niche engineering jobs](#) [Sunday Business Post]
- [08.05.2016] [Easter Rising executions remembered at Kilmainham Gaol](#) [Irish Times]
- [07.05.2016] [Assembly elections: DUP and Sinn Féin remain dominant](#) [Irish Times]
- [07.05.2016] ['Fianna Fáil will hold boot on Taoiseach's throat,' warns Labour leader](#) [Irish Independent]
- [07.05.2016] [11% fall in the number of dole claimants over last 12 months](#) [Irish Examiner]
- [06.05.2016] [70 days later – Your new Government minister revealed](#) [Irish Independent]
- [06.05.2016] [Analysis: return of Michael Noonan a comfort to markets](#) [Irish Times]
- [06.05.2016] [Teachers warned of losses over ballot](#) [Irish Independent]
- [06.05.2016] [Free dental healthcare programmes for under 12s](#) [Irish Independent]
- [06.05.2016] [80% of people would donate an organ](#) [Irish Examiner]

Newspaper (average daily net circulation/political stance - February 2015)

Irish Independent (circulation: 112,383) politically populist; Conservative

Irish Times (circulation: 76,194) politically Liberal/Progressive; centre-right on economic issues

Irish Examiner (circulation: 33, 198) politically Centrist

Sunday Business Post (circulation: 32, 498) politically Liberal