

MORE POWER TO YOU CAMPAIGN – PHASE 2

Much of the planned activity for the ‘More Power to You’ campaign was paused in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In developing Fórsa’s campaigning work programme for 2021, we have agreed with the HOD to prioritise the rollout of phase 2 of this campaign in collaboration with our partner unions in SIPTU and CONNECT, and will significantly escalate the resource allocated to the campaign in line with this.

Local authority briefings

This will involve formal or informal presentations to 31 local authorities on the objectives of the ‘More Power to You’ campaign. We will be seeking councils to pass motions in support of the campaign, and to utilise this activity to build networks with councillors around the country.

Local Development Plans

We will work with political parties to include relevant items in local authority development plans as they are being drafted.

Follow up with pledge parties

We will be following up with political parties who signed the ‘Local Power Pledge’ in the campaign’s first phase in the run up to the 2019 local elections, and/or supported the campaign’s objectives as part of the 2020 general election ‘Public Service Champions Charter’, to see what actions are being taken to progress these commitments and to press for further action.

National Lobbying – Water and Energy

We will be engaging in a focused lobbying campaign with Fianna Fáil to deliver on their commitment to a referendum on the public ownership of water services, and with the Green Party to press for an expanded role for local authorities in climate action and the transition to a low carbon economy.

Housing

Work to progress the housing objectives contained under the ‘More Power to You’ campaign umbrella will continue through two other campaigns which Fórsa is affiliated with – The ‘Home for Good’ campaign for a constitutional right to housing, and the Congress-led ‘Raise the Roof’ campaign for a local authority led response to the housing emergency.

Waste

Work is progressing on a proposed research piece for the remunicipalisation of waste services in Dublin City Council. Fórsa also intend to pursue a series of targeted pilot remunicipalisation programmes in a number of council areas throughout the country.

We would welcome the opportunity to present to the LGLS and Municipal divisional executives in greater detail on plans to advance the campaign in the coming months. In the meantime you can contact us via our email addresses below.

Joe O’Connor (Director of Campaigning)

joconnor@forsa.ie

Kevin Donoghue (Lead Organiser)

kdonoghue@forsa.ie