

IRELAND'S
BIGGEST
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Magazine
inside today



“The white Irish in London understand that they are not the type of immigrants Tommy Robinson is invoking. Stop the boats? What? Into Holyhead? No

Finn McRedmond
Opinion



FROM MICHIGAN
TO CROSSHAVEN
ESCAPING
TRUMP'S
AMERICA

Residential
Property

Discovery
of boy's
remains
likely to lead
to an arrest

Gardaí await results of postmortem on
three-year-old Daniel Aruebose

Taoiseach cautions against 'jumping
to blame' until the full facts emerge

CONOR LALLY
Crime and Security Editor

The discovery of the remains of Daniel Aruebose in a field in Donabate, north Dublin, is expected to lead to at least one arrest, the nature of which will be determined by the results of the postmortem, The Irish Times understands.

While people who knew the three-year-old have co-operated with the Garda investigation to date, the discovery of Daniel's skeletal remains offer grounds for arrest, even if the postmortem does not determine the cause of death or if it rules out foul play.

Failure to notify the authorities of a person's death, improper disposal of a body, and aiding the concealment of remains are all criminal offences.

However, most of those crimes are not regarded as serious enough in legislation to warrant the extradition of a suspect from another country. This could hamper the Garda investigation as one person of interest is abroad.

Garda sources said the nature of any charges, as well as the timing or grounds for any arrest, would be influenced by the results of the postmortem.

During the course of the investigation to date, some witnesses claimed they were present when Daniel died and that efforts were made to revive him. However, they claim he

died of natural, though unexplained, causes rather than any foul play and that his remains were buried in an ensuing panic.

Daniel's mother is originally from Africa but has lived in Ireland since she was a child and is an Irish citizen. His father is from Ireland and has married and started a new life in the years since Daniel's death.

The child was missing for about four years, since he was aged 3½. He had been living in a family setting at the Gallery apartments in Donabate. His disappearance was not noticed until last month, when officials from the Department of Social Protection made checks on a social welfare payment related to him and were unable to determine his location.

They passed their concerns to Tusla, the child and family agency, which alerted gardaí at the end of August. Just days later, on September 1st, the field in Donabate where the remains were found yesterday was sealed off for a search.

When Daniel was born, he was initially given up for adoption and was in foster care for about 18 months. However, his parents then had a change of heart and the child was returned to them. Tusla oversaw the case for all of those developments but ceased its involvement with the child and his family in 2020, Tusla described Daniel's death as "an unimaginable



■ Gardaí yesterday confirmed Daniel Aruebose's name for the first time and issued a photograph of him

tragedy", adding that it will "continue to engage fully" with the Garda investigation.

When the boy's disappearance and death was raised during Taoiseach's questions in the Dáil yesterday, Micheál Martin said he did not accept the "auto-

matic impulse" to blame the State. Such an instinct was "wrong" and "unfair" to Tusla staff, he said, cautioning against "jumping to blame" until the full facts emerge.

Gardaí confirmed the skeletal remains of the child were found at the site off Portrane Road, with clothing also discovered. They confirmed Daniel's name for the first time and issued a photograph of him.

A woman known to Daniel

claimed the remains were buried at the Donabate site and went there, accompanied by gardaí, to point out the burial ground. The remains were still at the site last night and were due to be examined in situ by a forensic anthropologist and pathologist before being removed for a full postmortem.

➔ Very suddenly, just after midday, the site grew still and silent: page 3

Central Bank
takes aim at
€9.4bn budget

Regulator says rapid
growth in spending
not sustainable
without tax rises

EOIN BURKE-KENNEDY
Economics Correspondent

The Government cannot continue spending at the current rate without raising taxes or cutting back on its infrastructure budget, the Central Bank of Ireland has warned.

The regulator said the rapid growth in spending in recent years was not sustainable without additional tax-raising measures and that the Government needed to commit to more rigorous spending controls, including a credible fiscal rule.

In its latest quarterly bulletin, it took aim at the Government's proposed €9.4 billion budgetary package for next year, claiming it involved "too much spending" at this point in the economic cycle.

While it stopped short of saying the package was inappropriate, the bank said the additional spending would provide "an unnecessary stimulus" to an economy already growing at a healthy rate.

The bank upgraded its growth forecast for this year to 2.9 per cent amid the front-loading of exports into the US by multinationals earlier this year.

However, it said growth would be weaker in 2026 and 2027 – averaging 2.3 per cent – on the back of more fragmented trade patterns and higher levels of uncertainty.

"Reducing the risks to the public finances from an excessively narrow tax base has become more critical, given the reliance on corporation tax receipts from a small number of MNEs [multinational enterprises], which may be more vulnerable in light of geoeconomic fragmentation," the bank said.

Overruns in day-to-day spending are expected to top €2.5 billion this year as a result of greater-than-expected spending across several departments.

"The underlying budget deficit [excluding estimated excess corporation tax] is now projected to be larger out to 2027 when compared with the previous bulletin, reflecting additional expenditure measures announced by Government," the Central Bank's director of economics and statistics, Robert Kelly, said.

He warned that the Government's current spending trajectory was not sustainable without additional tax-raising measures or a paring back of the capital budget.

His comments come alongside a separate warning from the Irish Fiscal Advisory Council (Ifac) about the proposed level of Government spending in the budget.

"This is faster than the sustainable growth rate of the economy," Ifac chairman Séamus Coffey will tell the Oireachtas Committee on Budgetary Oversight today. "Given the strong position of the economy at present, the council would recommend a more modest budget package than what is currently planned," he says in an opening statement to the committee.

➔ US tariffs will have 'moderate impact' on Irish economy: page 14

Cuala aim to buy Bective rugby grounds for €2m

COLIN GLEESON

South Dublin GAA club Cuala is seeking the backing of its members to purchase a six-acre sports grounds facility from rugby club Bective Rangers for €2 million.

Cuala, based in Dalkey, are the current All-Ireland football champions, and include Dublin football stars Con O'Callaghan and Peadar Ó Cofaigh Byrne among their ranks. The club have also won two All-Ireland

hurling titles, making them just the second club after St Finbarr's of Cork to achieve the double.

But the club does not own any pitches and relies on the booking of designated pitches within the local authority area and the rental of private facilities.

Bective members have fully approved the sale of the property, which is located on Glenamuck Road in Carrickmines, about a 20-minute drive from

Cuala, which is based in Hyde Park.

The sports grounds in Glenamuck feature a main grass pitch with floodlights, a smaller floodlit training area, and a clubhouse with dressingroom facilities. A realigned vehicular entrance from the new Glenamuck Distributor Road has recently been completed.

Cuala has written to its 3,500 members describing the acquisition of the site as a "once-in-a-generation opportunity"

that would "secure its future".

It outlined its case that it is fully reliant on third-party pitches for all of its training and matches. "The club faces constant challenges in pitch access, while reliance on private rented facilities incurs significant costs for the club, particularly in winter months," it said.

The agreed acquisition cost is €2 million. An initial fundraising target of €2.35 million has been proposed to cover the purchase price and initial preparatory works for the realignment of the main pitch.

It is proposed that funding would be reached through the combination of a €1 million bank loan, €500,000 in donor commitments, and €835,000 through club fundraising by members.

The club said the project has "unanimous support" from its committee and trustees. Member approval will be sought at a meeting on September 30th.

Weather

Mostly cloudy with outbreaks of rain and drizzle. Mild with highs of 16-20 degrees

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