

THE BOOM IS BACK, ARE OUR TROUBLESJUST BEGINNING?!

There is a strong narrative in the media that the boom is back and indeed there are certain signs that this may be the case, such as rising house prices, increasing employment and consumer spending increasing.

While some of these indicators are of course good news, we know from experience that in the long term booms tend to benefit the few disproportionately and leave victims in its wake.

It can also embolden governments to further develop their liberal market policies which can lead to services not keeping pace with need or even being eroded.

It is important that the voice of ordinary citizens is heard in relation to these issues. The Advocacy Group for Economic Inequality was set up recently to campaign locally on key poverty and income inequality issues and as immediate priorities will be working on the housing crises and the recent report by NEWKD which showed that there are significant areas of deprivation in the North and East of the county. In Tralee, 6,329 people or 26.7% of the population live in neighbourhoods that are classified as 'deprived.' The corresponding figures for Listowel are 1,852 persons (38.3%) and Castleisland 988 persons (39.3%).

If you are interested in joining or finding out more

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The Advocacy Group for Economic
Inequality