



Budget 2026

What it means for you and your family

20-page supplement

FIONNÁN SHEAHAN | MARY REGAN | SINÉAD RYAN
CHARLIE WESTON | RICHARD CURRAN | MARK KEENAN



Takeaway Budget

- Middle-income workers set to be €500 worse off
- Builders, barbers and cafes expected to benefit most
- Government breaks promises on taxes and childcare



‘It’s a ray of hope’ – cafe owner hails hospitality Vat rate cut

● Elaine Cosgrove, who owns The Village Garden cafe in Blackrock, Co Louth, says she has been dealing with crippling rises in costs. She says the budget cut in Vat rates for hospitality is good news for small firms. *Photo: David Conachy* **Reports: Pages 2-12 & Pullout**

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NOW €2.99



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NOW €1.09



Chip Shop Curry
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NOW €3.99



Thick & Fruity Yoghurt
WAS €1.59
NOW €1.49



Recommended retail price of the Irish Independent in ROI is €2.70 (£1.90 in Northern Ireland)
Vol. 134 No. 241 Irish Independent



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