

# Kelly: Government failing us on jobs

For the twelfth successive month Live Register figures are in excess of 400,000, indicating that this FF/Green government has failed abysmally to get to grips with our jobs crisis, said Cllr. John Kelly, pictured bottom left, this week.

"In Roscommon, there are 3,909 unemployed. In the under 25 years category there are 550 unemployed. The increase of almost 44,000 over the last 12 months and of over 5,000 since April gives the lie to Government claims that we have turned the corner.

"The reasons for this are clear: this Government has run out of ideas and has run out

of steam. While they are perfectly happy to pump billion into zombie banks, they are doing virtually nothing to invest in job creation.



"We know that each lost job costs the exchequer about €20,000 per year, but if the Government's track record is anything to go by, we can't expect any action with regard to job creation any time soon.

"Just a few months ago, the Government voted down a Labour Party Bill which would have scrapped upward-only rent reviews in the retail sector. Our Bill would have reduced costs in the sector, and would have saved countless businesses and safeguarded thousands of jobs, but was rejected by Fianna Fáil and the Greens.

"In addition, in recent weeks we discovered that, five months after they announced it in the Budget, the Government has made virtually no progress on their PRSI incentive scheme for employers, which was supposed to facilitate the creation of some 12,000 new jobs and reduce the numbers on the dole queues. It is time that Brian Cowen and his colleagues now gave unemployment the priority it deserves."





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Photo: Lawrence Sweeney - Milk Agent

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