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| create(n1:Candidate{Id: '1', Name:'Ann Phelan' ,Gender: 'Female', Party: 'Labour', Constituency: 'Clare', Age: '54', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Biography:'She was a Kilkenny county councillor from 2004 until she was elected to the Dáil in 2011. She is Minister of State at the Departments of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and Transport, Tourism and Sport with responsibility for Rural Economic Development and Rural Transport.'}) |
| create (n2:Candidate{Id: '2', Name:'Michael McNamara', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Clare', Age:'41', Occupation: 'TD', Biography:' Elected to the Dáil on his first attempt in 2011, he had previously ran unsuccessfully in the 2009 European elections. Formerly a barrister and human rights lawyer with the OCSE, he is a member of the IFA and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.' }) |
| create (n3: Candidate {Id: '3', Name: 'Seán Sherlock', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Cork-East', Age: '42', Occupation:' TD and Minister of State', Biography:' Co-opted first onto Cork County Council in 2003, he was re-elected in 2004 and served until he was elected as a TD in 2007. A sitting TD since, he is the current Minister of State with special responsibility for Trade Promotion, Development and North South Co-Operation and is a former party spokesperson on agriculture and food. '}) |
| create(n4:Candidate{Id:' 4', Name:'Kathleen Lynch', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Cork North-Central', Age:'62', Occupation:' TD and Minister of State', Biography:' She first entered the Dáil after successfully contesting a 1994 by-election as part of the Democratic Left. She failed to retain her seat in the 1997 election but ran successfully for the Labour Party in 2002 and has been a TD since. She is Minister for State at the Department of Health with special responsibility for primary care, mental health and disability.'}) |

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| create (n5:Candidate{Id: '5', Name: 'Ciarán Lynch', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Cork South-Central ', Age:'51', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' The chairperson of the Banking Inquiry, he was first elected to the Dáil in 2007. Previously, he was a Cork city councillor from 2004 to 2007 and is the former chairperson of the Oireachtas Finance Committee. '})  create (n6:Candidate{Id: '6', Name: 'Michael McCarthy', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Cork South-West', Age:'38', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Elected first as a Cork county councillor in 1999, he was elected to the Seanad in 2002 and to the Dáil on his third attempt in 2011. He is the chairman of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment, Local Government and Culture and participated in the Constitutional Convention.'})  create (n7:Candidate{Id: '7', Name: 'Aodhán O Ríordain', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Dublin Bay North', Age:'39', Occupation:' TD and Minister of State', Biography:'He was elected as a Dublin city councillor in 2004 before winning a seat in the 2011 general election. He is Minister of State at the Department of Health, with responsibility for the National Drugs Strategy and also Minister of State with responsibility for New Communities, Culture and Equality.'})  create (n8:Candidate{Id: '8', Name: 'Kevin Humphreys', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Dublin Bay South', Age:'57', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography: 'First elected to the Dáil in 2011 having served as a Dublin city councillor for 12 years prior to that. A long-standing member of the Labour Party, he was appointed a Minister of State for Employment, Community and Social Support in July 2014.'})  create (n9:Candidate{Id: '9', Name: 'Joe Costello', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Dublin Central', Age:'70', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography:' He was first elected to the Dáil in 1992, having served previously as a senator. He lost his seat in 1997 but was re-elected in 2002 and has held a seat since. A former Minister of State for Trade and Development, he also served as chairperson of the European Union Affairs Committee.'})  create (n10:Candidate{Id: '10', Name: 'Joanna Tuffy', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Dublin Mid-West', Age:'50', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Elected first as a south Dublin county councillor in 1999, she became a senator in 2002 after failing to secure a Dáil seat in the 2002 general election. A long-standing member of the Labour Party, she was elected to the Dáil in 2008 and retained her seat in 2011.'})  create (n11:Candidate{Id: '11', Name: 'John Lyons', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Dublin North-West', Age:'38', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' He was first elected to Dublin City Council in 2009, before being elected as a TD in 2011. A former teacher, he is the vice-chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and is one of the first openly gay TDs to be elected to the Dáil.'})  create (n12:Candidate{Id: '12', Name: ' Eric Byrne', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Dublin South-Central', Age:'68', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' A long-standing politician, he was first elected as a councillor in 1985. He has been elected to the Dáil and lost his seat on a number of occasions and was most recently elected in 2011. He is on the board of Crumlin Children’s Hospital, and is a director of Treasure Tots Community Childcare, Ballyfermot.'})  create (n13:Candidate{Id: '13', Name: 'Pamela Kearns', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Dublin South-West', Age:'56', Occupation:' Councillor and pre-school owner', Biography:' First elected to South Dublin County Council in 2009, she was re-elected in 2014 but failed to secure a Dáil seat in a 2014 by-election. She was deputy mayor of SDCC in 2011 and is engAged in community activism in her local area.'})  create (n14:Candidate{Id: '14', Name: 'Joan Burton', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Dublin West', Age:'66', Occupation: 'TD, Tánaiste and Minister', Biography:' She was first elected to the Dáil in 1992, before losing her seat in 1997. She regained it in 2002 and has been a TD since. The Tánaiste and current Minister for Social Protection, she is also the leader of the Labour Party and has held a number of junior minister portfolios throughout her political career.'})  create (n15:Candidate{Id: '15', Name: 'Lorraine Higgins', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Galway East', Age:'36', Occupation:' Senator and barrister', Biography:' She unsuccessfully contested both the 2009 local elections and the 2011 general election before she was appointed as a senator in 2011 by the Taoiseach. A barrister by profession, she is the Labour Party Seanad spokesperson on foreign affairs, trade and reform.'})  create (n16:Candidate{Id: '16', Name: 'Derek Nolan', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Galway West', Age:'33', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' He was elected first as a Galway city councillor in 2009 before being elected as a TD in 2011. A member of the Dáil Public Accounts Committee, he is also vice chairman of the Public Service Oversight and Petitions Committee.'})  create (n17:Candidate{Id: '17', Name: 'Arthur Spring', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Kerry', Age:'N/A', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Elected first as a Kerry county councillor in 2009, he won a seat in the Dáil in 2011. He is an entrepreneur and nephew of former Labour tánaiste Dick Spring. He is also the grandson of former TD Dan Spring and a former mayor of Tralee.'})  create (n18:Candidate{Id: '18', Name: 'Emmet Stagg', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Kildare North', Age:'71', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Elected first as a TD in 1987, he has been a member of the Dáil since. Currently the Labour Party chief whip, he is a former Minister of State and former party spokesperson on a number of portfolios.'})  create (n19:Candidate{Id: '19', Name: ' John Whelan', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Laois', Age:'54', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography:' Elected to the Seanad Labour Panel in 2011, he had contested the general election but failed to secure a seat. A journalist by profession, he is a published novelist and is active in his local community, where he has founded a number of festivals and supported local organisations.'})  create (n20:Candidate{Id: '20', Name: 'Jan O Sullivan', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Limerick City', Age:'64', Occupation:' TD and Minister', Biography:' First elected as a TD in a 1998 by-election, she had run unsuccessfully in two previous general elections. She has retained her seat since and is the current Minister for Education and Skills. She was formerly the Labour Party spokesperson for health as well as justice and equality. '})  create (n21:Candidate{Id: '21', Name: 'Kevin Humphreys', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Dublin Bay South', Age:'57', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography:' First elected as a TD in a 1998 by-election, she had run unsuccessfully in two previous general elections. She has retained her seat since and is the current Minister for Education and Skills. She was formerly the Labour Party spokesperson for health as well as justice and equality.'})  create (n22:Candidate{Id: '22', Name: 'Willie Penrose', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Longford-Westmeath', Age:'59', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography:' First co-opted onto Westmeath County Council in 1984, he was elected to the Dáil in 1992 and has been a sitting TD since. A former Minister of State for Housing and Planning, he resigned his position in November 2011 over the closure of an army barracks in Mullingar. He is qualified as a barrister and previously contested for the deputy leadership of the Labour Party.'})  create (n23:Candidate{Id: '23', Name: ' Mary Moran', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Dublin Bay South', Age:'55', Occupation:' Senator', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election before being nominated to the Seanad. A former secondary school teacher, she is the Labour Seanad spokesperson for education, disability, mental health and equality and is a member of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection.'})  create (n24:Candidate{Id: '24', Name: ' Dominic Hannigan', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Meath East', Age:'50', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Elected first as an independent Meath county councillor in 2004, he subsequently joined Labour and ran unsuccessfully in a 2005 by-election and the 2007 general election before being elected to the Seanad in 2007. He was elected to the Dáil in 2011 and is chairperson of the European Union Affairs Committee and director of Belongto.org.'})  create (n25:Candidate{Id: '25', Name: ' John Kelly', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Roscommon-Galway', Age:'55', Occupation:' Senator', Biography:' Elected first as an Independent Roscommon county councillor in 2004, he has ran for the Dáil three times unsuccessfully. Now a member of the Labour Party, he was elected to the Seanad in 2011. He is the party Seanad spokesperson on arts, heritAge and Gaeltacht affairs and training and skills.'})  create (n27:Candidate{Id: '27', Name: 'Susan O Keeffe', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Sligo-Leitrim', Age:'55', Occupation:' Senator', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully in the 2009 European elections and the 2011 general election before being elected to the Seanad in 2011. A journalist by profession, she is the Labour Seanad spokesperson on agriculture and tourism and is a member of the Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine as well as a member of the Banking Inquiry.'})  create (n28:Candidate{Id: '28', Name: ' Alan Kelly', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Tipperary', Age:'40', Occupation:'TD and Minister', Biography:' Elected first as a senator in 2007, he was also elected as an MEP before taking a Dáil seat in 2011. The current Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, he formerly worked for Fáilte Ireland as an eBusiness ManAger and is a former Minister of State for Public and Commuter Transport.'})  create (n29:Candidate{Id: '29', Name: ' Ciara Conway', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency: 'Waterford', Age:35, Occupation:'TD ', Biography:' Elected first as a TD in 2011 on her first attempt, she was formerly a Dungarvan town councillor. A former employee of the HSE, she is the vice-chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Health, Children and Youth Affairs, and is a member of the Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform.'})  create (n30:Candidate{Id: '30', Name: 'Brendan Howlin', Gender:'Male', Party:'Labour', Constituency:' Wexford', Age:'59', Occupation:'TD and Minister', Biography:' First elected to the Dáil in 1987, he has been a sitting TD since. The current Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, he is a former Minister for the Environment and Minister for Health. He is a former deputy leader of Labour and has challenged for the leadership on a number of occasions.'})  create (n31:Candidate{Id: '31', Name: ' Anne Ferris', Gender:'Female', Party:'Labour', Constituency:'Wicklow', Age:'61', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Co-opted onto Wicklow County Council in 2003 after she failed to secure a seat in 1999, she served on the council until 2009. A TD since 2011, she was briefly expelled from the Labour Party last year for voting against the government on a bill which called for the legalisation of abortion in the case of fatal foetal abnormalities. She is vice-chairperson of the Justice, Equality and Defence Committee.'})  create(n33:Candidate{Id: '33', Name: 'Adrienne Wallace', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:' Carlow-Kilkenny', Age:'25', Occupation:'Waitress', Biography:' She is an active member with the Carlow Right to Water group and with Carlow’s Palestine Solidarity Group and is recent graduate of English and Philosophy from St. Patrick’s College in Carlow. She ran unsuccessfully in the Carlow-Kilkenny by-election in 2015, receiving 3.6% of first preference votes.'})  create (n34:Candidate{Id: '34', Name: ' Ciara Leonardi Roche', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Cork East', Age:'22', Occupation:'Community Activist', Biography:' An active member of the anti-water charges movement, she is one of the youngest candidates running in the election. She joined the AAA in late 2014 after becoming involved with the anti-water charges protests and is also a prominent anti-austerity campaigner.'})  create (n32:Candidate{Id: '32', Name: 'Conor Mac Liam', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:' Carlow-Kilkenny', Age:'55', Occupation:'Teacher', Biography:' He works as a teacher in Kilkenny and is a trade unionist and a member of the ASTI. He ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election as well as the 2014 local elections and is an active anti-water charges campaigner.'})  create (n35:Candidate{Id: '35', Name:' Mick Barry', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Cork North-Central', Age:'52', Occupation:' Full-time councillor',Biography:' He is a Cork city councillor, having sat on the Council since 2004. He has unsuccessfully contested three general elections and is a member of the Socialist Party. He is involved heavily in the anti-water charges movement and is a prominent campaigner against austerity.'})  create (n36:Candidate{Id: '36', Name: 'Fiona', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Cork South-Central', Age:'26', Occupation:' Financial services worker', Biography:' An active anti-austerity campaigner, this is her first time running for an election. She is a prominent member of the Repeal the 8th campaign, which advocates for constitutional change in relation to abortions in Ireland.'})  create (n37:Candidate{Id: '37', Name: ' John Lyons', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin Bay North', Age:'36', Occupation:'TD and Minister of State', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election before being elected as a Dublin city councillor in 2014. He ran both times as a member of the People Before Profit Alliance and is a prominent anti-water charges campaigner. He holds masters degrees in history and Irish studies.'})  create (n38:Candidate{Id: '38', Name: ' Terry Kelleher', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin Fingal', Age:'N/A', Occupation:' Clerical worker (An Post)', Biography:' He ran in the 2007 and 2011 general elections but failed to secure a seat in either. A long-standing member of the Socialist Party and a trade unionist, he has been involved in a number of campaigns throughout the years, including the anti-water charges protest and the right to housing movement.'})  create (n39:Candidate{Id: '39', Name: ' Paul Murphy', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin South-West', Age:'32', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' A prominent member of the Socialist Party, he first entered political office when he was co-opted to the European Parliament in 2011. He failed to get re-elected in 2014 but secured a Dáil seat in a 2014 by-election. A high-profile anti-water charges and anti-austerity campaigner, he has been involved in some of the largest protests around the country.'})  create (n40:Candidate{Id: '40', Name: ' Ruth Coppinger', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin West', Age:'N/A', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' Co-opted first onto Fingal County Council in 2003, she served as a councillor until being elected to the Dáil on her second attempt in a 2014 by-election. A member of the Socialist Party, she is a prominent anti-austerity campaigner and is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht.'})  create (n41:Candidate{Id: '41', Name: ' Richard Boyd Barrett', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:' Dún Laoghaire', Age:'47', Occupation:'TD', Biography:' A left-wing political activist and anti-war campaigner, he ran for both local and national office unsuccessfully before he was elected to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in 2009. A TD since 2011, he is a prominent figure in the anti-austerity movement and has been involved in a number of nationwide protests.'})  create (n42:Candidate{Id: '42', Name: ' Tommy Holohan', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:' Galway West', Age:'63', Occupation:'Painter', Biography:' This is his first time running in a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections for Galway City Council. A self-employed painter and community activist, he is involved with a number of local and charitable organisations and has run the New York Marathon almost 20 times to raise money for good causes.'})  create (n43:Candidate{Id: '43', Name:' Brian Finucane', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Kerry', Age:'41', Occupation:'PAYE worker', Biography:' He ran in the 2014 local elections for Kerry County Council but failed to secure a seat. He is a local community activist, and has been engAged with protests against the water and household charges. He is the founder of Right2Water Kerry.'})  create (n44:Candidate{Id: '44', Name: ' Ashling Merriman', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Kildare North', Age:'46', Occupation:'Care Attendant', Biography:' A prominent activist in her local area, this is her first time running for general election. A care attendant by profession, she is heavily involved with the anti-water charges protest movement and campaigns against other austerity measures.'})  create (n45:Candidate{Id: '45', Name: ' Cian Prendiville', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Limerick City', Age:'26', Occupation:'Full-Time Councillor', Biography:' A Limerick city councillor, he was elected in 2014 after failing to secure a seat in the 2011 general election for the Socialist Party. He is a founding member of the anti-water charges We Wont Pay campaign and is involved in local community activist groups in his area.'})  create (n46:Candidate{Id: '46', Name: ' Dominic Parker', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Longford-Westmeath', Age:'N/A', Occupation:'Activist', Biography:' A prominent anti-austerity campaigner, this is his first time running for an election. He is strongly involved with local protest groups in his area and has been an active campaigner against the water charges.'})  create (n47:Candidate{Id: '47', Name: ' Tom Moran', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Mayo', Age:'74', Occupation:' Retired aviation engineer', Biography:' An aviation engineer from Westport, this is his first time running for election. He has worked abroad in Africa and the Middle East and worked in the control tower at Shannon Airport for 30 years. He is involved with local campaigns in his area, protesting against the water charges.'})  create (n48:Candidate{Id: '48', Name: ' Garrett Weldon', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Louth', Age:'N/A', Occupation:'Activist', Biography:' A prominent anti-austerity campaigner in his local area, this is his first time running for election. He has been heavily involved with anti-water charges protest groups as well as protesting against the property tax. A community worker, he lists reversing austerity cuts and revitalising the health service as among his top priorities.'})  create (n49:Candidate{Id: '49', Name: ' Eddie Conroy', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Roscommon-Galway', Age:'39', Occupation:'Service ManAger', Biography:' He is a local community activist in his area and is a prominent member of Right2Water, which protests against the water charges. He is also involved with protests against other austerity measures and is running under the banner that Roscommon has been neglected and forgotten by successive governments.'})  create (n50:Candidate{Id: '50', Name: ' Nigel Gallagher', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Sligo-Leitrim', Age:'29', Occupation:'Graphic Designer', Biography:' A prominent anti-water charges activist in Sligo, he has been a member of the People Before Profit Alliance for over two years. He is a graphic designer by profession and works with the Hawks Well Theatre in Sligo. He was heavily involved with local councillor Seamie O Boyles election campaign.'})  create (n51:Candidate{Id: '51', Name: ' Una Dunphy', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Waterford', Age:'48', Occupation:'Teacher', Biography:' A teacher to early school leavers, this is her first time running for election. She is an active trade unionist and currently president of the Waterford Council of Trade Unions. She is also a prominent activist in the Right2Water and Repeal the 8th campaigns.'})  create (n52:Candidate{Id: '52', Name: 'Deirdre Wadding', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Wexford', Age:'53', Occupation:'Full-Time councillor', Biography:' Elected first as a Wexford county councillor in 2014, this is her first time running in a general election. A local activist in her area, she is involved in campaigns protesting the water charges and other austerity measures and used to work as a storyteller.'})  create (n53:Candidate{Id: '53', Name: ' Anna Doyle', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Wicklow', Age:'43', Occupation:'Unemployed Activist', Biography:' A prominent activist and campaigner in her local area, this is her first time running for general election after she failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. She is a prominent campaigner against the water and household charges and is a human rights activist for LGBTQ Wicklow.'})  create (n54:Candidate{Id: '54', Name: ' Sharon Briggs', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Wicklow', Age:'49', Occupation:'Student', Biography:' This will be her first time running for a Dáil seat after she ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. She is a prominent campaigner against austerity measures including the water and household charges and was arrested in 2014 at an anti-water charges protest.'})  create (n55:Candidate{Id: '55', Name: 'Jim O Connell ', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:' Cork South-Central ', Age:'56', Occupation:' Community activist/political organiser ', Biography:' An active member of the People Before Profit Alliance, he has worked with a number of protest groups, focusing on anti-austerity and the upkeep of social housing. He has also campaigned nationally on issues such as protecting the national assets of Ireland. '})  create (n56:Candidate{Id: '56', Name: 'Michael O Brien', Gender:'Male', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin Bay North', Age:'40', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Biography:' A member of the Socialist Party and a trade union activist, he was elected to Dublin City Council in 2014. He is heavily involved with the anti-water charges campaign and is a member of the North Central Area Joint Policing Committee in Dublin City Council. '})  create (n57:Candidate{Id: '57', Name: ' Sandra Fay ', Gender:'Female', Party:'AAA-PBP', Constituency:'Dublin South-West', Age:'36', Occupation:'Teacher', Biography:' A secondary school teacher, this is her first time running for office. She is heavily involved with the anti-water charges campaign and came to prominence following the Jobstown protests in December 2014. She is an active campaigner in her local community. '})  create(n58:Candidate{Id: '58', Name:'John Paul Phelan', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He first entered local politics in 1999 and served two terms in the Seanad before topping the poll in his constituency in the last general election. A business graduate, he recently qualified as a barrister and is a member of the Banking Inquiry.'})  create (n59:Candidate{Id: '59', Name:'Pat Deering', Gender:'Male', Age:'48', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was elected to Carlow County Council in 2009, where he served as Fine Gael Whip, before being elected to Dáil Éireann in 2011. He was chairman of the Transport & Infrastructure Strategic Policy Committee and has been involved with the IFA.'})  create (n60:Candidate{Id: '60', Name:'David Fitzgerald', Gender:'Male', Age:'46', Occupation: 'Councillor and auctioneer', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was elected to Kilkenny County Council in 2011 and served a term as mayor of Kilkenny City in 2011. A member of both the IFA and the GAA, he was the youngest ever president of Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce. He previously ran unsuccessfully in the 2015 by-election.'})  create (n61:Candidate{Id: '61', Name:'Heather Humphreys', Gender:'Female', Age:'55', Occupation: 'TD and minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She worked for a number of years with Ulster Bank and as the manAger of a credit union. She was elected in 2011 and is the first woman ever to be elected for Fine Gael in the constituency. She was appointed as Minister for Arts, HeritAge and the Gaeltacht in 2014.'})  create (n62:Candidate{Id: '62', Name:'Joe OReilly', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A former teacher, he was first elected to Cavan County Council in 1985. He was a Senator from 1989-92 and then again from 2007-11. He was elected to the Dáil in 2011 and is vice-chairperson of the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement Committee. '})  create (n63:Candidate{Id: '63', Name:'Joe Carey', Gender:'Male', Age:'40', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to Clare County Council in 1999, he was first elected to the Dáil in 2007 and was re-elected in 2011. He is the assistant government chief whip and a member of the Dáil Committee on Procedures and Privileges. He is the former Fine Gael spokesperson on juvenile justice.'})  create (n64:Candidate{Id: '64', Name:'Pat Breen', Gender:'Male', Age:'58', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was a member of Clare County Council from 1999 to 2002 before being elected to the Dáil. He has been a TD since 2002 and in 2011 topped the poll in the Clare constituency. He has been Chairman of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Foreign Affairs and Trade for the past five years.'})  create (n65:Candidate{Id: '65', Name:'Mary Howard', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as an Ennis town councillor in 2009, she won a Clare County Council seat in 2014. She is an active member of a number of community organisations in her local area, including the Clare Womens Network, and is the daughter of late former Fine Gael senator Michael Howard.'})  create (n66:Candidate{Id: '66', Name:'David Stanton', Gender:'Male', Age:'58', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected to the Dáil in 1997, he has been a TD since. He is currently chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality. He is also chairperson of the working group of Committee Chairs.'})  create (n67:Candidate{Id: '67', Name:'Noel McCarthy', Gender:'Male', Age:'53', Occupation: 'Councillor and retail owner', Party:' Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Cork county councillor for Labour in 2009, he retained his seat in 2014. Now a member of Fine Gael, this is his first time running for general election. He is a retail owner by profession.'})  create (n68:Candidate{Id: '68', Name:'Tom Barry', Gender:'Male', Age:'46', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A graduate of biochemistry, he is founder and CEO of a grain drying and warehousing business. He was elected to Cork County Council in 2009 before being elected to the Dáil in 2011. He is heavily involved with agriculture in his local area.'})  create (n69:Candidate{Id: '69', Name:'Dara Murphy', Gender:'Male', Age:' 45', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was a Cork city councillor from 2004 to 2011 and was Lord Mayor in 2009/10. He was elected to the Dáil in 2011. He is the Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade with special responsibility for European affairs and data protection.'})  create (n70:Candidate{Id: '70', Name:'Julie OLeary', Gender:'Female', Age:'25', Occupation: 'Barrister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A barrister by profession, this is her first time running for election. She is a volunteer with the Free Legal Advice Centre held in Blackpool Community Centre and comes from a farming background. She works in areas of family law, immigration law and criminal law.'})  create (n71:Candidate{Id: '71', Name:'Michael Creed', Gender:'Male', Age:'52', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first co-opted onto Cork County Council in 1987 and was elected to the Dáil in 1989. He lost his seat in the 2002 general election, but regained it in 2007 and retained it in 2011. A former chairperson of Cork County Council, he has also held many positions on the Fine Gael frontbench in the past.'})  create (n72:Candidate{Id: '72', Name:'Áine Collins', Gender:'Female', Age:'46', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected to the Dáil in the 2011 general elections. A qualified accountant and auditor, she sits on the Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Committee and the Public Accounts Committee in the Dáil. She has years of experience in business development and manAgement consultancy.'})  create (n73:Candidate{Id: '73', Name:'Simon Coveney', Gender:'Male', Age:'43', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'The current Minister for Agriculture, Marine, Food & Defence, he was first elected to the Dáil after winning a 1998 by-election. He served in the European Parliament from 2004 to 2007 when he was re-elected to the Dáil. He has been a sitting TD since.'})  create (n74:Candidate{Id: '74', Name:'Jerry Buttimer', Gender:'Male', Age:'48', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was elected to Cork City Council in 2004 before being elected to the Seanad in 2007 after he failed to secure a seat in the 2007 general election. He was elected to the Dáil in the 2011 general election. The former Fine Gael Seanad Spokesperson on Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, he is the chair of Fine Gael LGBT.'})  create (n75:Candidate{Id: '75', Name:'Jim Daly', Gender:'Male', Age:'42', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was a Cork county councillor from 2004 to 2011, when he was elected to the Dáil. He was Mayor of Cork in 2010 and is a former primary school principal.'})  create (n76:Candidate{Id: '76', Name:'Noel Harrington', Gender:'Male', Age:'44', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected to Cork County Council in 1999 and was a councillor until his election to the Dáil in 2011. He is a member of Dáil committees including the the Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection and the Joint Committee on Transport and Communications.'})  create (n77:Candidate{Id: '77', Name:'Paddy Harte', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'Business advisor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A former business lecturer at Letterkenny IT, this is his first time running for election. He is the son of retired TD Paddy Harte Snr., who served in the Dáil for over 30 years. An active member of a number of organisations, he was chairperson of the Donegal Gathering in 2013 and is a board member of the IFI.'})  create (n78:Candidate{Id: '78', Name:'Richard Bruton', Gender:'Male', Age:'62', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 1982 and has been a sitting TD since. The current Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, he was Minister for Enterprise and Employment in the past and was deputy leader of Fine Gael from 2002 to 2010.'})  create (n79:Candidate{Id: '79', Name:'Naoise O Muirí', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and engineer', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A member of Dublin City Council since 2004, he ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election. He served previously as the Lord Mayor of Dublin and runs his own engineering company. He is the governor and a member of the Executive Committee of the National Maternity Hospital.'})  create (n80:Candidate{Id: '80', Name:'Stephanie Regan', Gender:'Female', Age:'57', Occupation: 'Clinical psychotherapist', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'The local representative for Fine Gael in her area, she ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections for the party. She has degrees in mathematics, economics and social work and runs her own clinical psychotherapy practice.'})  create (n81:Candidate{Id: '81', Name:'Eoghan Murphy', Gender:'Male', Age:'33', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 2011 having served as a Dublin city councillor for two years prior to that. He sat on the Public Accounts Committee between 2011 and 2014 when he was appointed to serve on the Oireachtas Banking Inquiry. He is the brother of Love-Hate actor Killian Scott.'})  create (n82:Candidate{Id: '82', Name:'Kate OConnell', Gender:'Female', Age:'36', Occupation: 'Councillor and pharmacist', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected to Dublin City Council in 2014 for the Rathgar-Rathmines ward. This is her first general election campaign. Her father Michael was previously a Fine Gael councillor in Westmeath.'})  create (n83:Candidate{Id: '83', Name:'Paschal Donohoe', Gender:'Male', Age:'41', Occupation: 'TD and Ministern', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'The Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, he was first elected as a Dublin city councillor in 2004 and served until he was elected to the Seanad in 2007. He challenged for a seat in the Dáil twice unsuccessfully before being elected in 2011. He was previously the Minister of State for European Affairs.'})  create (n84:Candidate{Id: '84', Name:'Alan Farrell', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was elected a member of Fingal County Council in 2004 and served as a councillor before being elected to the Dáil in 2011. A former mayor of Fingal County Council, in 2013 he was appointed head of delegation to the OSCE (Organisation for Security & Co-Operation in Europe). He is a member of a number of Dáil committees including the Justice, Equality and Defence committee.'})  create (n85:Candidate{Id: '85', Name:'James Reilly', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'The current Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, he was first elected to the Dáil in 2007 and retained his seat in 2011. A doctor by profession, he is the former Minister for Health and is currently the deputy leader of Fine Gael. Prior to his election he worked as a GP in the north county Dublin area for 25 years.'})  create (n86:Candidate{Id: '86', Name:'Frances Fitzgerald', Gender:'Female', Age:'65', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'The current Minister for Justice and Equality, she was first elected to the Dáil in 1992. She lost her seat in the 2002 general election but retained it in 2011. A former senator and councillor, she has enacted or passed through much legislation during her lengthy political career.'})  create (n87:Candidate{Id: '87', Name:'Derek Keating', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to Dáil in 2011 on his second attempt, he had previously been a south Dublin county councillor from 1999. Previously an Independent, he joined Fine Gael in 2008. He is an active local campaigner and community worker in his area.'})  create (n88:Candidate{Id: '88', Name:'Noel Rock', Gender:'Male', Age:'28', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A Dublin city councillor, he failed to secure a seat in the 2009 local elections but was elected in 2014. This is his first time running for a general election and he is a member of the Economic Development and Housing SPCs on Dublin City Council. In 2006, he worked in the US Senate for then-Senator Hillary Clinton.'})  create (n89:Candidate{Id: '90', Name:'Josepha Madigan', Gender:'Female', Age:'46', Occupation: 'Family solicitor and councillor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected to Dún Laoighaire-Rathdown County Council in 2014. She has been a practising solicitor for the past 17 years and is head of the family law and civil litigation department at Madigans Solicitors. She is a member of the Community Development, Culture and Ageing SPC on the council.'})  create (n91:Candidate{Id: '91', Name:'Alan Shatter', Gender:'Male', Age:'64', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected to the Dáil in 1981, he served until 2002 when he lost his seat. He was re-elected in 2002 and was appointed as Minister for Justice and Equality and Minister for Defence in 2011. However, he resigned in 2014 following the publication of the Guerin report.'})  create (n92:Candidate{Id: '92', Name:'Catherine Byrne', Gender:'Female', Age:'59', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected as a Dublin city councillor in 1999. She failed to win a seat in the 2002 general election but she was elected in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. She was previously the Fine Gael spokesperson for older citizens and is a former mayor of Dublin (2005-2006).'})  create (n93:Candidate{Id: '93', Name:'Colm Brophy', Gender:'Male', Age:'49', Occupation: 'Councillor and small-business owner', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first co-opted onto South Dublin County Council in 2008 and retained his seat in the 2009 elections. He failed to win a seat in the 2011 general election but was re-elected to the Council in 2014 and is currently the Fine Gael group leader and the chairperson of the Transport SPC on the council.'})  create (n94:Candidate{Id: '94', Name:'Anne-Marie Dermody', Gender:'Female', Age:'46', Occupation: 'Councillor and solicitor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A self-employed solicitor by profession, she was first co-opted onto South Dublin County Council in 2011 and was re-elected in 2014. She is a member of the Economic and Tourism Strategy Committee at the Council and is a solicitor by profession.'})  create (n95:Candidate{Id: '95', Name:'Karen Warren', Gender:'Female', Age:'50', Occupation: 'Sales representative', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to South Dublin County Council in 2004, she lost her seat in 2009 and failed to regain it in 2014. She is involved with a number of community groups in her area.'})  create (n96:Candidate{Id: '96', Name:'Leo Varadkar', Gender:'Male', Age:'36', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First entering politics as a Fingal county councillor in 2003, he was elected to the Dáil in 2007 and has been a TD since. The current Minister for Health, he is the previous Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport and is a former party spokesperson on enterprise, trade and employment.'})  create (n97:Candidate{Id: '97', Name:'Catherine Noone', Gender:'Female', Age:'39', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected as a Dublin city councilor in 2009 before being elected to the Commercial and Industrial panel of the Seanad in 2011. A practicing solicitor, she is the Fine Gael Seanad spokesperson on European affairs. This is her first time running in a general election.'})  create (n98:Candidate{Id: '98', Name:'Maria Bailey', Gender:'Female', Age:'39', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county councillor in 2004, she has been consistently re-elected since. She is the former chairperson of the Transportation SPC and the county development board on DLRCC and is involved with a number of local organisations in her area.'})  create (n99:Candidate{Id: '99', Name:'Mary Mitchell-OConnor', Gender:'Female', Age:'56', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first for the Progressive Democrats as a Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county councillor in 2004, she left the party for Fine Gael in 2007. She was elected to the Dáil in 2011 and is a member of a number of committees, including the Committee on Health and Children and the Sub-Committee on Children and Youth Affairs.'})  create (n100:Candidate{Id: '100', Name:'Ciarán Cannon', Gender:'Male', Age:'50', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Galway county councillor for the Progressive Democrats, he failed to get elected in the 2007 general election but secured a seat in 2011 as a member of Fine Gael. He previously served as Minister of State for Training and Skills and is a former leader of the PDs.'})  create (n101:Candidate{Id: '101', Name:'Paul Connaughton', Gender:'Male', Age:'33', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected as a Galway county councillor in 2009, he won a Dáil in 2011. He is a member of the Dáil Public Accounts Committee and is the son of Paul Connaughton Snr., who was a Fine Gael TD for Galway East for over 30 years.'})  create (n102:Candidate{Id: '102', Name:'Hildegarde Naughton', Gender:'Female', Age:'38', Occupation: 'Senator and teacher', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Galway county councillor in 2009, she ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election before she was appointed to the Seanad by the Taoiseach in 2013. A primary school teacher by profession, she was previously mayor of Galway.'})  create (n103:Candidate{Id: '103', Name:'Sean Kyne', Gender:'Male', Age:'40', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first to Galway County Council in 2004, he ran unsuccessfully for both the Dáil and the Seanad before securing a seat in 2011. He has a masters degree in agricultural science and is a member of a number of Dáil committees, including the Committee on Jobs, Social Protection and Education and the Committee on European Union Affairs.'})  create (n104:Candidate{Id: '104', Name:'John OMahony', Gender:'Male', Age:'62', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 2007 and was re-elected in 2011. He was appointed chairman of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Transport and Communications in July 2013, and is the former Fine Gael deputy spokesperson on arts, sport and tourism with special responsibility for sport.'})  create (n105:Candidate{Id: '105', Name:'Brendan Griffin', Gender:'Male', Age:'33', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected as a Kerry county councillor in 2009, he was elected to the Dáil on his first attempt in 2011 for the Kerry South constituency. He is a member of a number of Oireachtas committees including the Transport Committee and the Communications Committee.'})  create (n106:Candidate{Id: '106', Name:'Grace ODonnell', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'UnEmployed', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'This is her first time running in the general election after she failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. A former Tralee town councillor, she also served as mayor of Tralee and is a former worker with Total Cleaning Supplies.'})  create (n107:Candidate{Id: '107', Name:'Jimmy Deenihan', Gender:'Male', Age:'63', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He first entered politics in 1983 when he was elected to the Seanad. He was elected to the Dáil in 1987 and has retained his seat at each election since. The Minister of State for Diaspora Affairs, he is a former Minister for Arts, HeritAge and the Gaeltacht.'})  create (n108:Candidate{Id: '108', Name:'Bernard Durkan', Gender:'Male', Age:'70', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A long-standing member of Fine Gael, he was first elected to Dáil Éireann in 1981, lost his seat in 1982, regained it again in 1982 and has been a TD since. He is a former Fine Gael chief whip, as well as Minister of State for Social Welfare and has held numerous other front bench portfolios throughout his political career.'})  create (n109:Candidate{Id: '109', Name:'Anthony Lawlor', Gender:'Male', Age:'56', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Co-opted first onto Kildare County Council as an Independent in 1998, he stepped down in 2004. He was elected again in 2009 this time for Fine Gael and was elected to the Dáil in 2011. He is a farmer by profession and a member of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation.'})  create (n110:Candidate{Id: '110', Name:'Martin Heydon', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Kildare county councillor in 2009, he was elected to the Dáil in 2011. He is the current chairperson of the Fine Gael Internal Agricultural Committee and he is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Agriculture.'})  create (n111:Candidate{Id: '111', Name:'Fiona McLoughlin Healy', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and entrepreneur', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A Kildare county councillor, she was elected in 2014. She is a businesswoman and entrepreneur and has featured regularly on television discussing a number of issues. A member of the Newbridge Chamber, she has a number of degrees in different subjects.'})  create (n112:Candidate{Id: '112', Name:'Charlie Flanagan', Gender:'Male', Age:'59', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to the Dáil first in 1987, he was a TD until he lost his seat in 2002. He was elected again in 2007 and is now Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is also a former Minister for Children and Youth Affairs and has held numerous front bench positions with Fine Gael throughout his political career.'})  create (n113:Candidate{Id: '113', Name:'Thomasina Connell', Gender:'Female', Age:'33', Occupation: 'Solicitor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A solicitor by profession, this is her first time running in a general election. She is a graduate of UCD and the Law Society of Ireland and is involved locally with a number of organisations in her area including sports clubs and charitable organisations.'})  create (n114:Candidate{Id: '114', Name:'Michael Noonan', Gender:'Male', Age:'72', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 1981 and has been a sitting TD since. The current Minister for Finance, he has been a minister in every Fine Gael led government since 1982, including Minister for Health and Minister for Justice.'})  .create (n115:Candidate{Id: '115', Name:'Kieran ODonnell', Gender:'Male', Age:'52', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Limerick city councillor in 2004, he was elected to the Dáil in 2007 and retained his seat in 2011. A former vice-chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, he also served as one of four Fine Gael members on the Banking Inquiry.'})  create (n116:Candidate{Id: '116', Name:'Patrick ODonovan', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Co-opted first to Limerick County Council in 2003, he retained his seat until he was elected to the Dáil in 2011. Formerly a primary school teacher, he is a member of the Public Accounts Committee and the Joint Committee on Transport and Communications.'})  create (n117:Candidate{Id: '117', Name:'Tom Neville', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and digital account manAger', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Co-opted first onto Limerick County Council in 2003, he served until 2009 when he emigrated. He was re-elected in 2014. The current chairperson of the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District, he is the son of sitting TD Dan Neville who will not contest this general election.'})  create (n118:Candidate{Id: '118', Name:'Peter Burke', Gender:'Male', Age:'33', Occupation: 'Councillor and accountant', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected as a Westmeath county councillor on his second attempt in 2009, he has been a member of the council since. An accountant by profession, he has twice ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat. He is a member of a number of committees and boards and is involved with local community organisations in his area.'})  create (n119:Candidate{Id: '119', Name:'Gabrielle McFadden', Gender:'Female', Age:'48', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected first to Westmeath County Council in 2009 before winning a 2014 by-election after a seat was vacated by the death of her sister, Nicky. She is a member of the Public Accounts Committee and the Select Committee on Justice, Defence and Equality.'})  create (n120:Candidate{Id: '120', Name:'James Bannon', Gender:'Male', Age:'57', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First entering politics as a Longford county councillor in 1985, he was elected as a senator in 2002 and as a TD in 2007. A member of the Dáil since, he formerly worked as an auctioneer and was the Seanad party spokesperson on environment, local government and heritAge.'})  create (n121:Candidate{Id: '121', Name:'Fergus ODowd', Gender:'Male', Age:'67', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'First elected as a Louth county councillor in 1979, he ran three times unsuccessfully for national office and served in the Seanad before he was elected to the Dáil in 2002. He is a former Fine Gael spokesperson for environment, heritAge and local government and is a former Minister of State with responsibility for the NewERA Project.'})  create (n122:Candidate{Id: '122', Name:'Peter Fitzpatrick', Gender:'Male', Age:'53', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to the Dáil on his first attempt in 2011, he is a former manAger of the Louth senior football tea. Last year, he briefly considered not running for re-election but later changed his mind following discussions with the Taoiseach.'})  create (n123:Candidate{Id: '123', Name:'Enda Kenny', Gender:'Male', Age:'64', Occupation: 'TD and Taoiseach', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first to the Dáil in 1975, he is the longest serving TD currently in the Dáil. The Taoiseach since 2011, he became leader of Fine Gael in 2002. He previously served as Minister for Tourism and Trade from 1994 to 1997.'})  create (n124:Candidate{Id: '124', Name:'Michael Ring', Gender:'Male', Age:'61', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first in a 1994 by-election, he has been a sitting TD ever since. The current Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, he is a former party spokesperson on social and family affairs and also community, rural and Gaelteacht affairs.'})  create (n125:Candidate{Id: '125', Name:'Michelle Mulherin', Gender:'Female', Age:'43', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected first as a Mayo county councillor in 2004, and served until she was elected to the Dáil on her second attempt in 2011. She is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committees for Public Service Oversight and Petitions and is also chairperson of Ballina Arts Centre and Theatre.'})  create (n126:Candidate{Id: '126', Name:'Helen McEntee', Gender:'Female', Age:'29', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She was elected to the Dáil on her fist attempt in a 2013 by-election caused by the death of her father Shane McEntee. Currently the youngest female TD in the Dáil, she is a member of the Oireachtas Committee on Transport and Communications and the Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaelteacht.'})  create (n127:Candidate{Id: '127', Name:'Regina Doherty', Gender:'Female', Age:'45', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'She ran unsuccessfully in the 2007 general election before being elected as a Meath county councillor in 2009. She was elected to the Dáil in 2011 and is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Health and Children as well as the Committee on Finance, Public Expenditure and Reform.'})  create (n128:Candidate{Id: '128', Name:'Ray Butler', Gender:'Male', Age:'49', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was elected first as a Meath county councillor in 2009 before being elected to the Dáil on his first attempt in 2011. He is a former mayor of Trim and serves on the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection.'})  create (n129:Candidate{Id: '129', Name:'Damien English', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected as a Meath county councillor in 1999, he was elected to the Dáil in 2002 and has been a sitting TD since. The current Minister of State for Skills, Research and Innovation, he has held a number of front-bench positions in Fine Gael and has been deputy spokesperson for a number of portfolios.'})  create (n130:Candidate{Id: '130', Name:'Marcella Corcoran-Kennedy', Gender:'Female', Age:'53', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as an Offaly county councillor in 1999, she served until 2009 when she failed to get re-elected. She was elected to the Dáil in 2011 and is chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation. She is also a former director of the West Offaly Enterprise Fund'})  create (n131:Candidate{Id: '131', Name:'Maura Hopkins', Gender:'Female', Age:'31', Occupation: 'Councillor and occupational therapist', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A Roscommon county councillor, she was elected on her first attempt in 2014. She also ran in a by-election for a Dáil seat in 2014 but failed to get elected. She works as an occupational therapist with stroke patients and is also a speech and drama teacher.'})  create (n132:Candidate{Id: '132', Name:'Tony McLoughlin', Gender:'Male', Age:'66', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Sligo county councillor in 1974, he is a long-standing member of Fine Gael and was elected to the Dáil on his second attempt in 2011. He is a four time mayor of Sligo and is a member of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on the Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht.'})  create (n133:Candidate{Id: '133', Name:'Gerry Reynolds', Gender:'Male', Age:'54', Occupation: 'Businessman', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He was first elected as a Leitrim county councillor in 1985 and served on the council until he withdrew from the local elections in 2014. During that time, he also served twice as a TD and served as a senator. This will be his first time running in a general election since he lost his Dáil seat in 2002.'})  create (n134:Candidate{Id: '134', Name:'John Perry', Gender:'Male', Age:'59', Occupation: 'Businessman', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first to the Dáil in 1997, he has retained his seat in each subsequent general election. A former Minister of State for Small Business, he is a member of the Public Accounts Committee. He took a legal challenge against Fine Gael over the results of a selection convention when he wasnt added to the ticket for this general election. He was successfully added to the ticket following this challenge.'})  create (n135:Candidate{Id: '135', Name:'Marie Murphy', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A Tipperary county councillor, she was elected first on her second attempt in 2009 and has served since. She is a member of the Audit Committee of the council and is a former member of the Housing Policy and Social Development SPC.'})  create (n136:Candidate{Id: '136', Name:'Noel Coonan', Gender:'Male', Age:'65', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'He first entered politics as a Tipperary North county councillor in 1991. He entered the Dáil in 2007 after having failed to be elected in 2002 and has served since. He is vice-chairperson of the Oireachtas Committee on Environment, Culture and the Gaeltacht.'})  create (n137:Candidate{Id: '137', Name:'Tom Hayes', Gender:'Male', Age:'63', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to Tipperary South County Council in 1991, he served as both a councillor and a senator before being elected to the Dáil on his second attempt in 2001. A serving TD since, he is the Minister of State for Food, Horticulture and Food Safety and is a former chairperson of the Fine Gael parliamentary party.'})  create (n138:Candidate{Id: '138', Name:'John Deasy', Gender:'Male', Age:'48', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Waterford county councillor in 1999, he was elected to the Dáil in 2002 and has been a sitting TD since. The vice-chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee, he is a former party spokesperson on justice, equality and law reform.'})  create (n139:Candidate{Id: '139', Name:'Paudie Coffey', Gender:'Male', Age:'46', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Waterford county councillor in 1999, he served until he was elected to the Seanad in 2007 after failing to secure a Dáil seat. A TD since 2011, he is the current Minister of State for Housing, Planning and Coordination.'})  create (n140:Candidate{Id: '140', Name:'Paudie Coffey', Gender:'Male', Age:'46', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Waterford county councillor in 1999, he served until he was elected to the Seanad in 2007 after failing to secure a Dáil seat. A TD since 2011, he is the current Minister of State for Housing, Planning and Coordination.'})  create (n141:Candidate{Id: '141', Name:'Michael Darcy', Gender:'Male', Age:'45', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Co-opted first onto Wexford County Council in place of his father in 2003, he was re-elected in 2004 and served until 2007 when he won a Dáil seat. He lost his seat in 2011 but was elected to the Administrative Panel of the Seanad. He is the Fine Gael Seanad spokesperson on finance and has held front bench positions in the past.'})  create (n142:Candidate{Id: '142', Name:'Paul Kehoe', Gender:'Male', Age:'43', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected to the Dáil on his first attempt in 2002, he has been a sitting TD since. The government chief whip, he is also Minister of State at the Department of the Taoiseach and Defence. He has introduced some Dáil reform during his time as government chief whip.'})  create (n143:Candidate{Id: '143', Name:'Julie Hogan', Gender:'Female', Age:'44', Occupation: 'Customer service team manAger', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A team leader in Eishtec contact centre in Wexford, this is her first time running for election. She is former small-business owner and has worked as a retail manAger. She is running on a platform of restoring services and tourism to Wexford.'})  create (n144:Candidate{Id: '144', Name:'Andrew Doyle', Gender:'Male', Age:'65', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Wicklow county councillor in 1999, he served on the council until he was elected to the Dáil in 2007. A sitting TD since, he is chairperson of the Oireachtas Joint Committee on Agriculture, Food and the Marine, and is a former Fine Gael spokesperson for agriculture.'})  create (n145:Candidate{Id: '145', Name:'Simon Harris', Gender:'Male', Age:'29', Occupation: 'TD and Minister of State', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'Elected first as a Wicklow county councillor in 2009, he served on the council until he was elected as a TD in 2011. The current Minister of State with special responsibility for the OPW, Public Procurement and International Banking, he is the youngest member of the current Dáil.'})  create (n146:Candidate{Id: '146', Name:'Avril Cronin', Gender:'Female', Age:'29', Occupation: 'Parliamentary assistant', Party:'Fine Gael', Biography:'A parliamentary assistant to former Fine Gael TD Peter Matthews, this is her first time running for election. She is a graduate of the Dublin Institute of Technology and the University of Limerick and worked previously for Kildare County Council and West Wicklow Community Addiction Services.'})  create(n147:Candidate{Name: 'Kathleen Funchion', Id: '147', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Councillor and SIPTU workers right advocate', Age: '34', Gender: 'Female', Biography:'Elected as a Kilkenny county councillor in 2014, this will be her fourth time to challenge for a Dáil seat. A graduate of sociology with a post-graduate qualification in employment law, she works with SIPTU as a workers rights advocate.'})  create(n148:Candidate{Name: 'Caoimhghín O Caoláin', Id: '148', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation: 'TD', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography: 'Formerly a bank official, he has been a TD since 1997 and was the parliamentary leader of Sinn Féin from 1997 to 2011. He is currently the Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Health. A long-standing republican, he was director of elections in the Anti H-Block campaign of 1981 and was first elected to Monaghan County Council in 1985.'})  create(n149:Candidate{Name: 'Kathryn Reilly', Id: '149', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Senator', Age: '27', Gender: 'Female', Biography:'She was elected to the Industrial and Commercial panel of the Seanad in 2011 after she failed to win a seat in the 2011 general election. She is currently the youngest member of the Oireachtas having been elected at Age 22. She previously worked as a parliamentary assistant to former Sinn Féin TD Arthur Morgan.'})  create(n150:Candidate{Name: 'Noeleen Moran', Id: '150', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Factory Worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She unsuccessfully contested the 2014 local elections, receiving 1,023 first preference votes. She is the current Clare county secretary for Sinn Féin. She is a graduate of NUI Galway with a degree in Public and Social Policy.'})  create(n151:Candidate{Name: 'Pat Buckley', Id: '151', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Councillor and voluntary worker', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Midleton town councillor, he was elected to Cork County Council in 2014. He is a co-founder of the Lets Get Together Foundation, a suicide support group and is a prominent campaigner. He is a member of a number of local community organisations in his area.'})  create(n152:Candidate{Name: 'Johnathan O’Brien', Id: '152', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '43', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was a member of Cork City Council from 2000 until 2011 when he was elected to the Dáil. He is the Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Education and Skills and formerly the party Spokesperson on Justice, Equality and Defence.'})  create(n153:Candidate{Name: 'Thomas Gould', Id: '153', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor ', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Cork city councillor in 2009, he was re-elected in 2014 when he topped the poll. He is an active member in a number of community groups in his local area and is a GAA development officer, a former director of a youth centre and a youth leader with Foróige youth organisation.'})  create(n154:Candidate{Name: 'Nigel Dennehy', Id: '154', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Stores ManAger', Age: '27', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A worker in the pharmaceutical sector, this is his first time running for election. A member of Sinn Féin since 2006, he is also a community activist and involved with a member of local organisations in his area. He has also worked on previous election campaigns in the constituency.'})  create(n155:Candidate{Name: 'Donnchadh O Laoghaire', Id: '155', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '26', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Cork county councillor, he secured a seat in the 2014 local elections after failing to secure a seat in 2009. A graduate of law, he has worked as a political advisor to Sinn Féin senators and is a former national organiser of Sinn Féin Youth. '})  create(n156:Candidate{Name: 'Rachel McCarthy', Id: '156', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She is Cork county councillor, having secured her seat in the 2014 local elections after failing to win a seat in 2009. She campaigns against water charges and is involved in protests about housing. She is the former chairperson of the HSE Regional Health Forum’s South West Committee.'})  create(n157:Candidate{Name: 'Pearse Doherty', Id: '157', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '38', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Finance, he was first elected to the Dáil in a 2010 by-election and retained his seat in 2011. Previously a member of the Seanad and a Donegal county councillor, he is a member of the Banking Inquiry. '})  create(n158:Candidate{Name: 'Gary Doherty', Id: '158', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '33', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Co-opted first onto Donegal County Council in 2013, he retained his seat in the 2014 local elections. A member of Sinn Féin since 1999, this is his first time running for a general election. He is heavily involved with the party in his local area and is chair of the John James Kelly/Damien Brolly Cumann in Castlefinn. '})  create(n159:Candidate{Name: 'Padraig Mac Lochlainn', Id: '159', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '42', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The Sinn Féin Spokesperson on Justice, Equality and Defence, he is the chairman of the Dáil ‌‌Committee on Public Service Oversight and Petitions. He was elected in 2011, having ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the 2002 and 2007 general elections. Prior to his election he was a Donegal County Councillor and served as Deputy Mayor of Donegal from 2010 to 2011.'})  create(n160:Candidate{Name: 'Denise Mitchell', Id: '160', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '45', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully for Dublin City Council in the 2009 local elections before winning a seat in 2014. A former shop steward and a long-standing member of Sinn Féin, she is a member of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee in Dublin City Council.'})  create(n161:Candidate{Name: ' Mícheál Mac Donncha', Id: '161', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '51', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Co-opted to Dublin City Council in 2011, he was re-elected in 2014. A long-standing member of Sinn Féin, he was formerly the political manAger of Sinn Féin’s Dáil team. He is a member of the Moore Street Advisory Committee in Dublin City Council.'})  create(n162:Candidate{Name: ' Chris Andrews', Id: '162', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '51', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as TD for Fianna Fáil in 2007, he left the party in 2011 after he failed to get re-elected. He joined Sinn Féin in 2013 and ran successfully for Dublin City Council in 2014. He is the grandson of Todd Andrews, a leading figure in the early days of Fianna Fáil.'})  create(n163:Candidate{Name: ' Mary Lou McDonald', Id: '163', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '46', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected first as an MEP in 2004 and served until 2009. She ran unsuccessfully in two general elections before being elected in 2011. The deputy leader of Sinn Féin, she is the party’s Spokesperson on Public Expenditure and Reform.'})  create(n164:Candidate{Name: ' Mary Lou McDonald', Id: '164', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '46', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected first as an MEP in 2004 and served until 2009. She ran unsuccessfully in two general elections before being elected in 2011. The deputy leader of Sinn Féin, she is the party’s Spokesperson on Public Expenditure and Reform.'})  create(n165:Candidate{Name: ' Louise O’Reilly', Id: '165', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Trade union organizer', Age: '42', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A full-time trade union organiser with SIPTU, she is a member of the Public Services Committee of the Irish Congress of Trade Unions (ICTU). This is her first time running in an election, although she has been involved with many campaigns nationally and locally and is an active campaigner on a number of issues, including abolishing the water charges.'})  create(n166:Candidate{Name: ' Eoin O Broin', Id: '166', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Councillor and author', Age: '44', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Co-opted onto South Dublin County Council in 2013, he retained his seat in the 2014 local elections. A former councillor in Belfast City Council, he has twice failed to secure a Dáil seat in general elections. A graduate of cultural studies, he has published a number of books on political theory.'})  create(n167:Candidate{Name: 'Dessie Ellis', Id: '167', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected as a Dublin city councillor in 1999, he twice ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat before being elected in 2011. He is the Sinn Féin spokesperson on housing and transport and is a member of the Joint Committee on Transport and Communications. He is also a prominent activist in is local area.'})  create(n168:Candidate{Name: 'Cathleen Carney Boud', Id: '168', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '37', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected as a Dublin city councillor in 2014 on her first attempt. A student of law at Trinity College, she is a member of the Joint Policing Committee for her area and works closely with TD Dessie Ellis. She has been involved with protests to abolish the water charges and property tax.'})  create(n169:Candidate{Name: 'Sorcha Nic Cormaic', Id: '169', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Councillor and teacher', Age: '42', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected as a Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county councillor in 2014, she ran unsuccessfully in the 2007 and 2011 general elections. A teacher by profession, she is a member of a number of council committees including the Operations, Procedures and Protocols committee.'})  create(n170:Candidate{Name: 'Aengus O Snodaigh', Id: '170', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '51', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He challenged in a number of elections before being voted in as a TD in 2002. He has retained his seat in each election since. A fluent Irish speaker, he is the Sinn Féin spokesperson on social protection and is the party whip.'})  create(n171:Candidate{Name: ' Máire Devine', Id: '171', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Councillor and nurse', Age: '52', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was first co-opted onto South Dublin County Council in 2011 and was re-elected in 2014. A qualified mental health nurse, she is the branch secretary of the nursing union and has degrees in politics.'})  create(n172:Candidate{Name: ' Sean Crowe', Id: '172', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' TD', Age: '58', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully locally and nationally on a number of occasions before being elected as a south Dublin county councillor in 1999. He was elected as a TD in 2002, lost his seat in 2007 and regained it in 2011. A long-standing Sinn Féin member, he is the party’s spokesperson on foreign affairs, trade and defence.'})  create(n173:Candidate{Name: ' Sarah Holland', Id: '173', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '37', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected to South Dublin County Council in 2014 and was elected mayor in June 2015. A fluent Irish speaker, she has worked in the financial services industry and campaigns on tackling a number of issues, including the lack of affordable housing in south Dublin.'})  create(n174:Candidate{Name: ' Paul Donnelly', Id: '174', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Councillor and TUSLA coordinator', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was first co-opted to Fingal County Council in 2008 but failed to get re-elected in 2009. He has ran for both local and national office on a number of occasions and was elected again as a councillor in 2014. He works with a school completion programme and is involved with a number of local groups in his area.'})  create(n175:Candidate{Name: ' Shane O’Brien', Id: '175', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county councillor on his first attempt in 2014. He is member of a number of committees on the council, including the Corporate Policy Group and Regional Health Forum, and is chairperson of the Planning Policy Committee.'})  create(n176:Candidate{Name: ' Annemarie Roche', Id: '176', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Community activist ', Age: '36', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A community activist and voluntary worker, this is her first time running for political office. She is a member of a number of local voluntary groups in her area, including the Loughrea Caring and Sharing Association and Brothers of Charity, Galway. She has a master’s degree in public advocacy and activism from NUI Galway.'})  create(n177:Candidate{Name: ' Trevor O Clochartaigh', Id: '177', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Senator', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A senator since 2011, he previously ran unsuccessfully for both local and national office as a member of both Labour and Sinn Féin. He is the Sinn Féin spokesperson for the Irish languAge and Gaeltacht affairs, rural development and the west and has worked in theatre and television production.'})  create(n178:Candidate{Name: ' Martin Ferris', Id: '178', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'TD', Age: '63', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected as a Kerry county councillor in 1999, he won a Dáil seat in 2002 and has held it in each election since. He is the Sinn Féin spokesperson on agriculture and fisheries and the former spokesperson on natural resources.'})  create(n179:Candidate{Name: ' Réada Cronin', Id: '179', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '51', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A Kildare county councillor, she was elected first in 2014. She is a member of a number of committees on the council, including the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee and the Local Rural Water Monitoring Committee.'})  create(n180:Candidate{Name: ' Patricia Ryan', Id: '180', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Voluntary worker', Age: '52', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' This is her first time running for general election but she has been involved campaigning locally with Sinn Féin for some time. A qualified interior designer, she volunteers with St Vincent de Paul and is involved with a number of local initiatives in her area.'})  create(n181:Candidate{Name: ' Brian Stanley', Id: '181', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'TD', Age: '54', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected to the Dáil in 2011, he had previously twice unsuccessfully challenged for a seat and was a Laois county councillor. The Sinn Féin spokesperson on environment, community & local government, he is a member of a number of Oireachtas committees, including the Joint Committee on Environment, Culture & Gaeltacht.'})  create(n182:Candidate{Name: ' Maurice Quinlivan', Id: '182', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '48', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully for both local and national office before being elected to Limerick City Council in 2009. A councillor since then, he is the Sinn Féin party leader on the council. He was involved in a defamation case against Fianna Fáil TD Willie O’Dea. This led to O’Dea resigning as Minister of Defence.'})  create(n183:Candidate{Name: 'Seamus Browne', Id: '183', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Councillor and lawyer', Age: '45', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a Limerick county councillor on his first attempt in 2014. He is involved with a number of local groups in his area and is a member of the Economic Development, Enterprise & Planning Committee on the council.'})  create(n184:Candidate{Name: 'Paul Hogan', Id: '184', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '32', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a Westmeath county councillor in 2014, he has ran twice unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat in the past. He previously served as an Athlone town councillor and is a former mayor of Athlone town. He holds an MA in child and youth care and is a graduate of NUI Maynooth.'})  create(n185:Candidate{Name: 'Gerry Adams', Id: '185', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'TD', Age: '67', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The president of Sinn Féin, he served for nearly 30 years as a non-sitting MP in the British Parliament before running in the Irish general election in 2011 and being elected as a TD. He was a prominent figure throughout the Northern Ireland Troubles and the negotiation of the Good Friday Agreement.'})  create(n186:Candidate{Name: 'Imelda Munster', Id: '186', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected first to Louth County Council in 2004, she has been a councillor since. This is her first time running for national office. A former member of the Louth/Meath Education and Training Board, she is chair of the Housing Community Planning and Emergency Services SPC at Louth County Council.'})  create(n187:Candidate{Name: 'Rose Conway-Walsh', Id: '187', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully for Mayo County Council in 2004 before being elected in 2009. A councillor since, she ran unsuccessfully in the last general election. She has a MA in local government, is involved locally with campaigns in her area and has served on the Sinn Féin Ard Comhairle.'})  create(n188:Candidate{Name: 'Darren O’Rourke', Id: '188', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '35', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully in the 2013 by-election before being elected as a Meath county councillor in 2014. He has degrees in biomedical science and has worked as a medical scientist in the past. He is a former policy advisor to Sinn Féin health spokesperson Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin.'})  create(n189:Candidate{Name: ' Peadar Tóibín', Id: '189', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'TD', Age: '41', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The Sinn Féin party spokesperson on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, he was first elected in 2011. He served previously as a Navan town councillor. He is a member of the Oireachtas Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and the Finance Committee and is graduate of economics and politics.'})  create(n190:Candidate{Name: ' Carol Nolan', Id: '190', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Councillor and teacher', Age: '36', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected as an Offaly county councillor in the 2014 local elections on her first attempt. A teacher by profession, she is involved with a number of local organisations and campaigns against homelessness as well as tackling other social issues including problems with the health service.'})  create(n191:Candidate{Name: ' Claire Kerrane', Id: '191', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Student', Age: '23', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Currently studying for an MA in education, this is her first time running for an election. She is a former secretary to Luke Ming Flanagan MEP and is a member of Sinn Féin since her teens. She is involved with local community activist groups in her area.'})  create(n192:Candidate{Name: ' Martin Kenny', Id: '192', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '46', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as Leitrim county councillor in 2004, he has served on the council since and this will be his fourth time contesting a general election. He is a member of Sinn Féin’s Ard Chomhairle and is involved as a local activist in his area. He campaigns to ban fracking.'})  create(n193:Candidate{Name: ' Chris MacManus', Id: '193', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Peace and reconciliation worker', Age: '42', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former member of Sligo Borough Council, he is the son of prominent Sinn Féin politician Seán MacManus. He is a graduate of engineering from IT Sligo and is engAged as an activist in his local area and is a member of the Sligo 1916 Committee.'})  create(n194:Candidate{Name: ' Seamus Morris', Id: '194', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Councillor and postman', Age: '51', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Tipperary county councillor since 2009, he has twice ran unsuccessfully in general elections. He was twice mayor of Nenagh and is an active member of many community organisations in his local area.'})  create(n195:Candidate{Name: 'David Cullinane', Id: '195', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Senator', Age: '41', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Waterford county councillor in 2004, he served on the council until he was elected to the Seanad Labour Panel in 2011. He has challenged unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat three times in the past and is the Sinn Féin party spokesperson on workers’ rights and political reform.'})  create(n196:Candidate{Name: 'Johnny Mythen', Id: '196', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '57', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as an Enniscorthy town councillor, he was elected as a Wexford county councillor in 2014. A former ESB worker, he was a trade union representative and is a member of his local 1916 commemoration committee.'})  create(n197:Candidate{Name: 'John Brady', Id: '197', Party:'Sinn Fein', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '42', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Bray town councillor in 2004, he was elected as a Wicklow county councillor in 2009 and retained his seat in 2014. He has twice ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat and is involved locally with a number of committees and organisations in his area.'})  create(n198:Candidate{Id: '198', Name:'Bobby Aylward', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was a member of Kilkenny County Council from 1992 until his election to the Dáil in 2007. He lost his seat at the 2011 general election but regained it at a by-election in May 2015. He also works as a farmer.'})  create (n199:Candidate{Id: '199', Name:'John McGuinness', Gender:'Male', Age:'60', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He has been a sitting TD since 1997 and served as Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment with special responsibility for Trade and Commerce. He is currently the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee. TheJournal.ie I'})  create (n200:Candidate{Id: '200', Name:'Jennifer Murnane O Connor', Gender:'Female', Age:'49', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She has been a Carlow county councillor since 2002. She ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election and Seanad election. She is the chairperson of the Housing, Recreation & Amenity & Community SPC in Carlow.'})  create (n201:Candidate{Id: '201', Name:'Brendan Smith', Gender:'Male', Age:'59', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first to the Dáil in 1992, he has been a sitting TD ever since. The current party Spokesperson on Foreign Affairs and Trade and Border Region Development, he is a former Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and briefly served as Minister for Justice and Law Reform in the final weeks of the last government.'})  create (n202:Candidate{Id: '202', Name:'Niamh Smyth', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and education officeer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as Cavan county councillor in 2009, she was re-elected in 2014 when she topped the poll in her constituency. Currently the arts education officer for Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board, she is active in a number of local community organisations in her area.'})  create (n203:Candidate{Id: '203', Name:'Mike Durkan', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'Account manAger', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He has a background in business and marketing and this is his first time running in an election. A member of local community groups in his area, he is a lifetime member of his local GAA club. He lists family, improving healthcare and support for SMEs among his main campaign priorities.'})  create (n204:Candidate{Id: '204', Name:'Timmy Dooley', Gender:'Male', Age:'46', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was was elected as a Senator and served from 2002 to 2007. He was elected to the Dáil in 2007 and re-elected in 2011. Formerly a businessman, he is now a full-time public representative and is the Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Transport, Tourism and Sport.'})  create (n205:Candidate{Id: '205', Name:'Clare Colleran Molloy', Gender:'Female', Age:'51', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Clare county councillor in 2014, this is her first time running for general election. A barrister by profession, she also teaches law and is active in a number of community groups in her local area.'})  create (n206:Candidate{Id: '206', Name:'Michael McDonagh', Gender:'Male', Age:'51', Occupation: ' Retired detective garda', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Formerly the chairman of the Clare GAA County Board, this is his first time contesting a general election. He is a retired member of An Garda Síochána and a former immigration officer at Shannon airport. He is involved with a number of local community organisations in his area.'})  create (n207:Candidate{Id: '207', Name:'Kevin O Keefe', Gender:'Male', Age:'51', Occupation: 'Farmer, businessman and councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Co-opted onto Cork County Council in 1997, he has retained his seat at every local election since then. He ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat in 2011. He is a member of the South West Regional Authority and is a farmer by profession.'})  create (n208:Candidate{Id: '208', Name:'Barbara Ahern', Gender:'Female', Age:'34', Occupation: 'Tax consultant', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A tax consultant with KPMG, this is her first time running for election. She is the daughter of former Fianna Fáil TD Michael Ahern, who served from 1982 to 2011. A graduate of UCD and UCC, she previously worked in Gibraltar as a chartered certified accountant.'})  create (n209:Candidate{Id: '209', Name:'Billy Kelleher', Gender:'Male', Age:' 47', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was first elected to the Seanad in 1993 before being elected to the Dáil in 1997. He has been re-elected in every general election since then. The current Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Health, he was formerly Minister of State at the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, with special responsibility for trade and commerce.'})  create (n210:Candidate{Id: '210', Name:'Aindrias Moynihan', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'First co-opted onto Cork County Council in 2003, he has retained his seat in every subsequent local election. He has degrees in engineering, marketing and manAgement from CIT and UCC and is a member of a number of local committees in Cork.'})  create (n211:Candidate{Id: '211', Name:'Michael Moynihan', Gender:'Male', Age:'47', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'First elected in 2007, he has been a sitting TD since. He comes from a farming background and is a former chairperson of the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Education and Science. He is the current Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Communications, Energy and Natural Resources.'})  create (n212:Candidate{Id: '212', Name:'Michael McGrath', Gender:'Male', Age:'39', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Cork county councillor in 2004, he was first elected to the Dáil in 2007 and retained his seat in the 2011 general election. He is the current Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Finance and is a member of the Banking Inquiry.'})  create (n213:Candidate{Id: '213', Name:'Margaret Murphy-OMahony', Gender:'Female', Age:'48', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was elected as a Cork county councillor in 2014, having formerly served on Bandon Town Council. She served as Mayor of Bandon twice during that time. She is a former post office worker and works voluntarily with the Society of St Vincent de Paul.'})  create (n214:Candidate{Id: '214', Name:'Charlie McConalogue', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Donegal county councillor in 2009, he was subsequently elected to the Dáil in 2011. He is the current Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Education and Skills and is the former party Spokesperson on Children.'})  create (n215:Candidate{Id: '215', Name:'Pat -The Cope- Gallagher', Gender:'Male', Age:'67', Occupation: 'Public representative', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A long-standing politician, he started his career as a Donegal county councillor in 1979. He first entered the Dáil 1981 and was last re-elected in 2002. He has held numerous front bench positions throughout his lengthy political career and became an MEP in 2009, but he lost his seat in 2014.'})  create (n216:Candidate{Id: '216', Name:'Seán Haughey', Gender:'Male', Age:' 53', Occupation: ' Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'First entering the Oireachtas as a senator in 1987, he was elected as a TD in 1992. He served until 2011 when he lost his seat in the general election. A Minister of State on a number of occasions, he is now a Dublin city councillor and is the son of former Taoiseach Charles Haughey.'})  create (n217:Candidate{Id: '217', Name:'Deirdre Heney', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was first elected to Dublin City Council in 1999 and has been a city councillor since. A barrister by profession, she ran unsuccessfully in the 2002 general election. She is a member of a number of Dublin City Council committees, including the North Central Area Committee and the North Central Joint Policing Committee.'})  create (n218:Candidate{Id: '218', Name:'Jim OCallaghan', Gender:'Male', Age:'47', Occupation: 'Councillor and Senior Counsel', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He challenged unsuccessfully for the 2004 local elections and the 2007 general election before being elected in 2009 to Dublin City Council. A Senior Counsel, he has retained his seat on the council since and is the legal adviser to the Fianna Fáil front bench.'})  create (n219:Candidate{Id: '219', Name:'Mary Fitzpatrick', Gender:'Female', Age:'46', Occupation: 'Public representative and marketer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was first elected to Dublin City Council in 2004 and served until 2014 when she ran unsuccessfully for the European Parliament. She has twice failed to secure a seat in the 2007 and 2011 general elections. She has a background in international business and is a graduate of UCD.'})  create (n220:Candidate{Id: '220', Name:'Darragh OBrien', Gender:'Male', Age:'41', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'The Fianna Fáil Seanad leader and Spokesperson on Finance first entered politics when he was co-opted onto Fingal County Council in 2004. He was elected to the Dáil in 2007 but lost his seat in 2011, before being elected to the Seanad. The former Fianna Fáil Spokesperson on Sport, he is also a former vice-chair of the Public Accounts Committee.'})  create (n221:Candidate{Id: '221', Name:'Lorraine Clifford-Lee', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Solicitor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'This is her first time contesting a general election but she did run unsuccessfully for Dublin City Council in the 2014 local elections. A self-employed solicitor, she works with a number of activist groups in her local area and is a fluent Irish speaker.'})  create (n222:Candidate{Id: '222', Name:'John Curran', Gender:'Male', Age:'55', Occupation: 'Public representative (former TD and Minister)', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 2002 and retained his seat in the 2007 general election. A former government chief whip and minister of state, he lost his seat in the 2011 general election. Prior to entering the Dáil, he was a south Dublin county councillor.'})  create (n223:Candidate{Id: '223', Name:'Paul McAuliffe', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He first ran for Dublin City Council in 2004 but failed to secure a seat. He was elected to the council in 2009 and retained his seat in 2014. He is currently leader of the Fianna Fáil group on the council and is chairperson of the Enterprise and Economic Development SPC. He is involved with a number of local organisations in his area.'})  create (n224:Candidate{Id: '224', Name:'Mary White', Gender:'Female', Age:'71', Occupation: 'Senator and businesswoman', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was first elected to the Industrial and Commercial panel of the Seanad in 2002 and has served since. She is the Fianna Fáil spokesperson on jobs, enterprise and innovation in Seanad Éireann. A businesswoman outside of politics, she co-founded Lir Chocolates in 1987.'})  create (n225:Candidate{Id: '225', Name:'Catherine Ardagh', Gender:'Female', Age:'33', Occupation: 'Councillor and solicitor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She ran unsuccessfully in the 2009 local elections for Dublin City Council before being elected in 2014. A solicitor by profession, she is involved with a number of groups in her local area, including the South Inner City Community Development Association and the Walkinstown Business Association.'})  create (n226:Candidate{Id: '226', Name:'John Lahart', Gender:'Male', Age:'51', Occupation: ' Councillor and psychotherapist', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'First elected to South Dublin County Council in 1999, he has been re-elected at every vote since. He failed to secure a Dáil seat in a 2014 by-election. A former teacher, he was previously special adviser to former government chief whip Tom Kitt.'})  create (n227:Candidate{Id: '227', Name:'Jack Chambers', Gender:'Male', Age:'25', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'The current deputy mayor of Fingal County Council, he was elected as a councillor in 2014. He holds a degree in law and political science from Trinity College and is a member of a number of council committees, including the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC.'})  create (n228:Candidate{Id: '228', Name:'Cormac Devlin', Gender:'Male', Age:'35', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was first elected to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in 2004 and has been a member since. He is chairman of the Dún Laoghaire Area Committee as well as the Environment, Climate Change & Energy SPC at DLRCC. He is also a member of a number a local community groups.'})  create (n229:Candidate{Id: '229', Name:'Mary Hanafin', Gender:'Female', Age:'56', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A long-standing member of Fianna Fáil, she first entered the Dáil in 1997 and was a TD until 2011, when she failed to get re-elected. She was elected as a Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown county councillor in 2014. She is a former government chief whip and has held a number of ministerial positions throughout her political career.'})  create (n230:Candidate{Id:' 230', Name:'Anne Rabbitte', Gender:'Female', Age:'45', Occupation: 'Councillor and financial worker', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was elected to Galway County Council on her first attempt in 2014. A full-time financial worker, she is chairperson of the councils Finance Committee and is a member of the Strategic Policy Committee for Environment, Water services and Fire/Emergency services.'})  create (n231:Candidate{Id: '231', Name:'Éamon O Cuív', Gender:'Male', Age:'65', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was first elected to the Dáil in 1992 and has been a serving TD since. He has held a number of ministerial positions throughout the years, including Minister for Social Protection and Minister for the Environment. He is the current Fianna Fáil spokesperson on agriculture, food and the community.'})  create (n232:Candidate{Id: '232', Name:'Mary Hoade', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A Galway county councillor, she was first elected in 1999 and has been a member of the council since. She ran unsuccessfully for the Seanad on a number of occasions and is a former mayor of Galway county.This is her first time running in a general election.'})  create (n233:Candidate{Id: '233', Name:'John Brassil', Gender:'Male', Age:'52', Occupation: 'Councillor and pharmacist', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A Kerry county councillor since 1999, this is his first time running for a general election, having failed to secure the party nomination in the past. He runs his family pharmacy and is the former cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council.'})  create (n234:Candidate{Id: '234', Name:'Norma Moriarty', Gender:'Female', Age:'43', Occupation: 'Councillor and teacher', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She was elected as a Kerry county councillor in 2014 on her first attempt. A teacher by profession, she is a community activist in her area and is involved with a number of local organisations, including the Waterville Rowing Club and the Charlie Chaplin Comedy Film Festival.'})  create (n235:Candidate{Id: '235', Name:'James Lawless', Gender:'Male', Age:'39', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'FA Kildare county councillor, he ran unsuccessfully in 2009 before being elected when he topped the poll in his constituency in 2014. He has degrees in maths and finance and has studied law at Kings Inns. He is involved with a number of local groups in his area and is a chairperson of the Sallins Business Association.'})  create (n236:Candidate{Id: '236', Name:'Fiona OLoughlin', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and teacher', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected to Kildare County Council in 1999, she has been a member since. She is a primary school teacher by profession and works now as a Special Olympics public representative. A former mayor of Kildare, she is involved with a number of local organisations in her area.'})  create (n237:Candidate{Id: '237', Name:'Seán O Fearghaíl', Gender:'Male', Age:'55', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He had been a long-time member of Kildare County Council, a senator, and had ran unsuccessfully in numerous general elections before being elected in 2002. A TD since, he is the Fianna Fáil whip and spokesperson on defence, arts, heritAge and culture.'})  create (n238:Candidate{Id: '238', Name:'Seán Fleming', Gender:'Male', Age:'57', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a TD in 1997, he has retained his seat in every general election since. The Fianna Fáil spokesperson on public expenditure and reform, he is a qualified accountant and a member of the Public Accounts Committee.'})  create (n239:Candidate{Id: '239', Name:'Willie ODea', Gender:'Male', Age:'62', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected to the Dáil first in 1982, he has been a sitting TD since. The Fianna Fáil spokesperson on social protection and social equality, he is a former Minister of Defence and has held a number of junior ministries throughout his political career.'})  create (n240:Candidate{Id: '240', Name:'Robert Troy', Gender:'Male', Age:'33', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Westmeath county councillor in 2004, he served on the council until he was elected to the Dáil in 2011, defeating the two sitting Fianna Fáil TDs. He is the current party spokesperson on children, and the former spokesperson on arts and heritAge.'})  create (n241:Candidate{Id: '241', Name:'Connie Gerety-Quinn', Gender:'Female', Age:'48', Occupation: 'Information ManAger', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A manAger at Longford Citizens information Service (CIS), this is her first time running for election. She is involved with a number of local organisations in her community and is campaigning on issues of government policy affecting local communities.'})  create (n242:Candidate{Id: '242', Name:'Declan Breathnach', Gender:'Male', Age:'57', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Louth county councillor in 1991, he has been a member of the council since and ran once unsuccessfully for national office in 2011. He served as chairperson on the council on two occasions and is involved with a number of committees, including the Louth Economic and Future Planning SPC.'})  create (n243:Candidate{Id: '243', Name:'Emma Coffey', Gender:'Female', Age:'37', Occupation: 'Solicitor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A solicitor with her own practice in Drogheda, this is her first time running for election. She is involved locally with community groups in her area.'})  create (n244:Candidate{Id: '244', Name:'Dara Calleary', Gender:'Male', Age:'42', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected as a TD on his first attempt in 2007, he has served in the Dáil since. He is the Fianna Fáil spokesperson on jobs, enterprise and innovation and the former spokesperson on justice, equality and defence. He was previously the Minister of State for Labour Affairs.'})  create (n245:Candidate{Id: '245', Name:'Lisa Chambers', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'She secured as seat on Mayo County Council after failing to get elected in the 2011 general election. A barrister by profession, she is currently leas cathaoirleach of Mayo County Council and is a member of the Economic Development & Enterprise Support SPC.'})  create (n246:Candidate{Id: '246', Name:'Thomas Byrne', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected as a senator in 2011, he had previously served as a TD from 2007 but failed to get re-elected in 2011. He also ran unsuccessfully for European Parliament on two occasions. The Fianna Fáil Seanad spokesperson on public expenditure and reform, he has authored a number of bills and is a member of a number of Oireachtas committees.'})  create (n247:Candidate{Id: '247', Name:'Thomas Byrne', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected as a senator in 2011, he had previously served as a TD from 2007 but failed to get re-elected in 2011. He also ran unsuccessfully for European Parliament on two occasions. The Fianna Fáil Seanad spokesperson on public expenditure and reform, he has authored a number of bills and is a member of a number of Oireachtas committees.'})  create (n248:Candidate{Id: '248', Name:'Thomas Byrne', Gender:'Male', Age:'38', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected as a senator in 2011, he had previously served as a TD from 2007 but failed to get re-elected in 2011. He also ran unsuccessfully for European Parliament on two occasions. The Fianna Fáil Seanad spokesperson on public expenditure and reform, he has authored a number of bills and is a member of a number of Oireachtas committees.'})  create (n249:Candidate{Id: '249', Name:'Shane Cassells', Gender:'Male', Age:'37', Occupation: 'Councillor and journalist', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Meath county councillor in 2004, he has served on the council since and has twice ran unsuccessfully for national office. A journalist by profession, he writes for a number of publications. He has held a number of positions while on the council, including Fianna Fáil whip.'})  create (n250:Candidate{Id: '250', Name:'Barry Cowen', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'TD', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as an Offaly county councillor in 1999, he served on the council until he was elected to the Dáil in 2011. The Fianna Fáil spokesperson on environment and local government, he is the former spokesperson on social protection and is the brother of former Taoiseach Brian Cowen.'})  create (n251:Candidate{Id: '251', Name:'Eddie Fitzpatrick', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor, farmer and businessman', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first to Offaly County Council in 2004 as a member of the Progressive Democrats, he ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat in 2011 as an Independent. Now a member of Fianna Fáil, he is a tillAge and beef farmer by profession and also runs an agri-feed business.'})  create (n252:Candidate{Id: '252', Name:'Eugene Murphy', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and Radio Presenter', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A long-standing member of Fianna Fáil, he was first elected as a Roscommon county councillor in 1985 and has been re-elected in each subsequent local election. This is his first time running for general election. A radio producer and presenter with SSINS radio station, he is an active member of his local community.'})  create (n253:Candidate{Id: '253', Name:'Shane Curran', Gender:'Male', Age:'44', Occupation: 'Sports Analyst', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A long-standing member of the GAA, this is his first time running for election. He is a regular contributor to radio sports analysis, and has features regularly on RTÉ and Newstalk. He is a former inter-county footballer with Roscommon and is involved with a number of charities in the county.'})  create (n254:Candidate{Id: '254', Name:'Eamon Scanlon', Gender:'Male', Age:'61', Occupation: 'Councillor and auctioneer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Sligo county councillor in 1991, he was elected a TD in 2007 but lost his seat in 2011. Also a former senator, he was re-elected to the council in 2014. He is a long-standing member of Fianna Fáil but left the party briefly in 2009 when he lost the party whip after opposing cuts in breast cancer services at Sligo General Hospital.'})  create (n255:Candidate{Id: '255', Name:'Marc MacSharry', Gender:'Male', Age:'42', Occupation: 'Senator', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A senator since 2002, he previously ran in the 2011 general election but failed to get elected. The current Fianna Fáil Seanad spokesperson on health, he is a former spokesperson on finance and public service.'})  create (n256:Candidate{Id: '256', Name:'Paddy ORourke', Gender:'Male', Age: 'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and farmer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected on his third attempt as a Leitrim county councillor in 2004, he has been a member of the council since. A farmer and small agri-business owner, this is his first time running in a general election. He lists prioritising the needs of rural communities among his top electoral priorities.'})  create (n257:Candidate{Id: '257', Name:'Jackie Cahill', Gender:'Male', Age:'53', Occupation: 'Councillor and farmer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A Tipperary county councillor, he was elected on his first attempt in 2014. He is currently the vice-chairman of Tipperary County Council and is involved with a number of local campaigns in his area. He is the director of Thurles Greyhound Stadium and is chairman of the National Dairy Council.'})  create (n258:Candidate{Id: '258', Name:'Michael Smith', Gender:'Male', Age:'39', Occupation: 'Councillor and farmer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a councillor in 2004, he most recently retained his seat as a Tipperary county councillor in 2014. The son of former TD and minister Michael Smith Snr, he was the focus of media attention last year when he voted against party colleagues in the council.'})  create (n259:Candidate{Id: '259', Name:'Siobhán Ambrose', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Tipperary county councillor in 2009, she has been a member of the council since. She previously unsuccessfully challenged a general election in 2007 and is a member of a number council committees as well as a former vice-chairperson of South Tipperary County Council.'})  create (n260:Candidate{Id: '260', Name:'Mary Butler', Gender:'Female', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as a Waterford county councillor in 2014, this is her first time running in a general election. She is heavily involved in her community and is the secretary of Portlaw Tidy Towns and a member of the Transport Special Policy Committee on the council.'})  create (n261:Candidate{Id: '261', Name:'James Browne', Gender:'Male', Age:'40', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first to Wexford County Council in 2014, this is his first time running for general election. A practising barrister, he is the former vice-chairperson of Enniscorthy Town Council and is a member of the HSE Regional Health Forum, South.'})  create (n262:Candidate{Id: '262', Name:'Aoife Byrne', Gender:'Female', Age:'37', Occupation: 'Credit analyst and property valuer', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'A former auctioneer and long-time member of Fianna Fáil, this is her first time running for an election. She is the daughter of former Fianna Fáil TD Hugh Byrne and currently works with AIB. She is involved with a number of local community organisations and has been involved with sports and the arts in her area.'})  create (n263:Candidate{Id: '263', Name:'Malcolm Byrne', Gender:'Male', Age:'41', Occupation: ' Councillor and head of communications', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'He was a Gorey town councillor before being elected as a Wexford County Councillor in 2009. Re-elected in 2014, he is involved with a number of community groups in his area and is a former vice-president of the National Youth Council of Ireland.'})  create (n264:Candidate{Id: '264', Name:'Pat Casey', Gender:'Male', Age:'N/A', Occupation: 'Councillor and hotelier', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected first as an Independent Wicklow county councillor in 2004, he has served on the council since then. Now a member of Fianna Fáil, he is the owner of the Glendalough Hotel and is a member of a number of local boards and committees in his area, including the Joint Policing Committee.'})  create (n265:Candidate{Id: '265', Name:'Jennifer Cuffe', Gender:'Female', Age:'29', Occupation: 'Councillor and barrister', Party:'Fianna Fáil', Biography:'Elected on her first attempt to Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council in 2014, this is her first time running for general election. A family law barrister by profession, she is involved with a number of local charities in her area, including the St Vincent de Paul Society and Meals on Wheels.'})  create(n266:Candidate{Name: 'Keith Gilligan', Id: '266', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Activist', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A community activist in his local area, this is his first time running for election. He is running under the banner of the Right2Change platform and has been a prominent anti-austerity campaigner.'})  create(n267:Candidate{Name: 'Noel Walsh', Id: '267', Party:'Independent', Occupation: 'Community activist', Age: '50', Gender: 'Male', Biography: ' An Independent candidate, he ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the 2011 general election as well as the 2015 by-election. He is a community activist in his area and by his own admission is involved with helping people faced with repossession orders.'})  create(n268:Candidate{Name: 'Paddy J Maning', Id: '268', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: '52', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Describing himself as a catholic and libertarian/ conservative, this is his first time running for election. He came to note during the same-Gender marriAge referendum, as prominent campaigner on the No side who was gay. He keeps a regular blog expressing his views on economic, social and political issues.'})  create(n269:Candidate{Name: 'Emmet Smith', Id: '269', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A community activist in his local area, this is his first time running for election. He is an active campaigner against austerity and has been involved with a number of protest against the water charges. He is running under the Right2Change policy platform and is a socialist candidate.'})  create(n270:Candidate{Name: 'Jimmy Mee', Id: '270', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Fundraiser', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A well-known Monaghan fundraiser, this is his first time running for general election after he failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. A retired member of the Defence Forces, he served for years in Monaghan’s barracks. He has raised funds for a number of charitable organisations.'})  create(n271:Candidate{Name: 'John Wilson', Id: '271', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Retired garda', Age: '52', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A member of An Garda Síochána for over 30 years, he retired in 2013. He is a whistleblower who brought to light details of penalty points terminations within the force.'})  create(n272:Candidate{Name: 'Mary Smyth', Id: '272', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Councelling psychologist ', Age: '53', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A counselling psychologist by profession, this is her first time running for election. She was originally running for Renua Ireland, but stepped down from the party in December, citing "personal reasons". She is a prominent anti-abortion campaigner and is a board member of Stanton HealthCare Clinic for Women.'})  create(n273:Candidate{Name: 'Sean Conlan', Id: '273', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' TD', Age: '40', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a town councillor in 2009 before being elected to the Dáil in 2011. He graduated from UCD with a BA in economics and is a practising solicitor. A former member of Fine Gael, he left the party in November, citing a disagreement over the North-South electricity interconnector.'})  create(n274:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Harty', Id: '274', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Doctor (GP)', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A general practitioner on the west coast of Clare, this is his first time running for an election. He is running as part of the No Doctor, No VillAge campaign which aims to restore income to GPs lost during the recession.'})  create(n275:Candidate{Name: 'André Sibo Hakizimmana', Id: '275', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Consultant', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An economic policy consultant living in Ennis, this is his first time running for election.'})  create(n276:Candidate{Name: 'Ann Norton', Id: '276', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Councillor and carer', Age: '42', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected to Clare County Council in 2014. A well-known community activist, she is the co-founder of the Clare Crusaders, an organisation that provides free therapy to children in Clare. She was the 2013 Clare Person of the Year.'})  create(n277:Candidate{Name: 'Dermot Mulqueen', Id: '277', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Artist', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An artist, this is his first time running for election. He is running under a platform of campaigning for direct democracy and denies that the Holocaust took place. '})  create(n278:Candidate{Name: 'Ian Lynch', Id: '278', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Councillor and civil contractor', Age: '37', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected on his first attempt as a Clare county councillor in 2014, this is his first time running for general election. Now an Independent, he was previously a Kilrush town councillor and member of Fine Gael. A health, safety and quality manAger by profession, he lives and works in west Clare.'})  create(n279:Candidate{Name: 'Richard Cahill', Id: '279', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Retired electrical contractor', Age: '49', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A self-employed businessman, this is his first time running in a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 European elections in Midlands North West. A long-time volunteer with local community organisations in his area, he has been a member of the Clare County Joint Policing Committee and the Clare County Development Group among others.'})  create(n280:Candidate{Name: ' Keiran McCarthy', Id: '280', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '55', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former member of Sinn Féin, he was expelled from the party in June 2015, before the party later lifted this expulsion. However, he has decided to run as an independent in the general election. He was first elected as a councillor in 1994 and was elected to Cork County Council in 2014.'})  create(n281:Candidate{Name: ' Mary Linehan-Foley', Id: '281', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '49', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was elected first for Fianna Fáil as a Youghal town councillor in 1999 before being elected as a Cork county councillor on her second attempt in 2014. Now an Independent, she left the party after she didn’t receive the party nomination for the 2014 local elections. She is a former mayor of Youghal town.'})  create(n282:Candidate{Name: 'Paddy Bullman', Id: '282', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Tattoo artist', Age: '59', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An active anti-austerity campaigner, this is his third time running for election after he failed to secure seats in the 2011 general election and the 2014 local elections. He is a tattoo artist and is associated with the People’s Convention (CPPC).'})  create(n283:Candidate{Name: 'Ross Cannon', Id: '283', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Activist', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running in a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He ran previously under a banner of Rural Resettlement - advocating for the revitalisation of rural communities. He is involved with a number of protest groups in his local area and is an active campaigner against the water charges.'})  create(n284:Candidate{Name: ' Ger Keohane', Id: '284', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Full-time councillor', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected on his first attempt as a Cork county councillor in 2014, this is his first time running for general election. A former member of Sinn Féin, he left the party recently after failing to be selected as a candidate for the party. He is involved with community organisations in his area, including the GAA and campaigns on an anti-austerity platform.'})  create(n285:Candidate{Name: ' Mick Murphy', Id: '285', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Engineer', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A self-employed engineer by profession, this is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the local elections a number of times. A former member of the Green Party, he campaigns on a anti-austerity, green platform.'})  create(n286:Candidate{Name: 'Peter O’Loughlin', Id: '286', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his third time running in an election after he ran unsuccessfully in the in the 2014 European elections and a 2015 by-election for Carlow-Kilkenny. A member of the unregistered political party Identity Ireland, he campaigns on a broadly anti-immigration, anti-EU platform.'})  create(n287:Candidate{Name: 'Thomas Kiely', Id:'287', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Sheet metal fabricator', Age: '32', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. A sheet metal fabricator by profession, he is associated with the People’s Convention (CPPC) and has been involved with numerous anti-austerity protest groups.'})  create(n288:Candidate{Name: 'Diarmuid O Flynn', Id: '288', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Parliamentary assistant and journalist', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is first time running in a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 European elections despite garnering a large amount of first preference votes. The founder of the Ballyhea Says No protest group, he is the parliamentary assistant to MEP Luke(Ming) Flanagan and is a former hurling correspondent with the Irish Examiner.'})  create(n289:Candidate{Name: 'Jerry O Sullivan', Id: '289', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Farmer and businessman', Age: '52', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running in a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in a number of local elections. He is an active member of his local community and has served on the Macroom Drugs Task-force as well as on other boards. He formerly lived and worked in New York and is a graduate of communications, politics and law from Queens University.'})  create(n290:Candidate{Name: 'John Paul O Shea', Id: '290', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '32', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as Cork county councillor in 2009, he was re-elected in 2014 when he topped the poll. The current Mayor of Cork, this is his first time running in a general election. He is a member of a number of local groups in his area and is the chairperson of Laharn Community Action LTD.'})  create(n291:Candidate{Name: ' Shirley Griffin', Id: '291', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Unemployed', Age: '50', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections as an independent. She is affiliated with the People’s Convention (CPPC) and is an active campaigner against the water charges and Local Property Tax. She is a stay at home mother with three children.'})  create(n292:Candidate{Name: ' Steven O’Riordan', Id: '292', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Film-maker', Age: '29', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A film director by profession, he lists his political interests as social and human rights issues. He previously ran a successful campaign to get the Cork County Council to make all public buildings and footpaths wheelchair accessible.'})  create(n293:Candidate{Name: 'Diarmuid O Cadhla', Id: '293', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Business systems consultant', Age: '55', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He is a prominent member of the People’s Convention (CPPC). He ran unsuccessfully in both the 2011 general elections and the 2014 local elections. A business systems consultant for over 30 years, he campaigns on issues of housing and is opposed to the water charges.'})  create(n294:Candidate{Name: 'Elizabeth Hourihane', Id: '294', Party:'Independent', Occupation:' Activist', Age: '49', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' An active anti-austerity campaigner, this is her second time running for national office. She ran in the 2014 local elections as well as in a 2015 by election in the Carlow-Kilkenny constituency. A graduate of law from UCC, she previously took a legal challenge against the introduction of water charges and is involved with protest groups in her local area.'})  create(n295:Candidate{Name: 'Joe Harris', Id: '295', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor ', Age: '58', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Cork county councillor since 2014, he was elected on his second attempt after he failed to secure a seat in 2004. He is currently vice-chair of the Douglas Carrigaline Ballincollig Municipal District and is involved locally with a number of campaigns and organisations in his area.'})  create(n296:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Mohally', Id: '296', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Voluntary community worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A retired construction worker, this is first time running for election. He is a voluntary community worker and activist and is associated with the People’s Convention (CPPC).'})  create(n297:Candidate{Name: ' Mick Finn', Id: '297', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and SCP worker', Age: '45', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Cork city councillor since 2009, he ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat in the 2011 general election. He topped the poll in his constituency in the 2014 local elections and is an active anti-water charges campaigner.'})  create(n298:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Collins', Id: '298', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected on his first attempt to Cork County Council in 2014, this is his first time running in a general election. A long-time community activist, he is involved with a number of local voluntary organisations in his area.'})  create(n299:Candidate{Name: 'Alan Coleman', Id: '299', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and farmer', Age: '58', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Cork county councillor for Fianna Fáil since 1991, he twice failed to get elected to the Seanad in 2007 and 2011 as a member of Fianna Fáil. He left the party in June 2015, and is now running as an Independent candidate. He is a former Mayor of county Cork.'})  create(n300:Candidate{Name: 'Fiona O’Leary', Id: '300', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Carer', Age: '44', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A campaigner and activist for people with autism, this is her first time running for election. She is the founder of the not-for-profit organisation Autistic Rights Together, which advocates for people with autism. She also campigns against austerity measures and is a supporter of the policies outlines in the Right2Change movement.'})  create(n301:Candidate{Name: 'Gillian Powell', Id: '301', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Teacher', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A teacher by profession, this is her first time running for election. She runs a Montessori school next to her home and is prominent activist in relation to flooding in her area. She has lobbied the government in relation to this and comes from a farming background.'})  create(n302:Candidate{Name: 'Thomas Pringle', Id: '302', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '48', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected to the Dáil for the first time in 2011, serving previously as a Donegal county councillor. A former member of Sinn Féin, he was chairman of the Dáil Technical Group and is currently chairman of the Select Committee on Members’ Interests of Dáil Éireann.'})  create(n303:Candidate{Name: 'Dessie Shiels', Id: '303', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and solicitor', Age: '39', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a Donegal county councillor in 2014 after failing to secure a national seat in the 2011 general election. A solicitor by profession, he campigns on issues of local government accountability and reform and restoring services to Donegal.'})  create(n304:Candidate{Name: 'Frank McBrearty', Id: '304', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '46', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a Donegal county councillor for Labour in 2009, he was re-elected in 2014. Now an Independent, this is his third time running for national office. He has been involved in a number of high-profile legal battles in the past which he has won and is heavily involved with numerous community groups in his local area.'})  create(n305:Candidate{Name: 'Ian McGarvey', Id: '305', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '85', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was first elected to Donegal County Council in 2004 after a number of attempts and has been a member of the council since. He has ran unsuccessfully for general election in the past and is a former mayor of Donegal. He is one of Ireland’s oldest, if not the oldest, public representative.'})  create(n306:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Mooney', Id: '306', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Construction worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A self-employed tradesman based in Letterkenny, this is his first time running for election. He is an active anti-austerity campaigner and a leading member of the Letterkenny Against Water Charges protest group'})  create(n307:Candidate{Name: 'Niamh Kennedy', Id: '307', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Company director and councillor', Age: '46', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected to Donegal County Council in 2014, she is the founder Marine Fleet Electronics and previously worked in the fishing industry. She has been a member of Killybegs Community Council and was chair of the Liaison Committee which negotiated with the HSE to prevent the downgrading of Killybegs Community Hospital.'})  create(n308:Candidate{Name: 'Tim Jackson', Id: '308', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Activist', Age: '26', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The founder of the Clean up Politics campaign, this is first time running for election. His campaign advocates for a cut in the wAges of TDs as well other reform measures. A prominent Donegal activist, he also founded the Homes for Donegal charity which raises money for building houses in Africa.'})  create(n309:Candidate{Name: ' Finian McGrath', Id: '309', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He served as a Dublin city councillor before being elected to the Dáil in 2002. He has been a sitting TD since and is running as part of the Independent Alliance. He has supported previous governments and is a member of a number of voluntary organisations in his local area.'})  create(n310:Candidate{Name: ' Averail Power', Id: '310', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Senator', Age: '37', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She failed to secure a seat in the 2009 local elections and the 2011 general election before she was elected to the Seanad in 2011. A former member of Fianna Fáil, she was the Seanad Spokesperson on Education and Skills before she left the party in 2015. Now an Independent, she holds degrees in business and law.'})  create(n311:Candidate{Name: 'Jimmy Guerin', Id: '311', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and printer', Age: '56', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran in the 2011 general election but failed to secure a seat. Now an Independent county councillor, he was elected in the 2014 local elections. The brother of murdered journalist Veronica Guerin, he is a member of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee at Fingal County Council.'})  create(n312:Candidate{Name: ' Paul Clarke', Id: '312', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Business development manAger', Age: '32', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election and the 2014 local elections. A business development manAger, he worked with a number of organisations including the National Health Federation Ireland. He campaigns on issues of participatory democracy and reform of the political system.'})  create(n313:Candidate{Name: 'Proinsias O Conaráin', Id: '313', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Propety maintenance worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He is now standing as an Independent candidate. He works in property maintenance and is self-employed.'})  create(n314:Candidate{Name: 'Alan Mac Stiofain', Id: '314', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Student', Age: '33', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A student of Media Production ManAgement at Ballyfermot College of Further Education, this is his first time running for election. He is running on a broad platform of investing in public services and re-invigorating local communities. He formerly lived in Thailand and has worked in music production.'})  create(n315:Candidate{Name: 'Eoin Tierney', Id: '315', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Artist and IT worker', Age: '42', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He has ran previously for both local and national office but has failed to be elected. He is a graduate of University College Cork and has worked in teaching. He is involved in computer systems design and maintenance and formerly worked in the Digital Skills Academy.'})  create(n316:Candidate{Name: 'John Dominic Keigher', Id: '316', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Barrister', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A barrister by profession, he ran previously in the 2011 general election but failed to get elected. He ran previously on a platform of tackling the banking crisis and restoring political and economic independence to Ireland.'})  create(n317:Candidate{Name: 'Mannix Flynn', Id: '317', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor, author, playwright and actor', Age: '58', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected to Dublin city council in 2009, he retained his seat in the 2014 local elections. An unsuccessful general election candidate in 2011, he is also an author, playwright and actor. He previously published accounts of his experiences as a child in Letterfrack Industrial School.'})  create(n318:Candidate{Name: 'William D.J. Gorman', Id: '318', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran previously as an Independent in 1997. He is also running in Dublin Central.'})  create(n319:Candidate{Name: 'Maureen O’Sullivan', Id: '319', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '64', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She was first elected in a 2009 by-election after the death of Independent TD Tony Gregory, billing herself as the "Gregory Candidate". She was re-elected in 2011 and is a member on the Dáil Technical Group. Recently, she has campaigned against the water charges and the lack of adequate housing in Ireland.'})  create(n320:Candidate{Name: 'Christy Burke', Id: '320', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '68', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former Lord Mayor of Dublin, he was first elected to Dublin City Council in 1985 as a Sinn Féin candidate. Now an Independent councillor, he has ran in numerous general election campaigns and has failed to win a seat. He is involved with a number of local community activist groups.'})  create(n321:Candidate{Name: 'Cieran Perry', Id: '321', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Chief Technical Officer', Age: '53', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The deputy Lord Mayor of Dublin City Council, he was first elected in 2009 and retained his seat in the 2014 local elections. A community activist in his local area, he has ran unsuccessfully for the Dáil on two occasions and is a prominent anti-austerity campaigner. He is a chief technical officer at Trinity College Dublin.'})  create(n322:Candidate{Name: 'Kerry Guinan', Id: '322', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Artist', Age: '23', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' An artist, this is her first time running for election. She is a graduate of NCAD and has held a number of exhibitions and been involved in numerous artistic projects in Ireland and abroad. She is running on a broadly left platform of liberating - from class-, which will involve abolishing educational barriers to the arts and introducing progressive taxation on art workers.'})  create(n323:Candidate{Name: 'Fergal O’Connell', Id: '323', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Unemployed', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He is based in Finglas.'})  create(n324:Candidate{Name: 'Marcus De Brun', Id: '324', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Doctor and author', Age: '46', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A doctor with a family practice in Rush, this is his first time running for election. He is a published author having written books on philosophy and psychology and has featured on the Irish Times.'})  create(n325:Candidate{Name: 'Roslyn Fuller', Id: '325', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Writer and researcher', Age: '35', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A writer, researcher and political activist, this is her first time running in a general election. Originally from Canada, she has a doctorate in law from Trinity College Dublin and has published work on a number of topics. She is a former model and is the founder of wikilicious.net, a website dedicated to supporting whistleblowers through selling calenders.'})  create(n326:Candidate{Name: 'Tony Murphy', Id: '326', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '54', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran successfully for Fingal County Council in the 2014 local elections. He is aligned with the Independent Alliance, a collection of independents who will run under the same banner for the election. He is involved with a number of community organisations in the Balbriggan area and is a member of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC at Fingal County Council.'})    create(n327:Candidate{Name: 'Clare Leonard', Id: '327', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Businesswoman', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A native of Clondalkin, this is her first time running for general election. She is a businesswoman and campaigns on platform of direct democracy and abolishing the party whip. She is a founding member of Direct Democracy Ireland but has since left the party.'})  create(n328:Candidate{Name: 'Francis Timmons', Id: '328', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and teacher', Age: '44', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected to South Dublin County Council in 2014, he is a prominent community activist in his local area. As well as being involved with a number of charities, he is also a peace commissioner and a teacher and has an honours degree in social care.'})  create(n329:Candidate{Name: 'Haroon Khan', Id: '329', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Doctor ', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A doctor by profession, this is his first time running for election. He lives in Lucan and has been practicing medicine for a number of years.'})  create(n330:Candidate{Name: 'Patrick Akpoveta', Id: '330', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Youth Worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A voluntary youth worker, this is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He has won numerous awards for work in youth development, and is a prominent worker with Adamstown FC.'})  create(n331:Candidate{Name: 'Paul Gogarty', Id: '331', Party:'Independent', Occupation: 'Full-time councillor', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was first elected as a south Dublin county councillor for the Green Party in 1999 before being elected to the Dáil in 2002. He left the Green Party after losing his seat in the 2011 general election and is now an Independent and running as part of the Independent Alliance. He is also a member of the Independent “community alliance” on South Dublin County Council.'})  create(n332:Candidate{Name: 'Bernie Hughes', Id: '332', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She is an active and prominent member of the anti-austerity protest movement and has been involved in numerous demonstrations. She is a community activist in her local area and this is her first time running for general election after she ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. She jailed in February 2015 for breaching an order not interfere with water meter installers and is involved with the Right2Change policy platform.'})  create(n333:Candidate{Name: 'Shane Ross', Id: '333', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '66', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He first entered politics in 1981 when he was elected as a senator for Trinity College. He was re-elected nine times and served until 2011 when he successfully challenged for a Dáil seat. He is the co-founder of the Independent Alliance grouping of politicians and is a former business editor of the Sunday Independent.'})  create(n334:Candidate{Name: 'Peter Matthews', Id: '334', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '64', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a Fine Gael TD in 2011, he resigned from the party in 2013 after voting against the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill. He is a qualified chartered accountant and has written extensively on the financial crash in Ireland.'})  create(n335:Candidate{Name: 'Paul Hand', Id: '335', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '29', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a Dublin city councillor on his first attempt in the 2014 local elections. With university degrees in history and business, he is engAged with a number of local groups in his area is a member of the council Transport Committee.'})  create(n336:Candidate{Name: 'Richard Murray', Id: '336', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Small business owner', Age: '30', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A native of Ballyfermot, this is his first time running in an election. A small-business owner, he campaigns locally on a number of issues and is involved with community groups in his area.'})  create(n337:Candidate{Name: 'Katherine Zappone', Id: '337', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Senator', Age: '61', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Appointed as a senator by Enda Kenny in 2011, she is a Canadian-born academic and feminist. She is a co-founder of an Cosán, a community education centre, and has been an active campaigner for equal rights for same-Gender couples. She was a prominent voice in the recent marriAge referendum.'})  create(n338:Candidate{Name: 'Declan Burke', Id: '338', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Market research administrator', Age: '22', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections and a 2014 by-election. A graduate of journalism and visual media, he was formerly affiliated with the People’s Convention (CPPC) and works in the market research industry as an administrator.'})  create(n339:Candidate{Name: 'Deirdre O’Donovan', Id: '339', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '43', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected to South Dublin County Council on her first attempt in 2014, she is the chairperson of the Rathfarnham/Terenure/Templeogue Area Committee. She is also chairperson of the Joint Policing Committee and is running as part of the Independent Alliance.'})  create(n340:Candidate{Name: 'Éamonn Maloney', Id: '340', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former Labour Party TD, he was first elected to South Dublin County Council in 1999. He served as a councillor until he was elected to the Dáil in 2011. He left the Labour Party in September, deciding instead to run as an Independent candidate.'})  create(n341:Candidate{Name: 'Frank O Gorman', Id: '341', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Transport industry worker', Age: '53', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A businessman and worker in the transport industry, this is his first time standing in a general election after he stood in a number of local elections in the past. He formerly lived and worked in Zimbabwe and as a farmer in Dublin. Some of his key campaign priorities include the paying of a living wAge (€11.50/hr) to every worker and reducing the number of TDs in the Dáil.'})  create(n342:Candidate{Name: 'Joan Summerwille-Molloy', Id: '342', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Voluntary worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A voluntary worker and community activist in her local area, this is her first time running for election. She is involved locally with a number of organisations in her area, including the Tallaght Hospital Action Group, and is a prominent advocate for people with special needs, having set up a voluntary support group for parents on children with special needs in Perrystown.'})  create(n343:Candidate{Name: 'Kieran-Adam Quigley', Id: '343', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A graduate of UCD and UL, this is his first time running for election. He campigns on issues of political reform and on an anti-austerity platform. He has worked in both the private and public sectors and has volunteered with a number of charities including GOAL and Aware.'})  create(n344:Candidate{Name: 'Peter Fitzpatrick', Id: '344', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'IT manAger', Age: '35', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An IT worker with the Iveagh Trust, this is his first time running for election. He has worked as a special needs assistant and a landscape designer in the past and is a co-founder of the Our Children’s Health campaign, which advocates for automatic medical cards for seriously ill children.'})  create(n345:Candidate{Name: 'David McGuiness', Id: '345', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and teacher', Age: '29', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected as a Fianna Fáil Fingal county councillor in 2009 when he was 22. He has since ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat three times and is now running as an Independent. A secondary school teacher by profession, he is a graduate of music education and history from Trinity College Dublin.'})  create(n346:Candidate{Name: 'Dermot Casey', Id: '346', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Doctor and author', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A national sales manAger with a business to business magazine publishers, this is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He has worked in sales and marketing for a number of years and is a graduate of Griffith College and the Digital Marketing Institute.'})  create(n347:Candidate{Name: 'TJ Clare', Id: '347', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Teacher', Age: '25', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is first time running for a general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. A primary school teacher by profession, he is a graduate of St Patrick’s College and is a local activist in his area. He has been involved with the Right2Water and Yes Equality campaigns.'})  create(n348:Candidate{Name: 'Carol Hunt', Id: '348', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Journalist and broadcaster', Age: '49', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A journalist by profession, she writes a regular weekly column for the Sunday Independent newspaper. This is her first time running for political office and she is running as part of the Independent Alliance. She has campaigned on a number of national issues and is a graduate of Trinity College Dublin.'})  create(n349:Candidate{Name: ' Seán Canney', Id: '349', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and quality surveyor', Age: '57', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected to Galway County Council in 2004, he is also a former mayor of Galway. He challenged unsuccessfully for a national seat in the 2011 general election. He is a member of a number of council committees and is vice-chairperson of the Inter County Rail Committee.'})  create(n350:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Fahy', Id: '350', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and farmer', Age: '64', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected as a Galway county councillor in 1979, he is the longest serving member of the council. He is a former member of Fianna Fáil but left the party in 2004 while being investigated by gardaí for allegedly misappropriating council funding. He was convicted but this was later quashed. This is his second time running in a general election, the last being in 1987.'})  create(n351:Candidate{Name: 'Catherine Connolly', Id: '351', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and barristar', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A Galway city councillor, she was first elected for Labour in 1999 and has been re-elected each time since. Now an independent, she ran twice for the general election, in 2007 and 2011, failing to get elected each time. A barrister by profession, she formerly worked as a clinical psychologist and is a former mayor of Galway.'})  create(n352:Candidate{Name: 'Noel Grealish', Id: '352', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '50', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected first as a Galway county councillor in 1999 before being elected to the Dáil in 2002 where he has retained his seat since. Now an independent, he was previously a member of the Progressive Democrats and served as the final leader of the party before it disbanded.'})  create(n353:Candidate{Name: 'Fidelma Healy Eames', Id: '353', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Senator and businesswoman', Age: '53', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected first as a Galway county councillor in 2004, she ran unsuccessfully in three general elections and was elected to the Seanad in 2007. A former member of Fine Gael, she was expelled after she defied the party whip by voting against the Protection of Life During Pregnancy Bill 2013 and is now an independent.'})  create(n354:Candidate{Name: 'James Charity', Id: '354', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and barrisatr', Age: '32', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An independent Galway county councillor, he was elected on his first attempt in 2014. A barrister by profession, he joined Renua last year before leaving after just two months, saying that he did not like the party’s ‘u-turn’ on water charges.'})  create(n355:Candidate{Name: 'Mike Cubbard', Id: '355', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and insurance broker', Age: '30', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran unsuccessfully in the 2009 local elections as well as the 2011 general election before being elected as a Galway city councillor in 2014. An insurance worker by profession, he is involved with a number of local organisations in his area and campaigns against the water charges and other austerity measures.'})  create(n356:Candidate{Name: 'Patrick Feeney', Id: '356', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Retired', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former worker with Aer Lingus, this is his first time running for election. He formerly worked with Aer Lingus and is now retired'})  create(n357:Candidate{Name: 'Tommy Roddy', Id: '357', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Teacher', Age: '51', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. A primary school teacher by profession, he is running on a platform of protecting the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution. He is involved with a number of community groups and charitable organisations in his area.'})  create(n358:Candidate{Name: 'Danny Healy-Rae', Id: '358', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected to Kerry County Council in 2004, he has been a councillor since and this is his first time running for general election. He is the brother of sitting TD Michael Healy-Rae and son of former TD Jackie Healy-Rae. He is running to expand the political service to Killarney and is a prominent member of his local community.'})  create(n359:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Healy-Rae', Id: '359', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '48', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' First elected as a Kerry county councillor in 1999, he won a Dáil seat in 2011, succeeding his father Jackie Healy-Rae. He is opposed to stricter controls on drink-driving as he feels it negatively affects people in isolated rural communities and is an active campaigner in his local area.'})  create(n360:Candidate{Name: 'Henry Gaynor', Id: '360', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Services operator', Age: '52', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A worker with Kerry Ingredients, a food company and part of the Kerry Group, this is his first time running for election. He is an active anti-austerity campaigner and is a member of the Tralee/Ballyhea Says No protest group.'})  create(n361:Candidate{Name: 'Kevin Murphy', Id: '361', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Retailer', Age: '34', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A local community activist in his area, this his first time running for election. He is an active member of Right2Water Killarney, a protest group which is seeking the abolition of water charges. He is a supporter of the Right2Change policy principles that have emerged from that movement.'})  create(n362:Candidate{Name: 'Mary Fitzgibbon', Id: '362', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Lecturer', Age: '46', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' This is her second time running for election after she ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election. A full time lecturer in nursing and healthcare sciences at IT Tralee, among her campaign issues is protecting the 8th Amendment to the constitution, assisting businesses and revitalising rural communities.'})  create(n363:Candidate{Name: 'Michael O’Gorman', Id: '363', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Stonemason', Age: '41', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running in a general election after he failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. A stonemason by profession, he is an active campaigner in his local area and is a founder of the Tralee Says No protest group. He is also a founder of the Kerry Save our Woods environmental campaign.'})  create(n364:Candidate{Name: 'Brendan Young', Id: '364', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and Plumber', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An Independent Kildare county councillor, he was elected in 2014. He is part of the Community Solidarity Group which was formed by activists from the Campaign Against the Home and Water Taxes and is a prominent activist in his local area.'})  create(n365:Candidate{Name: 'Elizabeth O’Sullivan', Id: '365', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Healthcare assitant', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A healthcare assistant from Celbridge, this is her first time running in an election.'})  create(n366:Candidate{Name: 'Gerard Dunne', Id: '366', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Council worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former councillor and member of the Labour Party, this is his first time running in a general election. He is an assistant supervisor at Kildare County Council and is an active member of his local community.'})  create(n367:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Beirne', Id: '367', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Business Director', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The owner of a grind school in Celbridge, he has ran previously for both local and national office in the past. He is an active member of his local community and campaigns on issues such as reforming the health and education systems and restoring local communities.'})  create(n368:Candidate{Name: 'Declan Crowe', Id: '368', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Self-employed construction worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A prominent activist in his local area, this is his first time running for general election after he failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. He is an active campaigner with the Right2Water campaign and is a founder of Kildare Town Community Council.'})  create(n369:Candidate{Name: 'Denis Riordan', Id: '369', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Retired Lecturer', Age: '66', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A retired lecturer, he has unsuccessfully contested multiple elections in the past, dating back to 1987. in 2005, appeared in the High Court seeking to appear on the electoral ballot as Independent instead of non-party but was unsuccessful in his bid.'})  create(n370:Candidate{Name: 'Desmond Hayes', Id: '370', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Accountant', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A businessman and accountant by profession, this is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He runs his own accountancy practice in Limerick city and is an active member of his local community, volunteering with a number of community and charity organisations.'})  create(n371:Candidate{Name: 'Emmett O’Brien', Id: '371', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor, Barrister and Farmer', Age: '36', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a Limerick county councillor in 2014 on his first attempt, this is his first time running for national office. A former member of Fianna Fáil, he left the party and ran as an Independent in 2014 after he failed to secure the party nomination. He is a barrister by profession and comes from a farming background.'})  create(n372:Candidate{Name: 'John O’Gorman', Id: '372', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Farmer', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A farmer by profession, this is first time running for election. He lists himself as a pro-life candidate and is campaigning on a platform of reforming family law, scrapping water charges and improving the conditions of farmers.'})  create(n373:Candidate{Name: 'Richard O’Donoghue', Id: '373', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Limerick county councillor, he was elected for Fianna Fáil in 2014 after failing to secure a seat in 2009. Now an Independent, he recently left Fianna Fáil over their failure to add him to the election ticket. He is an active member of his local community and is involved with a number of community organisations.'})  create(n374:Candidate{Name: 'Kevin ‘Boxer’ Moran', Id: '374', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '45', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Westmeath county councillor for Fianna Fáil in 1999, he has been a member of the council since. Now an Independent, he left Fianna Fáil in 2011 and has contested both a general election and a by-election unsuccessfully. He is running as part of the Independent Alliance and is involved with a number of local organisations in his area.'})  create(n375:Candidate{Name: 'Barbara Smyth', Id: '375', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Businesswoman', Age: '48', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' This is her first time running for general election after she ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections for Sinn Féin. She left the party as she felt they were focusing too much on the Westmeath side of her constituency and is now running as an Independent. She runs her own business with her husband and is involved with a number of local charitable organisations.'})  create(n376:Candidate{Name: 'Brian Fagan', Id: '376', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Charity shop owner', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A farmer by profession, this is first time running for election. He lists himself as a pro-life candidate and is campaigning on a platform of reforming family law, scrapping water charges and improving the conditions of farmers.'})  create(n377:Candidate{Name: 'Donal Jackson', Id: '377', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'ManAgement consultant', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A manAgement consultant by profession, he unsuccessfully contested the 2011 general election and 2014 local election. He has an MA in business administration and and is the MD of Quantum ManAgement Consultancy.'})  create(n378:Candidate{Name: 'James Miller', Id: '378', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Farmer', Age: '63', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A community activist in his area, he is part of the Public Banking Forum and is running as part of the Public Banking Alliance. He is a retired member of the Defence Forces and advocates to introduce regional public banks to Ireland.'})  create(n379:Candidate{Name: 'James Morgan', Id: '379', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Chartered accountant', Age: '44', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his second time running for election after he contested unsuccessfully in the 2014 by-election for Longford-Westmeath. A qualified chartered accountant, he studied at DCU and worked in a firm in Mullingar. He is involved with local community organisations in his area and is running as part of the Independent Alliance.'})  create(n380:Candidate{Name: 'Mae Genderton', Id: '380', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '60', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A Longford county councillor, she was formerly a TD and member of the Progressive Democrats and Labour but is now an Independent. She first entered politics as a councillor in 1991 and is an active member of her local community.'})  create(n381:Candidate{Name: 'David Bradley', Id: '381', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Operations manAger', Age: '61', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A pension fund operations manAger by profession, this is his second time running for election after he ran in 2011. He lists himself as a Christian candidate, stating as his main priority the spreading of the messAge of God and introducing God into political decision making.'})  create(n382:Candidate{Name: 'Kevin Callan', Id: '382', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and Barrister', Age: '33', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The former mayor of Drogheda, he was elected to Louth County Council for Fine Gael in 2014 on his second attempt. Now an Independent, he left the party over the imposition of water charges by the government. He is a barrister and is running as a member of the Independent Alliance.'})  create(n383:Candidate{Name: 'Maeve Yore', Id: '383', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '50', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A Louth county councillor, she was elected on her first attempt in 2014. She is running as part of the Independent Alliance and is involved with a number of local organisations in her area. She is a qualified special needs assistant and a former worker at Dundalk Credit Union.'})  create(n384:Candidate{Name: 'George O’Malley', Id: '384', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Natural resource consultant', Age: '60', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A native of Co Mayo, this is his first time running for general election. He has national and international experience in the areas of forestry, natural resources and rural/business development and has worked with a number of large companies. He is affiliated with the 1nd Mayo grouping of Independents.'})  create(n385:Candidate{Name: 'Gerry O’Boyle', Id: '385', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Self-employed businessman', Age: '38', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran in the 2014 Roscommon-South Leitrim by-election where he secured 82 first preference votes. He is a prominent member of the Land League West, which agitates to keep people from facing bank repossessions of their homes, and is running under the banner of that movement.'})  create(n386:Candidate{Name: 'Jerry Cowley', Id: '386', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'General practitioner', Age: '63', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as an Independent TD in 2002, he failed to get re-elected in 2007 and 2011. A GP by profession, he is running under the No Doctor, No VillAge banner, whose target aim is to protect and enhance medical care in rural areas. He is also a barrister and is a former Mayo Person of the Year.'})  create(n387:Candidate{Name: 'Mohammad Kamal Uddin', Id: '387', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Chef', Age: '49', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A Bangladeshi native, this is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. A chef by profession, he has worked in numerous restaurants around Westport and is a community activist in his local area.'})  create(n388:Candidate{Name: 'Peter Jordan', Id: '388', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Voluntary worker', Age: '54', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A voluntary worker and a member of a number of community organisations in his area, this is his first time running for election. He is a member of the Ballina Chamber of Commerce and is running under the banner of the 1nd Mayo grouping of Independents.'})  create(n389:Candidate{Name: 'Sean Forkan', Id: '389', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Electrician', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An electrician based in Charlestown in Mayo, this is his second time running for election after he ran in the 2011 general election.'})  create(n390:Candidate{Name: 'Stephan Manning', Id: '390', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Business owner and publisher', Age: '57', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' The owner of Checkpoint Press, this is his first time running for general election. He is one of the founders and administrator of the Integrity Ireland Association, which advocates for political reform and aims to support citizens through the courts.'})  create(n391:Candidate{Name: 'Joe Bonner', Id: '391', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as an Independent Meath county councillor in 2004, he has been a member of the council since. He has twice ran unsuccessfully for a Dáil seat in the past and is now running under the banner of the Independent Alliance. He is an active member of his local community and has been involved with a number projects during his time as a councillor.'})  create(n392:Candidate{Name: 'Sharon Keogan', Id: '392', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Businesswoman', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' She ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election before being elected as a Meath county councillor in 2014. A restaurant owner and publican, she is a peace commissioner for her area and is involved locally with a number of voluntary organisations.'})  create(n393:Candidate{Name: 'John Malone', Id: '393', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Retired', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A retired businessman, this is his first time running for election. He is the founder of the Christian and Jobs Action Party, a party committed to upholding Christian Values. He has lived and worked abroad and was strongly opposed to the passing of the same-Gender marriAge referendum.'})  create(n394:Candidate{Name: 'Trevor Golden', Id: '394', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and IT worker', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Entering politics in 2004 as a member of Trim Town Council, he was elected to Meath County Council in 2014. An IT professional, he was elected as leas-cathaoirleach of Meath County Council and lists addressing the urban-rural divide as among his top priorities.'})  create(n395:Candidate{Name: 'Joe Hannigan', Id: '395', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and publican', Age: '58', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected on his first attempt as a Tipperary county councillor in 2014, this is his first time running for general election. He is heavily involved with local community groups in his area and is an active member of the GAA. A Tipperary native, he is running in the Offaly constituency as it incorporates parts of north Tipperary.'})  create(n396:Candidate{Name: 'John Foley', Id: '396', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and businessman', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected first as an Offaly county councillor in 2009 for Fianna Fáil and has been a member of the council since. Now running as an Independent Alliance candidate, this will be his third time trying to secure a Dáil seat. He formerly ran Accelerated Drain Cleaning in Edenderry, which shut down in 2012.'})  create(n397:Candidate{Name: 'Kate Bopp', Id: '397', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'NGO worker', Age: '50', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' This is her second time running for election after she ran unsuccessfully in the 2011 general election. A prominent anti-abortion campaigner, she was also spokesperson for the No side of the marriAge equality referendum. She has lived and travelled abroad and is a co-founder of disastertechlab.org.'})  create(n398:Candidate{Name: 'Teresa Ryan-Feehan', Id: '398', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Civic amenity site manAger', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is her first time running for general election after she failed to secure a seat in the 2014 local elections. Currently the manAger of the Athlone civic amenity site, she worked previously in media and hospital administration abroad. She is the former managing director of Feehan Environmental Services, which merged with other companies to become AES WASTE.'})  create(n399:Candidate{Name: 'Denis Naughten', Id: '399', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '42', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected to the Seanad for Fine Gael in 1993, he won a Dáil seat in the 1997 general election and has been a sitting TD since. Now an Independent, he left Fine Gael in 2011 after he voted against the closure of the Roscommon County Hospital emergency department. He is a former Fine Gael spokesperson on immigration and integration.'})  create(n400:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Fitzmaurice', Id: '400', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '47', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He was elected first to Roscommon County Council in 2014 before winning a 2014 by-election and being elected to the Dáil. The chairperson of the Turf Cutters and Contractors Association, he runs a turf-cutting business and is a founding member of the Independent Alliance.'})  create(n401:Candidate{Name: 'Thomas Declan Fallon', Id: '401', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Based in Tulsk in Roscommon, this is his first time running for election. He campaigns on a platform of rural redevelopment, pledging to give money from his wAges if elected into a community care fund for his constituency. He also advocates for political reform and holding politicians more to account.'})  create(n402:Candidate{Name: 'Tony Coleman', Id: '402', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' An Independent candidate, he ran previously unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He campaigns on a platform of ending austerity, instigating political reform and reviving rural Ireland.'})  create(n403:Candidate{Name: 'Bernard Sweeney', Id: '403', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Computer technician', Age: '40', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A member of the Travelling community, this is his first time running for election. He runs a computer fixing service called Trinity PC Repairs and campaigns on an anti-austerity platform.'})  create(n404:Candidate{Name: 'Bernie O’Hara', Id: '404', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Businesswoman', Age: '54', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A Leitrim businesswoman, this is her first time running for election. She lists job creation as one of her main priorities and has campaigned in rallies against abortion.'})  create(n405:Candidate{Name: 'Declan Bree', Id: '405', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '64', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A long-standing socialist politician, he first entered politics as a Sligo county councillor in 1974 and has been serving on the council since. He is a former member of the Labour Party, having joined the party in 1991 and left them in 2007. He also served one term as a TD in 1992 and was also briefly a member of the United Left Alliance but is running now as an Independent.'})  create(n406:Candidate{Name: 'Des Guckian', Id: '406', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Full-time councillor', Age: '67', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He ran for local office on a number of occasions before being elected to Leitrim County Council in 2014. He also ran in a 2014 by-election but failed to secure a seat. He has campaigned strongly against the repealing of the 8th Amendment to the Constitution which grants an equal right to life for both a mother and an unborn child.'})  create(n407:Candidate{Name: 'Eamon Murray', Id: '407', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Building contractor', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. A building contractor by profession, he is running on a platform of better connecting national government with the people.'})  create(n408:Candidate{Name: 'Marie Casserly', Id: '408', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and teacher', Age: '37', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' Elected as a Sligo county councillor on her first attempt in 2014, she is a teacher by profession. She is running as part of the Independent Alliance and is involved as a local community activist in her area. She also has diploma in guidance counselling and is the guidance counsellor in her school.'})  create(n409:Candidate{Name: 'Mattie McGrath', Id: '409', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '57', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first to Tipperary South Council in 1999 for Fianna Fáil, he won a Dáil seat for the party in the 2007 general election. He left the party in 2011 after he lost the party whip and was re-elected as an Independent. He is involved with a number of local and charitable organisations in is area.'})  create(n410:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Lowry', Id: '410', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: '62', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first to the Dáil for Fine Gael in 1987, he has been a sitting TD since. Now an Independent, he is a former Minister for Transport, Energy and Communications but resigned from the ministry amid controversy. He was investigated as part of the Moriarty Tribunal and there were a number of findings made against him which he denies.'})  create(n411:Candidate{Name: 'Michael Dillon', Id: '411', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Unemployed', Age: '24', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' This is his first time running for general election after he ran unsuccessfully for Tipperary County Council seat in 2014. One of the younger candidates in the election, he studied radio broadcasting at college and is a native of Portroe.'})  create(n412:Candidate{Name: 'John Halligan', Id: '412', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'TD', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected first as a Waterford county councillor for the Workers Party in 1999, he served on the council until he was elected to the Dáil in 2011 on his third attempt. Now an Independent, he is a member of the Dáil Technical Group and is an active campaigner against austerity measures such as the Local Property Tax.'})  create(n413:Candidate{Name: 'John Walsh', Id: '413', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Marketing consultant', Age: '64', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A prominent pro-life campaigner, this is second time running for election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2014 local elections. He is a self-employed marketing consultant by profession and is a graduate of UCC. He is the convenor of the Waterford Pro-Life campaign.'})  create(n414:Candidate{Name: 'Sheikh M.Ahmed', Id: '414', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Legal Consultant', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A legal consultant based in Waterford, this is his second time running for election after he ran unsuccessfully in the 2009 local elections. He formerly worked as a journalist and is president of the Irish National Minority Council.'})  create(n415:Candidate{Name: 'Caroline Foxe', Id: '415', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Postmistress', Age: '47', Gender: 'Female', Biography:' A postmistress by profession for the past seven years, she is running on a mandate to stop the shutting down of post offices around the country. This is her first time running for election but she has served on numerous local committees in her town throughout the years.'})  create(n416:Candidate{Name: 'Emmet Moloney', Id: '416', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Technical support manAger', Age: '29', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A manAger with Eishtec contact centre in Wexford, this is his first time running for election. He lists tackling crime and restoring the powers of local government as some of his main campaign priorities. He is also active in a number of local community organisations in his area.'})  create(n417:Candidate{Name: 'Ger Carthy', Id: '417', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and paramedic supervisor', Age: '38', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a Wexford county councillor on his first attempt in 2014, this is his first time running for general election. A paramedic supervisor by profession, he is the current mayor of Wexford. He is a founding member of the Wexford Marine Watch and is involved with a number of local community groups in his area.'})  create(n418:Candidate{Name: 'John Dwyer', Id: '418', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'N/A', Age: 'N/A', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former New Ross town councillor, he has ran in numerous elections in the past. He is a former member of Sinn Féin but is now running as an Independent.'})  create(n419:Candidate{Name: 'Bob Kearns', Id: '419', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Retired', Age: '74', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' He served as a member of Wicklow Town Council for 24 years until 2009. The twice mayor of Wicklow, he ran once for a Dáil seat in the past. He formerly lived in the UK and has worked for Wicklow County Council as a foreman carpenter and as a clerk of works.'})  create(n420:Candidate{Name: 'Charlie Keddy', Id: '420', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Plumber', Age: '71', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' A former member of the Labour Party, he has run unsuccessfully in several local and general elections dating back to 1991. A plumber by profession, he is a long-time campaigner against the water and property taxes.'})  create(n421:Candidate{Name: 'Joe Behan', Id: '421', Party:'Independent', Occupation:'Councillor and school principal', Age: '56', Gender: 'Male', Biography:' Elected as a member of Wicklow County Council in 1991, he held his seat until 2006 when he ran for the Dáil. He was elected as a TD in 2007 and left Fianna Fáil in 2008. After failing to get re-elected to the Dáil he was once again elected as a councillor in 2014. He is a former cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council.'}) |