**Irish Parliament Candidates:**

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| create(n1:Candidate{Id: '1', Name:'Ann Phelan' ,Sex: '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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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, Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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, Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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 (n34:Candidate{Id: '34', Name: Conor Mac Liam', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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 master's degrees in history and Irish studies.'})  create (n38:Candidate{Id: '38', Name: ' Terry Kelleher', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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 Won't Pay campaign and is involved in local community activist groups in his area.'})  create (n46:Candidate{Id: '46', Name: ' Dominic Parker', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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 Hawk's Well Theatre in Sligo. He was heavily involved with local councillor Seamie O'Boyle's election campaign.'})  create (n51:Candidate{Id: '51', Name: ' Una Dunphy', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex: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 ', Sex:'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', Sex:'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 ', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Female', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Male', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Female', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Female', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Male', Age:'72', Occupation: 'TD and Minister', Party:'TD and Minister', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Male', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'Female', Age:'Unknown', 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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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', Sex:'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.'}) |