

Some of the urgent health service issues for Donegal

- Budget shortfalls at Letterkenny General Hospital
- The possible loss of 2<sup>nd</sup> Urologist post for Letterkenny General Hospital because of recruitment embargo
- Impact of the HSE redundancy package on staffing levels
- Our Cancer Services
- Our New A & E Unit
- Our Donegal Hospice
- Our Mental Health Services

So I am asking you to help & support me in whatever way you can but most of all give **Health your No1, give me your No1!** I can't do this on my own, but we the ordinary people on the ground can do it.

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I hope it will make you decide that you will make Health your No1 and vote for me. We really can do this together.

**You do have a choice**

**Please, Don't Let Them Take Away Our Health Services**

**"Ná fag an sionnach imbun na ngéanna"**

**"Don't leave the fox minding the geese"**

**Web** [www.bettyholmes.ie](http://www.bettyholmes.ie)

**Email** [elect@bettyholmes.ie](mailto:elect@bettyholmes.ie)

**Phone** **087 2905 946**

**Twitter** [Twitter.com/@BettyHolmes4TD](https://twitter.com/BettyHolmes4TD)

**Facebook** [Facebook.com/holmes.betty](https://facebook.com/holmes.betty)

**If you can, please make a donation online or lodge to my election Fundraising Committee to Elect Betty Holmes account at AIB Bank Ltd Letterkenny**

**A/c # 26147079  
Sort Code 93-73-47**

or

**Send a cheque or P/o to:  
Election Fund Committee  
1 Riverside Retail Park  
Neil T Blaney Road  
Letterkenny**

**No amount is too little, and is much appreciated**

Accounts will be audited and any surplus money will be donated to the Donegal Hospice.

**Office address**

**1 Riverside Business Park  
Neil T Blaney Road  
Letterkenny  
Co. Donegal**



**Our Health is Our Real Wealth**

**Donegal North-East  
Vote Health First!**

**Holmes No 1**

**Please Protect:**

**Our services at Letterkenny General Hospital  
Our Cancer Services  
Our Donegal Hospice  
Our Mental Health Services**

**Who is  
Betty Holmes  
?**

## *I am Betty Holmes.*

I am going forward as a totally independent candidate on one issue, **HEALTH**, to fight for all the people of the county and from my own point with special emphasis on the cancer services, the Donegal Hospice and for the protection & preservation of health services at Letterkenny General Hospital, not only for the North East but for all the people of Donegal.

I am asking you to give me your No 1 Vote so we can protect our health services in Donegal. There is no "big wheel" behind my campaign, no big funds. But I will tell you what there is. I have total belief that our health services in Donegal are in serious danger of being taken from us. I am passionate about our health, the issues and how important it is for our survival. I am hard-working and know that to achieve what you are aiming for requires daily hard work & long hours of which I am not afraid of. I have commitment to ensuring that I can, with your help, keep these critical issues on the local & national agenda so that our health services are retained and protected. I know that as a single-issue candidate I can give our Health services my undivided attention.

**Why am I so passionate about our health?**

**\*I am that person who is living today because of Letterkenny Hospital! They saved my life.**

**\*I am that person, who left this county from LGH in an ambulance, as an emergency on numerous occasions,**

**\*I am in the hospital system for over 22 years on an ongoing basis with health problems,**

**\*I have a long-term illness & disability for the last 8 years,**

**\*Letterkenny Hospital was there when my children were small and needed medical attention,**

**\*I know the importance of our hospital & health service. I want to make sure that the health services you need are there when you need them, like they were for my family and I.**

I am married to Con for 35 years now this month, we have 5 children and we have 5 grandchildren. I have been doing voluntary community work for 18 years.

For the last 6 years, most of my time, again voluntary has been working hard to ensure that cancer services are retained and secured for Donegal patients and where possible at Letterkenny General Hospital. I know from ongoing meetings at both local & national level that Donegal people and patients are not high up on the national agenda. I know that without people having "our eye on the ball" the powers that be, will whittle away what we have at present, if we let them.

**Our Health is our Real Wealth!** How we are and what we do everyday depends on how our health is. Most of the major decisions in our own and families lives will depend on our health.

The future of this country is dependent on many things but most of all, on the health of its people. It is vital for the future! So why then, is our health not important, or indeed No 1 on our government's agenda? When the so called Celtic Tiger was roaring in the good times, Donegal did not reap the benefits, and our health services definitely did not get the extra investment needed to keep us well.

These are issues of vital importance to every family in Donegal. We, the people can make **HEALTH our No 1.** I won't be able to canvass like the big political parties, and really do you want another candidate calling at your door? This will and can be achieved by us the people working together. It is important for our survival. I am hardworking and will work the long hours it takes, I am doing it anyway and I have the dedication to keep these critical issues on the local & national agendas, so that our health services are retained and protected.

I am just an ordinary person, working on the ground in a voluntary capacity, for 6 years for health in Donegal, who knows, that we the people can do this together, we can take the power back to grass roots, we can decide our future health. Please I am asking, do not let this most valuable & timely opportunity slip through our fingers, please protect our health services.

Let us the people of this county take an important step in history together, not only for ourselves but for our families who have went before us who built this country and now struggle to get the health care they have earned and deserve. For our young people coming behind us, who must now start their young lives with a burden of debt. Let us make sure they have the health services they need, when they need them. So I am from the bottom of my heart asking you to help & support me in whatever way you can but most of all give **Health your No1, give me your No1!** I firmly believe in the quotation; -

**"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed people can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has" Anthropologist Margaret Mead 1901-1978**

## **So what are some of the issues? Budget shortfalls at Letterkenny General Hospital**

LGH has been operating with a budget shortfall for several years. With major & bigger cuts in budget declared last autumn and the country now broke, where will the money come from to run Letterkenny General Hospital this year? As a result of LGH not having the money they need to run the hospital to meet the needs of the people of Donegal, How many services will be cut back on? How many clinics will be cancelled or postponed? How many operations will be cancelled? How long will the waiting lists get? How many patients will be on trolleys? How many consultants, doctors, nurses & staff will want to remain at LGH if they cannot do the job they are employed to do? What impact will the large number of staff who has accepted redundancy have on the services? With all this will our Donegal patients be the number one priority?

**Hospitals should be there for sick people!**