

STRENGTHENING YOUNG FINE GAEL

Term Update Jan '26

YOUNG FINE GAEL TERM PLAN 2025 – 2026



A Chara,

We are pleased to share our Term Plan Update with you, highlighting the work completed to date and the priorities that will shape the remainder of our term. In recent months, Young Fine Gael has made meaningful progress across campaigns, policy development, regional engagement, and organisational reform. This momentum reflects the dedication, leadership, and passion of our members nationwide.

Together, we have delivered major national campaigns, advanced key policy objectives, strengthened branch support, launched new networks, and renewed our focus on communication and member engagement.

These achievements demonstrate what is possible when we work together and with purpose, grounded in the belief that young people deserve a strong and constructive voice in shaping Ireland's future.

We are proud of what has been accomplished, but we know there is more to do. The months ahead will centre on deepening regional structures, expanding recruitment, driving impactful campaigns, and continuing to build an inclusive, dynamic organisation where every member feels empowered to participate and lead.

Thank you for your continued support, your ideas, and your commitment to YFG.

Le dea-ghuí,
The YFG National Executive



Events

Over the past year, a varied programme of events has taken place, ranging from regional social gatherings to major national events.

Planning is well underway for our Aspiring Candidate Series, and work is progressing on our hybrid seminars.

Completed

- AGM's across each of our Branches and Regional Councils
- James Dillon Debating Competition
- LGBTQ+, Intercultural & Young Carers Network Launches
- Garret FitzGerald Summer School
- Leinster Trip to Wexford
- LRC trip to Kilkenny Yulefest
- National Campaign Development Day
- Our Voices In Motion
- Dublin Debate Day
- Dublin Back to College Social
- Blue Weekend
- Member Consultation on the Future of Irish Defence
- Dublin College Catch-Up
- National Canvass Day for Heather Humphrey's
- National Executive Roadshow



Campaigns & Policy

Over the past year, we have led multiple national campaigns, and several policy documents are currently in development. The Spiking Bill has advanced and is now “in the hat”. Our Ten-Point Plan on the Future of Irish Defence is complete and it’s launch will take place on February 17th in Leinster House.

For our Agricultural Policy document, a public survey was issued and received over 100 responses. Work is now underway to analyse that feedback, with the final policy document scheduled for release in the coming months.

Our annual Pre-Budget Submission was presented to the formrer Minister for Finance, Paschal Donohoe.

YFG also played a crucial role in Heather Humphreys’ presidential election campaign. While the final result did not go our way, the commitment shown by our members has been widely recognised. Preparations are now underway for the upcoming by-elections in Galway West and Dublin Central.

Branches are being encouraged to engage actively in local campaigns, and each Regional Campaign Officer is supporting the identification and development of local initiatives. This work is ongoing.

Completed

- Member Consultation on the Future of Irish Defence
- Know Your Europe Digital Campaign
- National Campaign Development Day
- LGBTQ+ Network Digital Pride Campaign
- Pre-Budget Submission Publication
- Young Farmer Digital Takeover
- College Recruitment Campaign



Branch Development & Engagement

Our New Members Information Booklet is currently with the design team, and we expect to release it in the coming weeks to coincide with affiliations. Once finalised, attention will turn to strengthening the effectiveness of our welcome email for new members.

Branch Officer training has been completed, with an additional session being planned ahead of AGMs. Youth Officers are also being encouraged to put themselves forward for leadership positions on Senior Party Officer Boards, ensuring strong representation and continued development of our young leaders.

Work will shortly begin on evaluating how college branches engage with their local constituencies, alongside the development of annual plans for each college branch.

In addition, progress continues on establishing a clear point-of-contact system to support our new members.



Recruitment

Last year's college recruitment drive was highly successful, with new members joining from across the country - many of whom have been active and engaged over the past few months. We have identified several key learnings from this cycle, and work is underway to ensure these are effectively implemented ahead of the 2026 Freshers Week.

We are also continuing to explore how best to leverage our networks to broaden recruitment pathways, particularly within our Second-Level Network, our Agricultural and Rural Affairs Forum and our Carers Network.

This work aims to diversify our reach and strengthen engagement across all areas of the organisation.



Communication

Our communications work has continued to expand, with the introduction of our WhatsApp Community proving to be a major success. We will continue to build and strengthen this platform in the months ahead.

Updates to our email are also in progress, with a refreshed approach due to be rolled out shortly.

Our digital outreach remains active across all major platforms, including Instagram, Facebook, Threads, and until recently, X.

Multiple press releases have been featured in both local and national media, and members of the National Executive have participated in radio interviews to highlight our work and our key messages.



Regional Development

Dublin

Regional events in Dublin have taken place, with Dublin being particularly active, especially throughout Heather's campaign. Planning for Dublin Day is currently underway, with a range of new and varied events to look forward to in the coming months.

Leinster

Across Leinster, a series of social events have taken place, alongside multiple regional activities held throughout the area. Maynooth remains in a strong position, with continued work progressing on Leinster Day.

North West

In the North West, work is ongoing to expand networking opportunities for branches and strengthen collaboration across the region. Several members have also been featured in local newspapers and on radio, helping to highlight our activity and increase visibility for the organisation.

Munster

In Munster, the rebuild in UCC is ongoing, and the Munster Regional Council has been active, delivering events across the region. Blue Weekend was a major success, and planning for this year's event is already underway.



Women's Engagement, Diversity & Inclusion

Women are being actively supported and encouraged to take on leadership roles within their branches, with a particular focus on building confidence, visibility, and pathways into senior positions across the organisation. This work is part of a broader effort to strengthen gender balance and ensure that women's voices are represented at every level of decision-making.

Planning for Women's Weekend is now well underway, with further updates expected in the coming weeks.

The LGBTQ+ Network and Intercultural Network both held successful launches, creating dedicated spaces for members to connect and share experiences. Their establishment ensures that diverse perspectives are represented across all levels of YFG, and that our policy development, campaigns, and culture reflect the full breadth of our membership. Both networks will continue to play an important role in strengthening inclusion and broadening engagement throughout the year.



Networks & Committees

Women's Network

As previously mentioned, work is progressing on the Women's Weekend, which will serve as a key opportunity for leadership development, networking, and peer support. In the lead-up to the weekend, a series of events will be held to help women connect, build confidence, and strengthen their involvement across the organisation.

Second Level Network

Our Second Level Network held an important meeting on Leaving Cert reform alongside their AGM, providing members with a meaningful opportunity to shape our position on this key issue. They also met with Minister McEntee during her time as Minister for Education as part of the Education Forum, ensuring that the perspectives of second-level students were clearly represented at national level.

Young Career's Network

Our Careers Network continues to grow, with a strong focus on creating meaningful pathways for members interested in public service, politics, and professional development. Multiple members are currently participating in internship programmes with members of the Parliamentary Party, gaining valuable hands-on experience and insight into parliamentary work.



Networks & Committees

Coiste na Gaeilge

Work is ongoing to create a dedicated space for our Gaeilgeoiri and for members who wish to reconnect with the language. A trip to Coláiste Chamuis is currently being organised, potentially coinciding with the Galway West by-election. Alongside this, we are exploring practical ways to promote and integrate Gaeilge more fully into our day-to-day operations, ensuring it becomes a visible and valued part of our organisation's culture.

Intercultural Network

The Intercultural Network held its launch towards the end of last year, marking an important milestone in strengthening diversity and inclusion across the organisation. The launch brought together members from a wide range of backgrounds and provided a platform for open discussion, shared experiences, and the development of priorities for the year ahead.

Building on this strong foundation, the network is now preparing a series of events for the coming year.

LGBTQ+ Network

The LGBTQ+ Network held its launch last year. Members took part in the Pride Parade, showcasing YFG's commitment to equality, and led a Pride Digital Takeover that significantly boosted engagement and awareness online.

Building on this momentum, work is now underway to develop a series of events for the year ahead.



Networks & Committees

One Island Committee

The One Island Committee has engaged extensively with partners both north and south of the border through ArtsnWonder, helping to build stronger cross-community relationships and deepen collaboration. This work has created valuable opportunities for shared learning and cultural exchange.

International Committee

The International Committee has continued its work on the Defence Plan while strengthening YFG's role in Europe. Eoin Scarlett's election as Deputy Secretary General of YEPP was a significant milestone, and members have attended multiple YEPP Council Meetings and Congress last year. Work is now underway to increase member engagement in the year ahead.

Agriculture & Rural Affairs Committee

Work is ongoing for the publication of our policy document, with the survey receiving over 100 responses. Engagement with key stakeholders will take place in the coming months.



