



Quarterly Bulletin 3 2024 – Irish Economic Outlook

This is a transcript of text in the video titled “Quarterly Bulletin 3 2024 – Irish Economic Outlook, featuring Robert Kelly, Director of Economics & Statistics, Central Bank of Ireland.

What is the outlook for the Irish economy?

The latest forecast paints a picture of a resilient domestic economy, poised to grow between 2 and 3 per cent annually out to 2026.

Data revisions point to increased momentum for more robust growth than previously expected for last year. But this adds to the challenges of managing labour supply and infrastructural constraints that feed domestically generated inflation.

What are the challenges in the Irish housing market?

The housing market is at a crossroads. Job creation has been remarkable, but housing supply has not kept pace - with a ratio of one new home for every four new workers over the last decade.

Despite a recent surge in new housing, the need is still far greater. Demographic pressures and pent-up demand will require an upward shift to more than 50,000 new builds annually.

The cost of inaction is clear - rising rents will lower living standards. But meeting this challenge requires careful consideration to avoid overheating the economy.

What policies can help increase the supply of housing?

Boosting housing supply relies on making construction both financially and practically viable. Policy has a role to play across three interconnected pillars: preparation of service land, ensuring efficient planning, and supporting construction productivity.



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Video Transcript

While not a replacement for addressing viability, development finance from a mix of sources – the state, international investors, and the banks – will be essential to deliver the increased housing needs.

The health of our public finances presents a unique opportunity to address infrastructure and housing deficits built up over a decade. But it will require difficult choices on the mix of overall spending and taxation to create the space for these vital investments.

Find out more: [centralbank.ie/QB](https://www.centralbank.ie/QB)