

Mary Hanafin T.D.

Minister for Social and Family Affairs

Ireland



Birthplace: Born in Thurles, Co. Tipperary.

Constituency: Dun Laoghaire.

First elected to Dáil Éireann in the 1997 General Election.

Re-elected to the Dáil in May 2002. In the 2007 General Election topped the poll again with 11,884 first preference votes. With this, she was the top female vote-getter (per quota) in the country.

Political Career

Appointed Minister for Social and Family Affairs on 7th May 2008.

Minister for Education and Science from September 2004 – May 2008. Was first appointed to this portfolio on 29th September 2004 and then re-appointed following the General Election in June 2007.

Minister of State at the Departments of the Taoiseach and Defence, with special responsibility as Government Chief Whip and for the Information Society from June 2002 to September 2004.

Minister of State at the Departments of Health and Children, Justice, Equality and Law Reform, and Education and Science, with special responsibility for Children from January 2000 to June 2002.

Former Member of Oireachtas Joint Committees on Heritage and the Irish Language; Justice, Equality & Women's Rights, and Education and Science.

Member of Dublin City Council 1985-1991.

Education

Presentation Convent, Thurles, Co. Tipperary and St Patrick's College, Maynooth (BA, HdipED).

Diploma in Legal Studies from DIT.

Occupation

Full-time public representative and Government Minister.

Secondary school teacher of Irish and History, Dominican College, Sion Hill, Blackrock, Co. Dublin until her election to Dáil Eireann in 1997.