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T Read on Threader

1. Did You Know The Irish Times Have Received Money From Pfizer And Its Chairman Has Ties To Pharma ?

In my previous 🧵 I revealed The Irish Independent ties to the Bilderberg committee and Trilateral Commission. Today it's the turn of The Irish Times

New 🧵 1/18

THE IRISH TIMES



2. The Irish Times is run by a Trust and a board of Directors. The Trust is composed of a maximum of 11 Governors. The primary role of the Trust is to appoint a Board, which is responsible for ensuring that the Company is run successfully.

The Trust



John Hegarty

Chairman of the Board of The Irish Times Trust CLG

Fellow Emeritus and former Provost of Trinity College Dublin

Governors of The Irish Times Trust CLG



Caitriona Murphy

Consultant; former Chair of the Investor Compensation Company, the Labour Relations Commission and Praesta Ireland



Peter McLoone

Board member of the Labour Relations Commission; former general secretary of Impact; former president of Ictu



Barry Smyth

Holds the Digital Chair of Computer Science at University College Dublin; elected member of the Royal Irish Academy



Conor Houston

Programme Director, Centre for Democracy & Peace Building



Catherine Day

Former Secretary General of the European Commission; special adviser to the President of the European Commission



Joanne Stuart

CEO Northern Ireland Tourism Alliance; former Director of Development at Catalyst Inc; NI chair of the US-NI Mentorship Program



Marguerite Sayers

Executive Director for Customer Solutions with ESB; former Managing Director of ESB Networks DAC; past President of Engineers Ireland



Edmond Harty

Adjunct Full Professor at UCD; previously CEO of Dairymaster; Fellow of the Irish Academy of Engineering and former EY Entrepreneur of the Year



Dan Flinter

Chairman of the Board of The Irish Times DAC



Chairman of the Board of The Irish Times DAC
Chair of PM Group; Non Executive Director of Dairygold Co-op
and Aryzta AG

The Board of Directors of The Irish Times DAC



John Hegarty
Nominated Director
from the Trust



Peter McLoone
Nominated Director
from the Trust



Catriona Murphy
Nominated Director
from the Trust



Terence O'Rourke
Chairman of Enterprise
Ireland; former
Managing Partner,
KPMG



Clare Duignan
Non Executive Director
of the Digital Hub
Development Agency;
former MD of RTÉ
Radio



Rhona Murphy
Principal & founder of
RMM Consulting;
former CEO of The
Daily Beast; former
publisher of Newsweek
International



Shay Garvey
Founding partner of
Frontline Ventures;
chair of the Social
Reform Fund in
Ireland; chair of TCD
Science Gallery



Liam Kavanagh
Managing Director



Paul O'Neill
Editor



Deirdre Veldon
Deputy Editor

3. Long before covid The IT & Pfizer were working together.

"As well as discovering and developing medicines, we work with community groups, individuals and health consumer organisations to enhance public health in local communities"

'Healthy Town' is an innovative..

Well-being

One of Pfizer's core commitments is to improve health and well-being at every stage of life. As well as discovering and developing medicines, we work with community groups, individuals and health consumer organisations to enhance public health in local communities. One innovative example of our commitment to the well-being in local communities is the 'Healthy Town' project.

'Healthy Town' is an innovative collaboration between The Irish Times, Pfizer Healthcare Ireland and the civic and business community of a chosen Irish town. 'Healthy Ireland', the national framework for action to improve the health and well-being of Ireland, supports the initiative.

'Healthy Town' aims to improve the health and well-being of the population of a town by showing the local community how simple adjustments can make a real difference to their health.

The eight-week programme combines health promotion events, information meetings, health checks and physical activity sessions, to encourage the people of a town to improve their health, with all events free of charge. Key features of the 'Healthy Town' include:

- Free one to one health checks provided by the Irish Heart Foundation through local groups to members of the public
- Talks and demonstrations from expert speakers on areas including healthy eating, parenting, mental health, relationships, stress management and health promotion
- Healthy shopping and nutrition tours given by Irish Heart Foundation dietitians in local supermarkets
- Numerous sports and fitness activities throughout the eight-week period for people of all ages and abilities

The success of previous 'Health Town' initiatives can be attributed to the support of many local groups and businesses in the hosting and promotion of such events. This ensures wide awareness and participation in the events and activities throughout the full eight-week programme. The partnerships and collaborations have also left lasting legacies in the towns that have taken part in the initiative. For example, as a result of the Healthy Town programme in Wicklow, the local Council opened a 7.6km walkway to mark the town's participation in 'Healthy Town'.

The inaugural 'Healthy Town' project took place in Kilkenny in 2012 and since then the initiative has been hosted by Wicklow in 2013 and Portlaoise in 2014. 'Healthy Town' continues to build on each year's success and has made a significant impact on the towns that have hosted the project to date. In the past three years, hundreds of members of 'Healthy Town' communities have received health screenings and learned about how to improve their long term health through participation in the project's various events and activities.



Photographs courtesy of The Irish Times

4. ..collaboration between The IT, Pfizer Healthcare Ireland and the civic and business community of a chosen Irish town"

I think we can safely say the project wasn't particularly successful as the health of the nation has never been worse. (PAGE 16)

pfizer.ie/sites/default/...

5. Covid itself has been exceptionally profitable for the IT. I had a look at their accounts and they make interesting reading.

They made an operating profit of more than €8.3m for 2020 compared to €3.8m for 2019 [irishtimes.com/business/media...](https://www.irishtimes.com/business/media...)

THE IRISH TIMES DESIGNATED ACTIVITY COMPANY

GROUP STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS) for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	Note	2020 €	2019 €
Turnover – continuing operations	3	101,087,110	110,105,012
Cost of sales		(68,256,125)	(77,158,859)
Gross profit		32,830,985	32,946,153
Distribution costs		(12,639,662)	(12,784,866)
Administrative expenses		(14,809,676)	(16,336,850)
Total operating expenses excluding exceptional items		(27,449,338)	(29,121,716)
Other income	4	2,952,935	–
Group operating profit before exceptional items		8,334,582	3,824,437
Exceptional items	5	(481,081)	(1,193,954)
Group operating profit after exceptional items		7,853,501	2,630,483
Amortisation of goodwill on investment in subsidiaries		(621,050)	(1,317,100)
Total operating profit		7,232,451	1,313,383
Gain on financial assets at fair value through profit and loss	14	501,550	1,676,129
Interest receivable and similar income	6	118,327	125,731
Interest payable and similar charges	7	(169,664)	(203,348)
Profit (loss) on ordinary activities before taxation	8	7,682,664	2,911,895
Tax on profit (loss) on ordinary activities	10	(132,566)	–
Profit (loss) on ordinary activities		7,550,098	2,911,895
Profit attributable to minority interest		(244,875)	(75,035)
Profit (loss) for the financial year attributable to owners of the parent Company		7,305,223	2,836,860

Other comprehensive income	—	—
Total comprehensive income (loss) for the financial year attributable to owner of the parent Company	<u>7,305,223</u>	<u>2,836,860</u>

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6. Their net cash of €24m in 2020 was up from €16.5m in 2019
[irishtimes.com/polopoly_fs/1...](https://www.irishtimes.com/polopoly_fs/1...)

THE IRISH TIMES DESIGNATED ACTIVITY COMPANY

GROUP STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the financial year ended 31 December 2020

	<i>Note</i>	2020 €	2019 €
Net cash inflow from operating activities	23	12,257,650	4,076,496
<i>Cash flows from investing activities</i>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(668,313)	(831,560)
Purchase of intangible fixed assets		(678,931)	—
Interest received		1,234	829
Investment in financial fixed assets		(2,750,000)	(750,000)
Income from financial fixed assets received		80,289	44,855
Investment in associate		(7,117)	—
Sale of associate		25,299	177,794
Net cash inflow from investing activities		<u>8,260,108</u>	<u>2,718,414</u>
<i>Cash flows from financing activities</i>			
Bank loan repaid		(106,849)	(103,889)
Capital element of finance lease repaid		(599,564)	(193,711)
Interest paid		(50,451)	(70,769)
Interest element of finance lease payment		(13,447)	(29,313)
Net cash outflows from financing activities		<u>(770,311)</u>	<u>(397,682)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		7,489,797	2,320,732
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January		16,552,831	14,232,099
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December		<u>24,042,628</u>	<u>16,552,831</u>

7. But where has all this money come from. A huge amount has come from the Irish Government for its Covid campaign. We don't know how much but can safely assume it is very substantial as half the paper was filled with ads.

They are never going to bite the hand that feeds them.

8. They have also seen a substantial increase in members for their online service. As of the end of 2020, the group had a total of 126,656 digital & home delivery subscribers.


This was up from 89,688 a year earlier

It suits them for people to be locked down.

9. Pfizer have also contributed to the kitty. In Dec 2020 the vaccine drive went into overtime and The IT even ran a podcast in conjunction with Pfizer in order to "educate" people on the vaccine. This was under the guise of a paid partnership

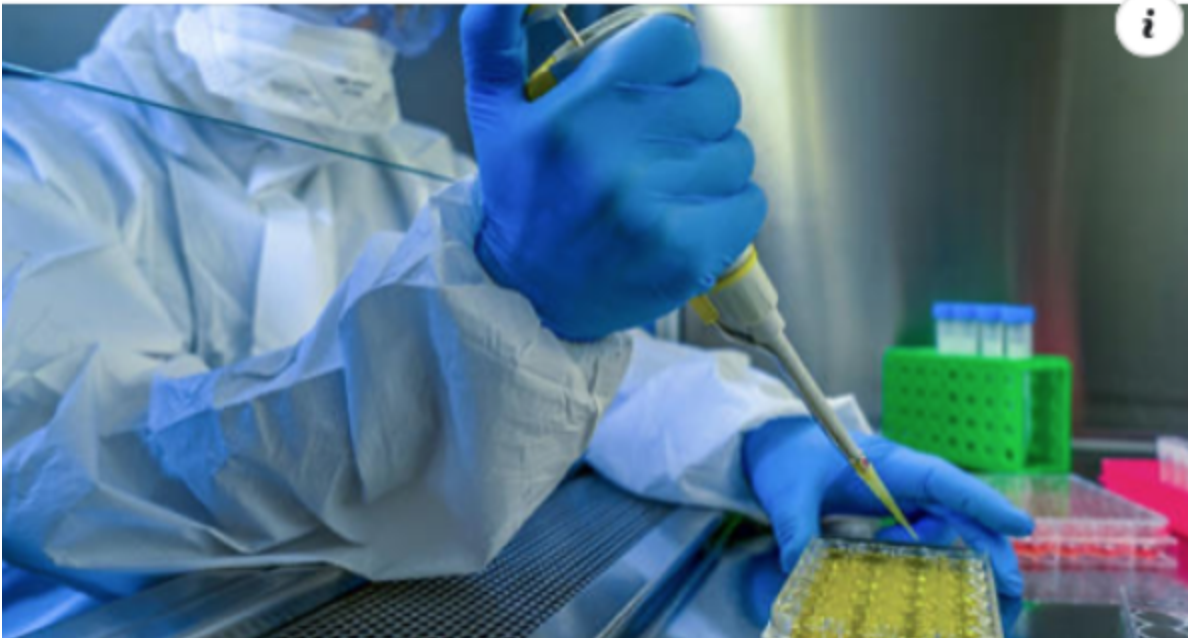
No conflict of interest there



The Irish Times  with Pfizer Ireland.
Paid Partnership · 



A new podcast aims to shed light on all the burning questions we are certain to have about the most important vaccine in a generation



IRISHTIMES.COM

New initiative tells story of vaccines and role of scientific advancement in society

   18

14 Comments 1 Share

10. In January of 2021 the paid partnership had switched to a sponsorship. It was touted as a "A triumph of science and innovation" which is interesting as they are still in trials until 2023.

Yet again, no conflict of interest

SPONSORED 

A triumph of science and innovation

Rollout of the Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine has begun in Ireland, and Pfizer scientists working on its development speak about vaccine developments and innovations

© Tue, Jan 12, 2021, 06:00

Updated: Tue, Jan 12, 2021, 14:29



Sponsored by
Pfizer



The Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine, received conditional marketing authorisation by the EMA in December and is now being rolled out nationwide. Photograph: Getty images

11. I don't know how often they have been involved in "paid partnerships" or "sponsored" events but as recently as June 21st 2021 they were promoting gene therapy as being the next generation of medicine.

One final conflict of interest



SPONSORED 


Discover gene therapy, the next generation of medicine


Pfizer is developing gene therapies with the potential to offer rare disease patients long-term transformative clinical benefits and improve their quality of life

© Mon, Jun 21, 2021, 10:00



Gene therapy is probably the most high-concept form of so-called "personalised" or "precision" medicine. Photograph: Getty Images

 Cutting edge cell and gene therapies that hold the promise of transforming treatment of serious and rare diseases are within our grasp, yet [a recent](#)



ADVERTISEMENT



12. Yet, it runs slightly deeper. The Chairman of IT is Dan Flinter. He was Chairman of PM Group up until this year. PM Group are a project delivery company and do a lot of work with pharma and in particular vaccine manufacturing for GSK

[pmgroup-global.com/our-work/vacci...](https://pmgrouppm.com/our-work/vaccines)

13. GSK also owns Pfizer's consumer healthcare business as of 2019

PM Group works with clients such as Facebook, Carlsberg, MSD, Johnson & Johnson, Bayer & Pfizer.

All of these companies are also partners in the World Economic Forum
[independent.ie/business/irish...](https://www.independent.ie/business/irish...)

Pfizer and GSK joint venture creates the industry's largest OTC business

By Murielle Gonzalez 2-Aug-2019



[FINANCE](#) | [PHARMACEUTICALS](#)

The combined portfolio will operate globally as GSK Consumer Healthcare



GSK Consumer Healthcare CEO Brian McNamara

14. Like The Irish Times, PM Group at the end of 2020 had net assets of €111m compared with €85m a year earlier, and minimal debt.

Quite the increase, wouldn't you say.

15. The IT has gone to great lengths to being the govt mouthpiece and has hardly ever questioned the narrative. At the same time its intention has been to frighten people non-stop.

Fear sells and profits go through the roof when people are forced to stay at home.

16. They claim that they are a balanced paper. Their editor Paul O Neill even wrote

"We do not go to publication without seeking both sides of the story...

17. ...and if, in spite of our best efforts, we cannot get one side's version, we make it clear in our report that we've made every reasonable effort to secure that information"

Seriously. That certainly has not been the case for the last 18 months

[irishtimes.com/about-us/the-i...](https://www.irishtimes.com/about-us/the-i...)

18. You know the drill 😊 I write these 🧵 in my spare time and would really appreciate if you could retweet the very 1st tweet. Likes are great but retweets are required to reach as large an audience as possible to expose what is really going on behind the scenes. Many thanks.