

PADDY POWER NEWS RELEASE

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PADDY POWER PAY OUT ON BRIAN COWEN FOR NEXT TAOISEACH

Ireland's leading Bookmaker, Paddy Power, has declared the Fianna Fáil leadership race well and truly over and this afternoon are paying out on Minister Brian Cowen as next Taoiseach.

The Minister for Finance was installed as the bookmaker's 1/5 favourite when news broke of Bertie Ahern's decision to step down. Since then Minister Cowen has been the subject of a sustained and widespread gamble which had seen his odds spectacularly crash from 1/5 to and an extraordinary 1/80 in the hours before the Bookmaker suspended betting today.

Ken Robertson from Paddy Power said "At odds of 1/80 we consider this race well and truly over. Minister Cowen was the punters solid choice from the word go and we hardly saw a penny for anyone else"

Paddy Power estimates the cost of their early payout to be in excess of €100,000. The bookmaker is now focusing its attention on the race to become next Tanaiste. The firm has reported strong support today for Micháel Martin who they make their 5/4 favourite.

Next Tanaiste

5/4 Michael Martin
7/4 Brian Lenihan
5/1 Mary Coughlan
7/1 Dermot Ahern
8/1 Mary Hanafin
25/1 John Gormley
25/1 Seamus Brennan
25/1 Eamonn O'Cuiv
33/1 Mary Harney
33/1 Noel Dempsey
40/1 Willie O'Dea
66/1 Martin Cullen

Ends

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