

SIPTU INTERNAL ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEM - ePost 2015

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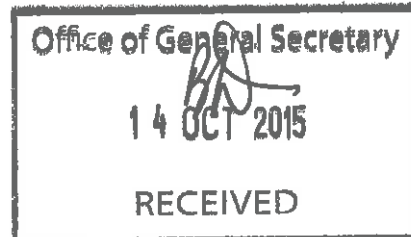
DOCUMENT VERIFIED by Ann O'Connell

on 14/10/2015 10:11:34



9th October, 2015

Mr. Jack O'Connor
General President
SIPTU
Liberty Hall
Dublin 1



Dear Jack,

You have raised an important issue with me regarding the income gap faced by workers who are required to retire at age 65 given the age for entitlement to the State Pension (age 66).

There would appear to be a disconnect between policy and practice here that needs to be examined. Furthermore, I am also conscious that the State Pension age is set to increase further to age 67 in 2021 and to age 68 in 2028, which could exacerbate the problem you have outlined. In light of this, I think we need to move now to address this issue in a comprehensive and sustainable way, including through legislation as required.

To this end, I intend to bring a Memorandum to Government shortly in which I will bring this issue to the attention of my Government colleagues and recommend that officials from my Department and other relevant Government Departments, who have primary responsibility for different aspects of this matter, work together to scope out the issues involved; define appropriate solutions; examine, in that context, the proposal that you have made; and report back as soon as practicable.

Yours sincerely,



Brendan Howlin TD

Minister for Public Expenditure