



# The Stop67 coalition will continue to campaign against any increase in the pension age

- The planned increase in the pension age to 67 this year and to 68 in 2028 was halted by voters in the 2020 general election.
- The Stop67 coalition, including the National Women's Council, Age Action, Active Retirement Ireland and SIPTU played a significant role in making the pension age issue so central to the election campaign.
- The savings to be gained by increasing the pension age are insignificant in the context of the fiscal and demographic challenges to the existing system.
- Over one third of workers will rely on the State pension when they retire and those who currently depend on it find it difficult to make ends meet.
- The pension payment should be increased over time and linked to the average wage in the economy.
- Mandatory retirement for workers should be ended. Private sector employees should have the right to remain in the workforce until 70 years, similar to that in the public service.
- The flawed and inadequate Benefit Payment for those who retire at 65 should be removed and replaced by a payment rate equivalent to the State Pension.
- There should be an end to discrimination in pensions, particularly for women who have taken responsibility for caring, often unpaid, for others. Women often work part-time, or intermittently, and many are unable to accumulate the social security contributions required for a decent, sustainable income.
- People in retirement are entitled to a healthy and secure life, including adequate provision for their housing, medical and welfare needs, a decent income and an inclusive and respectful environment in their older years.