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**Jason O'Toole**

It's a cardinal sin how it seems only clergy and ruling classes easily become octogenarians.

While those getting their hands dirty in the traditional sense usually never have a prayer on that score.

Posh politicians who make these life-changing decisions for Joe Public don't have a personal vested interest at stake.

They'll sail off into the sunset at a relatively young-ish age with pension pots that would make leprechaun green with envy.

Meanwhile, an average working stiff, whose hard earned taxes bankroll such lavish lifestyles, won't have a pot to piss in when finally "gifted" a state pension - earning no more than €253.30 after 48 years of PRSI contributions.

There should be different retirement ages for blue-collar and white-collar workers.

Hard grafters on less than €50k a year should not be forced to work beyond age 62, which would help reduce unemployment figures.

The government argues the retirement age should be increased over fears there eventually won't be enough young workers to support an ageing population.

They should get their own (Leinster) house in order first, by imposing sensible salary and pension caps for anybody earning a crust from taxpayers' money.

Civil servant bigwigs trousering more than US President Joe Biden is just scandalous.

Nobody in the state - including RTE "stars" - should earn more than the Taoiseach's salary of €211,742.

Nor should there be any government pension schemes worth €50k yearly.

State employees on six-figure salaries should have mandatory private only pension plans.

The Finance Minister should get his pocket calculator out and see how much all those so-called penny-pinching exercises could save the exchequer.

It's bad enough that hard workers are run ragged, like real-life voodoo dolls left feeling the pinch.

Upping the retirement age even further is nothing better than voodoo economics.

It's a glorified pyramid scheme, with those at the bottom only mining mineral pyrite.

Ireland Inc is robbing the workforce blind of precious time in their golden years.

**PLANNING NOTICE**

**Dublin City Council**

Aquamarine Ltd, intends to apply for Planning Permission / Change of Use at 6 St Andrew's Street Dublin 2. For first, second, third and the

to the application may be made in writing to the planning authority on payment of the prescribed fee (€20.00) within the period of 5 weeks beginning on the date of receipt by the authority of the application, and such submissions or observations will be considered by the planning authority in making a decision on the application. The planning authority may grant permission subject to or without conditions, or may refuse to grant permission.

**PLANNING NOTICE**

**South Dublin County Council**

I Mr Kaushal Kathuria seeks Planning Permission for a development at this location 13A Tullyhall Mews, Esker South, Lucan Co Dublin K78C596. The development will consist of a two story house to be constructed directly adjacent to the existing house No13, the proposed dwelling will consist of three bedrooms and two car parking spaces.

The planning application may be inspected or purchased at a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making a copy at the office of the Planning Authority, South Dublin County Council, Town Hall, Town Centre, Talaght, Dublin 24 during its public opening hours from 9.00am to 1.00pm and 2.00pm to 4.00pm Monday to Friday ( Bank Holidays and Public Holidays excepted). A submission or observation in relation to the application may be made in writing to Planning Authority on payment of a prescribed fee, €20 within period of 5 weeks beginning on date of receipt by South Dublin County Council of the application.

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