



# Robbing the people to give to the rich



Colm Stephens, People Before Profit Alliance Local Election Candidate in the North Inner City comments on Brian Lenihan's disastrous emergency budget.

*The Government has sent a clear message to*

*workers, the unemployed and the poor. They want to squeeze as much money out of us as they can to bail out their rich friends who caused the economic crisis.*

### The banks will get our money!

The worst insult of all to taxpayers is that the Government will use our money to buy up all bad debts from the banks. These debts will probably cost us in the range €40–€90 billion. That means that it will cost every man, woman and child in Ireland at least €10,000 in what is a massive transfer of wealth from ordinary people to the richest people in our society.



### Lots of Pain

*PAYE workers, unemployed and their and children will face:*

- **More taxes** – The levies are to be doubled even for lower paid workers. The pension levy on all public sector workers remains.
- **Cutback** – No mortgage relief for the majority.
- **Cutback** – Social welfare: Christmas bonus abolished. Jobseekers allowance halved
- **Cutback** – Rent allowance cut and early childhood supplement halved in 2009 and abolished in 2010.

### No Gain

*The Budget contains no proposals that would make a real difference:*

- **No** taxes on assets of the super-rich. No increase in corporation tax.
- **No** measures against wealthy tax 'exiles'.
- **No** serious measure for job creation.
- **No** programme to develop a Green economy to deal with Global Warming.
- **No** reversal of the terrible cuts in health and education.



### Enough is enough –

### It's time to take action!

This budget is bad but there is worse to come. It's time for ordinary people to say we have had enough. The **People Before Profit Alliance** will campaign with you against these budget measures which inflict more pain on workers, the unemployed and the poor. Please join us in this work.