

# PCS MEMBERS SAY Vote 'NO' in the ballot

PCS Say No was started by a number of branches who do not accept that the Government's "package of measures" are an adequate reason to end our national dispute. We agreed to launch a broad, branch based campaign in order to express this position, and campaign for a rejection of the NEC's actions and proposals, and to continue the dispute.

## At a meeting held on 12th July, the PCS NEC decided to:

- Halt our campaign for a 2022-23 pay rise of 10% with a £15 per hour national living wage and for job security.
- To engage in the 2023-24 delegated pay round, supposedly to get the best possible terms (but has not defined what such terms are).
- Allow our legal mandates to take strike action to lapse in all areas paying the lump sum (on a pro rata basis).
- (Supposedly) "continue to campaign" over the extremely restricted application of the £1500, including pro rating.
- To hold a 'consultative' ballot of members in August to seek endorsement of the NEC's "strategy."

## We recommend you **VOTE 'NO'** in the NEC's consultative ballot because:

- The leadership is refusing to submit to the Cabinet Office a 2023-24 national claim for an inflation proof award in all areas of the civil service.
- The PCS leadership knows full well that without leverage no amount of bargaining this year will overcome the fact that the government has set the pay increases at 4.5% plus 0.5% for the lower paid. We will again receive a below inflation award in 2023, whilst the current Consumer Price Index measurement of inflation remains at 8.7%
- The low pay that is endemic in the civil service remains unaddressed. Tens of thousands of members remain on or close to the minimum wage.
- The overwhelming majority of the employer areas that have decided to pay the £1,500 one off payment are doing so on a pro rata basis i.e., paying a reduced amount to part time staff, who are overwhelmingly female and primary carers for dependants, even though the payment is supposed to be in recognition of the pressures of inflation.
- While the leadership talk about "campaigning" on the restrictions on payment, including pro rata, they originally accepted them all without complaint and are only now objecting because of the level of angry feedback on these issues.
- While office closures and job losses loom for some PCS members, the Government has not agreed to strengthen job security arrangements in the civil service.

Ministers have already rejected the leadership's request that the restrictions on payment be lifted and, without legal challenge and/or industrial action, those restrictions will remain in place. The Government will not be under any pressure to deliver on pay and job security. PCS needs to renew its campaign and join other workers, such as teachers and doctors, in the fight for fair pay.



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