

Keep delivering those Yes votes...

CWU BALLOT PUSH HAS ROYAL MAIL IN A FLAP

THE LAST WEEK HAS SEEN things really hotting up across Royal Mail as CWU members push for a big turnout and a big YES vote.

It's been brilliant to see the streams of pictures on @CWUnews—members coming together to post their YES votes en masse, big gate meetings holding up 'I'm voting YES' union signs. Up to 1,000 such meetings have taken place—thats impressive.

Royal Mail bosses can see that this is a serious campaign with the capacity to win. That's why they are trying to stymie the ballot by making announcements direct to postal workers.

It's outrageous that the bosses are trying to go over the heads of the union in this way.

And it's very good that the union has responded strongly to it.

It's the CWU who is in the driving seat. That's down to the incredible show of active support on the ground by members and the confidence with which the dispute is being built from the top of the union too.

Terry Pullinger points out that the £375 unconsolidated lump sum payment represents somewhere in the region of a 1.5 percent increase in basic pay and falls way short of current inflation as measured by RPI, currently at 3.9 percent.

CWU is right to stand strong in defence of national pay bargaining against the intention to replace it with a productivity related pay system where the lump sum is tied to a number of "un-agreed and unacceptable" strings.

And it's important that CWU is insisting the union won't back down on part-time employees' holiday pay, or the introduction of a shorter working week.

Strength

It's full steam ahead to deliver a massive YES for action, ensure the turnout is one that blasts through the Tories' draconian new thresholds, and crucially, to build solid action for the first strike.

There are a whole host of issues that Royal Mail are a million miles away from



conceding on, from one pension scheme for all, to the pay issue for this year, to the harmonisation of rates, the shorter working week without loss of earnings, protecting delivery times—these are all key issues, and it's important to seize the moment to win on them.

The union's campaign is going from strength to strength, and every member and branch needs to keep up the pressure, support any areas that could do with strengthening, develop organisation in every office.

Solid

This fight can win, and it's important that strike dates are called quickly if Royal Mail don't back down.

Getting off to a solid start with strikes can not only send a clear signal to Royal Mail that they better get their skates on and come up with goods, but it can also create a flowering of confidence and organisation that can propel the dispute forwards and put CWU in a strong

position to seriously escalate action if necessary.

It must be Royal Mail that blinks first, and CWU is already in very good position to win this dispute.

With the backdrop of the rise of Jeremy Corbyn and a growing mood for action over pay across the union movement—now is the time for our unions to take the stage and lead strikes that can not only win while the Tories and bosses are weak, but can drive out this government and fight for a better world.

Victory to the CWU!

PROTEST AT THE TORY PARTY CONFERENCE

Assemble 12 noon,
Sunday 1 October,
Castlefield Arena, Rice Street,
Manchester, M3 4JR.
thepeoplesassembly.org.uk

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