

FOR A BETTER FUTURE IN DWP:

PCS *INDEPENDENT* Left

VOTE INDEPENDENT LEFT * VOTE INDEPENDENT LEFT * VOTE INDEPENDENTLEFT

Dear Colleague

You should soon receive two union ballot papers, one for the DWP leadership elections and another for the National Executive Committee election. Both elections are very important. Those successful in the elections will have responsibility for leading the fight against job cuts, low pay and privatisation.

Independent Left is a new grouping of reps and members in PCS. We are standing in these elections for the first time as we believe that a new leadership is needed if we are to defend jobs, services and your rights at work.

The government has already cut well over 22,000 jobs with more to come. The jobs that remain are becoming more and more routine, undermining job satisfaction and morale. They are destroying local services to the public and preparing to hand over more work to the private sector.

The government plans cuts in our living standards with below inflation pay increases for public sector workers. We need cross civil service and cross public sector campaigns to end low pay.

We need to take action to defend ourselves – management and the government listen to nothing else. However, isolated days of action – all that the current Left Unity leadership has proposed – will not stop the attacks on members.

Our Pledges:

In our local **Jobcentre Plus** offices, members who want to help the public are increasingly put into a position of conflict with customers. Front-line members feel that they are solely there to police access to JC+ services. If elected, we will organise a national campaign for local access to local services and to scrap the current Standard Operating Models.

We will also prioritise the interests of **Contact Centre** workers in DWP. The level of sickness absence, turnover and bullying in these areas is far higher than elsewhere in DWP. We are against 21st century sweat shops. We will build the union in all Contact Centres. We will seek to negotiate improvements in the working conditions in the Contact Centres, including in job design.

In the **Benefit Delivery Centres**, members face increased pressure at work and demoralising spells of three months or more on telephone teams. Centralised BDCs mean longer journeys to work. We will fight for an increase in the planned 77 BDCs. We will also fight to improve rights at work for BDC members.

The Parliamentary Work and Pensions Committee does not think that the government's child support reforms will work. We will step up the fight to keep **CSA** members in the Civil Service and defend jobs

The destruction of the **Pensions Service** has to be fought. Pension Centre closures and staff cuts continue. We support a ballot of members in the Pension Centres for action against closures and flawed workforce planning procedures.

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Sick - the new sacked?

Because of **management's sickness clampdown**, members are too scared to take time off when unwell. It is cuts in staffing, and pressure of work is making members ill.

If elected, we will fight for:

- An increase to the current eight days sick limit
- Advanced training in disability law for all reps;
- Instant telephone access to advice from employment lawyers for our reps;
- Legal representation for members where the department is breaking the law
- Changes to the policy to protect members from dismissal

What we will fight for:

- **Selective strike action in key strategic areas, including Contact Centres**
- **A national levy to support action and strike pay**
- **A ballot on an overtime ban in DWP while cuts continue**
- **Civil service-wide national days of action against low pay and in defence of jobs**

Our candidates: DWP Group Executive Committee

DWP President

Annette Wright

Vice Presidents

Martin Cavanagh (LU)

Lynne Hows

Christine Hulme

Lee Rock

Gill Whittaker

Assistant Secretaries

Rod Bacon

Marjorie Browne

Dave Burke (LU)

Steve Lloyd

Declan Power

Tony Reay

Sam Hall (LU)

Organiser

Charlie McDonald

Treasurer

Nigel Prendergast

Editor

Nick Diamantis

Group Executive Committee

Andrew Brown

Sue Catten

Miranda Harr

Lynne Hows

Martin Jones (LU)

Bev Laidlaw

Jackie Lederer

Steve Lloyd

Charlie McDonald

John Mahoney

Scott Marshall

David Owens (LU)

Theresa Raftery

Lee Rock

George Thompson

Ann Tuft

Rebecca Wager

Paula Walsh

Tony Wood

Annette Wright

PCS Independent Left recommends support for the Left Unity (LU) candidates indicated.

Our National Executive Committee candidates

National President

Christine Hulme (DWP)

Vice Presidents

Rod Bacon (DWP)

Marjorie Browne (DWP)

John Moloney

NEC

Rod Bacon (DWP)

Marjorie Browne (DWP)

Sue Catten (DWP)

Paul Foster

Liz Hale

Chris Hickey

Lynne Hows (DWP)

Christine Hulme (DWP)

Karen Johnson

Liz Kenny

Martin Kenny

John Moloney

Richard Price

Theresa Raftery (DWP)

Lee Rock (DWP)

Annette Wright (DWP)

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