

# Scottish Socialist Party



# Party

## POSTAL WORKERS VOICE

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# STAND FIRM & UNITED - ESCALATE build solidarity demos and collections

**The Scottish Socialist Party salutes the courage and determination of CWU members, forced to escalate their strike action by hard-nosed bosses who make a mockery of negotiations.**

The strikes were solid the first two days, but senior management have ignored the demands for a negotiated settlement - and publish their plans to scrap Final Salary Pensions. They are out to weaken the union as a protective shield for workers' jobs, pay and conditions. They are out to destroy the entire public service, with their wholesale closures and cuts threatening disaster - whilst TNT and others pile up profits in the rigged market.

So the rolling programme of strikes needs to be made as effective as possible. **The bosses are in no mood for compromise - neither should the CWU.**

The only language these people will understand is the most total stoppage possible of the service for the duration of the strikes.

Royal Mail bosses squander £millions of public funds in adverts and propaganda to try and defeat the

strike. So the Scottish Socialist Party - both within and outwith the CWU - fully supports ideas such as door-to-door leafleting putting the union's case and public marches and rallies to bring the issues to the fuller attention of the public and other workers on strike

**A national demo** in Glasgow or Edinburgh or Gordon Brown's Kirkcaldy could help win public support and pressurise the government and Royal Mail bosses into reversing their brutal cuts to jobs, pay and public service delivery.

And if the current two weeks of action doesn't shift these arrogant axe-wielders, the union will need to seriously examine even further escalation, with street collections, workplace collections and other fund-raising plans to sustain a longer period of strike action.

**Public support is there. Demos, street collections and workplace solidarity tours - which the Scottish Socialist Party is more than willing to help the CWU carry out - could tap into that support and fund the fight to a victory.**

### postal workers' voices

"This two-week action will definitely cause a lot of disruption. But what if management decide to play hardball and suspend people, for example if Delivery Office staff refuse to handle mail delivered by scabbing managers when the drivers are on strike?"

I don't think we should compromise during the course of a strike. It would undermine the whole purpose of the action if we just deliver as normal. Either it's industrial action, or it's not."

#### A Glasgow Unit Rep

"At the very least for the length of time we are on strike we should do the job only as it's meant to be done. We should get everyone to start on time (not earlier), take their



mail break and refuse to use their own cars. Royal Mail threatened legal action against offices in England who did the job by the book, but they backed off when the CWU said go ahead, see you in court.

If we don't take our mail break who knows how long it will be before the bosses come to take that away from us as well. And taking the breaks we're entitled to supports canteen staff."

#### Member of CWU Scotland no 2

"Management plan to impose the later starts. They talk about listening to workers' views but here's the proof they don't. When local negotiations started on this issue there was some recognition that they would hold back some of the mail-sort to let us finish on a Saturday and work a bit later on Mondays. Now Royal Mail say that is impossible. Most offices want Saturday finishes at 2.15pm - what about family life and football season ticket-holders? We need to look at action when they try to impose this."

#### A Falkirk postie

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