

Scottish Socialist

Party



from Richie Venton

SSP national trade union organiser

70 Stanley St, Glasgow G41 1JB

07828 278 093

ssp.glasgow@btconnect.com

Message of support to the striking Tesco drivers

- **Stand firm - you are not alone - build the national action**
- **Boycott Tesco - defend jobs, wages and trade union rights**

Dear brothers/sisters,

The Scottish Socialist Party extends the hand of workers' solidarity to you as you strike against bully-boy bosses.

We will do anything in our powers to build support for your action in our own workplaces and trade unions, and amongst the 'shopping public' by helping you to build the boycott of Tesco called for by the TGWU/UNITE - the union. We condemn the outrageous, arrogant actions of Tesco bosses.

This multi-national, operating in 13 countries, is out for one thing and one thing only - PROFIT!

As you know they made £2.6billion in profits last year - but they hunger for even more, at the expense of *your wages, your conditions, your right to be represented by your democratically chosen trade union - and now at the expense of your jobs.*

It is outrageous that these multi-national profiteers could tell you the outcome of talks with your union would be de-recognition of the union **EVEN BEFORE THE TALKS TOOK PLACE!** It is a national scandal that they're now scuttling round Scotland in taxis, handing out back-dated so-called 90-day redundancy notices.

But stand firm and united, confident that not only do you have justice on your side, but the wider trade union movement and the public. Tesco bosses' methods stink, and they must be

exposed. The SSP will do all we can to help you and your union to expose them and pressurise them into protection of all jobs, terms and conditions, plus recognition of the TGWU as your legitimate union.

Asking the TGWU to sign up to a no-strike deal or else face de-recognition was asking for two versions of the same thing. **Without the right to strike, how could you protect yourselves?**

It is to your great credit that you have defied these bully-boy bosses and their £3-6,000 wage cuts, plus their attempts to smash the union. It is to the credit of Eddie Stobbart drivers that they refused to be bribed into crossing picket lines.

It is to the credit of the union that they are now balloting Tesco drivers right across the UK. These money-grabbing multi-national gangsters cannot be allowed to play the old divide-and-rule trick, attacking Scottish drivers today, the rest of the 5,000 UK Tesco drivers tomorrow. **Unity is our strength - unity in action.**

We wish you success in your strike. You only have to ask and the SSP will organise solidarity collections and boycott campaigns in the unions, workplaces and streets.

Yours in struggle, solidarity and socialism,
Richie Venton, SSP national trade union organiser
Colin Fox, SSP national convener

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