

# Scottish Socialist



# Party

## CIVIL SERVICE WORKERS VOICE

### ALL OUT 31st!

*unite with 280,000 others against jobs slaughter, poverty pay, office closures & privatisation*



The Scottish Socialist Party applauds the determined, united stand taken by PCS members, voting by a two-thirds majority for a strike of 280,000 workers on 31st Jan, followed by a two-week overtime ban.

**We appeal to fellow workers to take an active part in the strike, picket lines, rallies and national demo.**

**And this action is just the start!** It is not just a one-off day of protest.

The government is brutal in its campaign to demonise civil servants in order to slash our jobs, pay and services. So we need a massive campaign that appeals to the wider trade union movement and local communities.

**We need to take advantage of**

**the fact New Labour faces the electorate in May, and mount escalating pressure on them.**

A strike of 280,000 workers in over 200 agencies and departments is a marvellous launch of a further campaign of action - including a solid overtime ban, further demos, and if necessary further national days of united civil service-wide strikes before the May elections.

Join with 280,000 fellow trade unionists in a movement that the government cannot resist! Remember the mere readiness to strike forced them to concede lifetime protection of pensions for all existing staff.

Put the government on the run. Stop the jobs slaughter, poverty pay and privatisation!

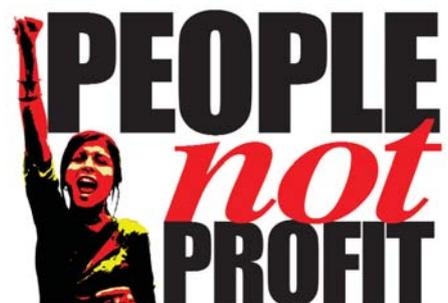
**Put people before profit!**

### reminders of why you are striking!

The overwhelming mandate for strike action is born of fury at the job losses, compulsory redundancies, below-inflation pay offers, failure by the government to make progress on national pay, and rampant outsourcing and privatisation of services by New Labour's new Thatcherites.

- Labour has slashed 36,000 civil service jobs - but has a target of 104,000 - plus demands 20% budget cuts in all departments.
- Labour refuse to give assurances on compulsory redundancies - because they can't, unless they reverse their cuts programme!!
- One in four PCS members earn below £15,340
  - Unequal pay is rife - with discrepancies of up to £5,000 between departments for the same job - and female workers on average earn 21% less than male colleagues
  - Pay offers below 2% mean pay cuts when inflation is 3.9%
  - Workers treated as mindless robots through LEAN and its many equivalents
- New Labour has wasted £7.2billion on private consultants - paying some of them £2,600 a day
- Office closures, madcap centralisation and call centres all means worse services and job insecurity
- Privatisation and outsourcing is rampant as Labour punts it as the way to fill the gaps left by their own maniacal cuts.

**Strike action CAN defeat these threats to jobs, pay, conditions and services - especially as Labour faces the May elections.**



**JOIN THE SSP PCS GROUP ring 0141 429 8200**

# Scottish Socialist Party - civil service workers VOICE

“The result of the vote clearly shows that civil servants in all departments, not just my own, (DWP) are angry about the job cuts, and the governments crazy target driven push towards making public services less effective for everyone. The result reflects what I’ve been told by other work colleagues: that the governments plans are ill conceived, and badly executed.

The Scottish Socialist Party has been resolute in its support of civil service workers. I know I appreciate their commitment to supporting ordinary workers, and I know others in my workplace appreciate that the SSP has always championed our fight to save public services.”

**Gordon Thomson, PCS rep DWP Glasgow Pension Service**

“£7.2 billion to private consultants in the civil service last year and the public are being ripped off by men in pin-striped suits. They’re called New Labour and the CBI. Support the strike action for properly funded public services supporting the community.”

**John Jamieson, PCS Branch Secretary, Registers of Scotland**

“Cumbernauld management claim the 16 Nov announcement will not impact here. PCS members should not be duped. The Workforce Change Programme is exactly that. The only concrete proposal the union received is to close 200 post rooms and use Cumbernauld as one of 8 centralised units. All work areas will change and the discredited LEAN process implemented. More work will move if the employers get their way. Our only defence is to support the union and the strike.”

**Davina McNeill, PCS branch secretary, Cumbernauld HMRC**

“Our terms and conditions are gradually being eroded - sick leave, attitudes and behaviours, performance development, conduct and discipline, and term time. Now they are targeting flexible working. Members need to stand together and strike. SSP activists in PCS across Scotland are fighting to defend our conditions.

**Be part of the union, be part of the SSP”**

**John Miller, Cumbernauld HMRC**



“SSP members in our union call on PCS to not just campaign against job losses, pay cuts and privatisation, but against New Labour’s Thatcherite policies. We need to put an alternative vision, without war, without nuclear weapons, where we have jobs with dignity, decent rates of pay and job satisfaction.

**It’s a question of what kind of society we want.**

Do we want £76billion wasted on Trident missiles over the next 30 years, or invested in jobs, people and services?

The Tax Justice Network estimated that from £25billion to £88billion is uncollected in tax from big business. If instead of shedding 25,000 jobs in Revenue & Customs these jobs were retained, and even a small proportion directed to collecting

"Since EDS took over a lot of staff have been cut and not replaced, and what has been taken on are inexperienced agency staff.

Pay has been eroded since privatisation. We are now 13 per cent behind former colleagues doing similar work, and we all know civil servants are not well paid. Most of us are on £14,200, which is poverty pay this day and age, a shocking wage. We want a framework to raise all to a decent threshold, on a par with our MOD colleagues.

We were made promises when privatised but lost out. Of course we would support other workers facing any similar situation, or facing privatisation. We are living proof that privatisation doesn’t work."

**PCS reps in EDS, Glasgow MOD**

## VOTE SSP ON May 3rd

**The SSP has been building solidarity with PCS members. We were instrumental in proposing civil service-wide strike action.**

**The SSP sides with workers against the employers, for people not profit, for public services not private greed. We are Scotland’s trade union party.**

### On May 3rd vote SSP for:

- £8 minimum wage for all over 16, no exemptions. Equal pay for women.
  - a shorter working week, without loss of pay
    - massive public investment in NHS, education, public transport, welfare - not in war and nuclear weapons
  - free public transport: fight poverty & pollution
  - public ownership and democratic control of public services, transport, gas, electricity, telecomms, major industry, banks, N Sea oil
  - an independent, democratic socialist Scotland
  - socialist MSPs on a skilled worker’s wage
- Join the SSP - the party of workers.**

even £25billion, public transport could be free, PFI hospitals made history and a decent national pay system to end these outrageous anomalies. And the £88billion would make a colossal difference to society.

The SSP want the rich to pay their share. New Labour’s craven attitude to the rich means business barons and supermarket billionaires in the government.

**That’s the stark difference, and one of many reasons why PCS members should join the SSP – the party with many PCS members already, the party with an unrivalled track record in struggle, solidarity and socialism.”**

**Gerry McMahon, DWP and PCS Scottish Committee**

**Join the SSP - the party of public ownership, solidarity and socialism**

name..... phone .....

address.....

.....email.....

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