

#PeoplesPost

NATIONAL POSTAL WORKERS DAY

MONDAY 14
DEC 2015

THE

PEOPLE'S

POST

CWU
The communications union

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THE PEOPLE'S POST: WHY IT MATTERS TO YOU

Dear Colleague,

The CWU has launched a major campaign: 'The People's Post'.

The campaign is about protecting and enhancing postal worker's jobs and postal services – by continuing to look at ways of countering the ongoing threat posed by rigged competition and a fully privatised Royal Mail.

These external pressures often lay behind many of the difficult issues you face in your workplace. By campaigning on our views of how the future of the industry should be shaped – we also help address the mounting pressures in your workplace.

WHY IS THE CAMPAIGN BEING LAUNCHED NOW?

Privatisation is not the end of the debate – It's important to remember that although Royal Mail is in private hands – the universal postal service we provide to 29 million addresses (public and businesses) six days a week, 52 weeks a year is still protected by legislation. The longer we maintain these daily services, the more we can protect your jobs. Our campaign is focused around the following message – "the ownership of Royal Mail has been privatised – but the services we provide still belong to the people – it's still the people's post".

Tackling unfair competition is a constant battle – Following Whistl's demise, the regulator should have recognised that their experiment on competition failed. Instead, it launched a fresh assault and they are currently consulting on new ways to make competition dogma work. We expect the results of this consultation to be announced around March/April 2016 – it's the right time to raise these issues again with politicians and the public.

The Campaign will help sustain our Legal Protections and improve pay, terms and conditions – The regulator claims Royal Mail is still inefficient and that the agreements it reached with CWU on pay and protections makes it more inefficient. The regulator has overstepped its remit. Our campaign will highlight publicly that it's right for postal workers – and all workers – to have a company like Royal Mail who continually set the high benchmark on pay in their sector, rather than being dragged down by others. The timing is particularly relevant given we are approaching the next pay round.

THE CAMPAIGN OBJECTIVES

The campaign has a number of specific objectives as follows:

- New and stronger legislation to safeguard daily deliveries.
- A complete overhaul of the regulator's role and a limit to competition.
- An end to insecure employment models across the postal sector – ending Ofcom's push for a race to the bottom.
- New innovative products and services for customers and an enhanced role for postal workers in communities.
- The establishment of a 'workers' trust', giving staff a collective voice to rival private hedge funds and investors.
- The re-nationalisation of Royal Mail (a Labour Party commitment) and reintegration of the Post Office network.

NEXT CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES

National Postal Workers' Day 14th December – We are hoping to make the day a celebration of the role postal workers play in communities across the UK and through this are also aiming to raise awareness of the People's Post campaign. We aim to maximise media coverage and we will also be pushing the event on social media throughout the day.

The launching of an online petition in support of the People's Post campaign objectives – This is being done to coincide with National Postal Workers' Day and our ultimate aim is to achieve 100,000 signatures which will trigger a fresh debate in Parliament on the future of UK postal services, the threat of competition and in particular the regulator's role.

Major Campaign events – At the start of October the CWU held the biggest event in our history with approximately 8,000 people attending in Manchester Cathedral at a combined People's Post and Anti-austerity rally. In the New Year, we will be focusing on similar public events in specific regions.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We need your support to make this campaign successful and we are asking you to directly engage in the following activities.

National Postal Workers Day 14th December – You will have noticed that the reverse of this communication is a poster publicising National Postal Workers' Day. We are asking you to take pictures with the poster of yourself, your office, customers on your round (particularly any celebrities) or come up with your own innovative ideas to publicise the day, the importance of your role and our services.

When you have taken the picture(s) **share them on Monday 14th December** through either twitter using **#peoplespost** or the union's facebook page and facebook pages of Dave Ward and Terry Pullinger. You can also email them to **peoplespost@cwu.org**. There will be prizes for the best individual, office and the most innovative pictures.

Nationally, we have already secured support from high profile figures – we want the membership to do likewise.

The online petition – You can help us reach the 100,000 figure by signing the petition via the link below and sharing it with your colleagues, customers, friends and families via email, text and social media **www.supportthepeoplespost.co.uk**

In the coming weeks and months we are committed to building our campaign with further initiatives and we will let you know these in due course.

The Postal Executive are also looking at ways to re-focus the whole union's efforts on addressing your workplace issues and the Deputy General Secretary (Postal) will be communicating further on this.

THIS UNION BELONGS TO THE MEMBERS. THIS IS YOUR CAMPAIGN. PLEASE SUPPORT THE PEOPLE'S POST.



Dave Ward
General Secretary



Terry Pullinger
Deputy General Secretary (Postal)