

Circular 6/2010 – Industrial Action

Dear Branch Secretary

Head Office Officials have consulted with members about whether the Association should join our colleague Civil Service Unions in taking industrial action to protect pay and pensions. The last of the AGMs have now been held and the Executive Committee met yesterday (1 March 2010) to consider the outcome of the consultative process.

The Executive Committee, after careful consideration of the views of members, has decided to ballot members on the taking of industrial action. This action will involve:

- Not carrying out the work associated with vacant posts
- Not co-operating with the Transformation Agenda
- No new cross-stream reporting arrangements
- If an AHCPs member is suspended for taking industrial action the other members in that Department or Office agree to support the suspended member by taking strike action.

Ballot papers and accompanying letters outlining the proposal in more detail will issue next week to Branch Secretaries.

In relation to action currently being undertaken by the CPSU/PSEU/IMPACT the following is advice previously notified:

- **Members should continue to do their work as normal but should not undertake the work of CPSU/IMPACT/PSEU members.**
- If instructed by senior management to do the work normally carried out by CPSU/IMPACT/PSEU members, the member(s) should immediately contact their Branch Secretary or Association Head Office.
- Members are also advised to conduct themselves in a manner which is not injurious to the dispute.

Specifically in relation to PQs, reps, speeches, adjournment debates etc the following is the advice:

If an AP or a PO normally prepares the answer to a PQ, speech etc, then there is no reason why that can't continue. If the material is usually prepared by a CPSU or PSEU member, then the AHCPs member should not carry out this work. In this context a note can be put on the PQ, speech etc to the effect that this material cannot be provided because of industrial action.

Please circulate this note to all members.

Regards

Dave Thomas
General Secretary
2 March 2010