

As courts back bosses' desperate move to thwart strikes...

DON'T DELAY! PREPARE TO DELIVER SOLID STRIKE

ROYAL MAIL HAVE MANAGED to grab some breathing space by winning their injunction at the high court last week. Up to this point in the dispute the CWU has been firmly in the driving seat, with the bosses on the back foot. This is now a critical juncture for the CWU, and there's still everything to play for.

The hundreds-strong demonstration this week after the national briefing was a good initiative to keep in fighting spirit and show Royal Mail we're not going anywhere. The union cannot allow the brilliant momentum built up so far to slip.

That means recognising that Royal Mail's 'mediation' is in bad faith, and the potential for the bosses to undermine the CWU's so far solid campaign.

It means actively building now—gate meetings, demonstrations, days of action and calls for solidarity—for hard hitting strikes. The union should name the strike dates quickly at the end of the mediation period in early December.

Royal Mail were able to win the injunction due to a clause in the 2013 Agenda for Growth agreement that accepts a five week 'mediation' period before strikes. And, let's face it—it's never a surprise that the courts take the side of the bosses over workers!

Strength

The CWU is right to point out how disingenuous Royal Mail are about the mediation and continuing talks.

The injunction was a desperate move in response to the strength of the union.

Royal Mail may have had the legal upper hand, but they are attacking pensions and undermining that very agreement. So it is the height of hypocrisy that they are using it to stop strikes to defend those conditions.

But for many members it has thrown up a frustrating and unexpected delay in what has otherwise been a very impressive campaign driven by a confident leadership.



The lively march this week by CWU Royal Mail reps

The CWU needs to strike unless there is a full victory. Royal Mail are playing games with our futures here.

Solid strikes can beat them.

Many are watching this campaign, and there is a huge groundswell of support.

Shareholders

Across the movement, unions are looking to learn from the CWU's incredible ballot result that smashed the Tories' Trade Union Act thresholds.

From the front page of the Daily Mirror, to the Independent, Royal Mail bosses have been exposed, with shock headlines about shareholders making £500,000 a day!

Post workers are told we can't even have a decent pension or a shorter working week! It's clear the money is there. If it doesn't materialise, it's only another reason why Royal Mail should be renationalised.

Jeremy Corbyn has come out strongly in support of the CWU's dispute.

If the union called a national demonstration in support of the strike campaign and for renationalisation, with Corbyn speaking and a call out to other trade unions it could be massive and really help to ratchet up the pressure on the bosses.

Mobilise

If the CWU moves quickly to call the strike dates, hits Royal Mail hard and shows that the union will mobilise not only its own members to escalate, but the wider movement too, this fight can win.

Stand Up To Racism conference

Sat 21 Oct, 10.30am to 4.30pm

Friends Meeting House, London, NW1 2BJ

With Diane Abbott, Dave Ward CWU & others

Book up at standuptoracism.org.uk

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