

**Dear Colleague,**

## **ROYAL MAIL DISPUTE: TALKS RESUME**

We would like to again thank members for their continuing support.

Talks with Royal Mail resumed yesterday evening and are continuing today. The union remains committed to achieving a negotiated settlement but we have advised Royal Mail that in line with legal requirements notice will be served on further industrial action. The details will be publicised in due course.

The CWU Press release issued on Wednesday evening is attached. The union's press release was cleared with TUC General Secretary Brendan Barber as an accurate statement of the position. Royal Mail did not clear their media statements, which again contained bizarre and untrue claims of division between the union negotiators and the Postal Executive.

It remains the case that all decisions on the conduct of the dispute and the approach to negotiations have been taken unanimously. There is no "split".

The factual position is that the CWU team tabled a proposal on Wednesday morning which if accepted by Royal Mail would have enabled a pause in industrial action. Royal Mail did not respond to that proposal.

Thanks to your continuing support we are able to continue to work for a resolution to the dispute. We will keep you advised of progress.

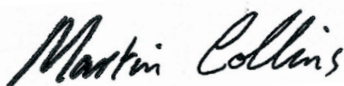
*Yours sincerely,*



**Billy Hayes**  
General Secretary



**Dave Ward**  
Deputy General Secretary (Postal)



**Martin Collins**  
Assistant Secretary



**Ray Ellils**  
Assistant Secretary



**Bob Gibson**  
Assistant Secretary



**Terry Pullinger**  
Assistant Secretary

# PRESS RELEASE

## STRIKES CONTINUE

Dave Ward, Deputy General Secretary says:

“Due to the involvement of Brendan Barber as an independent third party and because for the first time, Royal Mail’s Managing Director, Mark Higson was directly involved in negotiations we have had the most useful and productive discussions over the last 3 days since the dispute commenced.

Earlier today we tabled a proposal as part of the process that reflected the progress made in negotiations over the last few days.

Had that proposal been agreed this would have enabled a period of calm and allowed further talks through ACAS with the intention of concluding a full and final agreement.

At this point of time, we have not had confirmation as to whether our proposal is acceptable and therefore the strikes previously announced for the next few days will take place.

We respect the confidentiality of the process currently managed by Brendan Barber, General Secretary of the TUC, and we are not prepared to comment on the detail of those discussions or our proposal.

This series of strikes and future strikes can still be avoided and we remain available for discussions at any time, including tonight. We remain committed to reaching an agreed resolution”.