

FIGHT FOR A FRESH START

FIGHT FOR A MODERN AND SUCCESSFUL ROYAL MAIL

OPEN LETTER TO CWU MEMBERS,

On Friday July 17th, the CWU is holding a national day of action, including strikes, other forms of industrial action, protests and rallies in pursuit of our campaign for a fresh start for our industry and this letter sets out the reasons why we are urging you to join the fight.

Following our union's successful campaign to persuade the government not to privatise Royal Mail, the crucial task for all of us now is to focus on building the modern and successful Royal Mail that we all want to see. But, sadly, the current management of Royal Mail will not allow us to do this.

The 2007 Pay and Modernisation Agreement set out a phased approach by which the CWU and Royal Mail, together and by agreement, could work together to introduce the changes that our industry needs.

But, after the successful implementation of Phases One, Two and Three, Royal Mail has now walked away from this agreement, by ignoring Phase Four and imposing change by diktat.

Managers are now unilaterally imposing route revisions, shift changes, driving up workloads and slashing jobs, effectively tearing up the 2007 agreement and increasingly ignoring joint negotiating procedures to the extent that Royal Mail is effectively trying to de-recognise your union.

We, as a union, are actively in favour of the modernisation of our industry – but Royal Mail's current strategy is not modernisation. It is a panic-driven programme – illogical cuts to meet irrational savings targets.

While all this is going on, Royal Mail is stubbornly refusing to respond to our positive proposals for real modernisation, proposals which defend our members' jobs, protect rights at work and put public service first.

Time and time again we have urged the company to halt, to sit down with us and talk through our ideas.

But, time and time again, the people currently running Royal Mail have ignored us, refused to talk to us and stubbornly carried on with what we can only describe as the wanton destruction of this great public service.

And therefore, we currently have two options:

1. Accept Royal Mail's destruction of our industry, non-stop cuts, sackings and virtual derecognition of the CWU.

Or

2. Defend our industry, fight the cuts, resist the sackings and fight for a fresh start.

Branch Secretary

**JOIN THE CWU NATIONAL DAY
OF ACTION ON JULY 17TH**

www.cwu.org

CWU
The communications union