



# Work in the NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

November 2011/11

**MAKE YOUR VOTE COUNT**  
**Time to fight back – Vote YES in GMB strike ballot. Ballot is now open**

**WE MUST KEEP THE PRESSURE ON BY VOTING “YES” IN THE STRIKE BALLOT**

The Government met with the GMB and other unions yesterday, the government put forward an improved set of proposals on public sector pensions. This gives some more negotiating room for the talks on the NHS, Local Government, Civil Service and Teacher pension scheme talks. However, there is still no change in the plan to increase contributions and raise retirement ages, or to lower the value of the pension you receive in retirement.

GMB welcomes the fact that government is beginning to get serious and we believe this is in response to our industrial action ballots.

**It is therefore vital that we maintain the pressure to build on this movement to try and negotiate successful outcomes. We will be pressing hard in these negotiations and it is vital that everybody votes “YES” in the industrial action ballot to strengthen our negotiating position.**

**YOU CAN DO SOMETHING  
SUPPORT GMB ON NOVEMBER 30th**



**GET READY TO VOTE  
GMB PENSION BALLOT IS NOW OPEN**

The government is attacking public sector pensions.

- Do you object to paying more to pay for the banking crisis?
- Do you oppose having to work longer for your pension?
- Do you think it's wrong to have the pension you expect cut without your permission?

If your answer to these questions is 'yes' then.....

<b>VOTE YES</b>	<b>X</b>
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Join online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)



## **What You Can Do**

Ballot papers have been issued to your home address. It is imperative that members use this opportunity to make it clear to government that their pension matters and is worth defending so make sure you use your vote.

In addition:

- ❖ Talk to your colleagues and make sure they understand the threat to their retirement.
- ❖ Keep up to date by checking the GMB website regularly:  
[www.gmb.org.uk/pspc](http://www.gmb.org.uk/pspc)
- ❖ Not in the GMB? Want to vote?

Join online at: [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)

**Ensure your membership details are correct by registering with GMB online:**

<https://www.gmb.org.uk/login>

## **Why Join?**

GMB is Britain's fastest growing trade union. GMB is a campaigning trade union; its job is to get the best deal for GMB members at work and is committed to building a strong organisation in every GMB workplace, and so help make every workplace safer. Whoever you are, wherever you work: joining GMB is the right decision.

### **GMB Membership Subscriptions:**

**1<sup>st</sup> October 2011 rates for GMB membership will be as follows.**

Full time- Grade 1 = £2.65 per week (£11.49 per month)

Part time - Grade 2 = £1.50 per week (£6.50 per month)



## **THE TRUTH:**

- GMB wants negotiation not imposition of any changes. Government needs to undertake a constructive meaningful dialogue and negotiate a fair settlement to your Pension.
- Half of NHS pensioners receive less than £4,000 a year.
- The NHS pension scheme already collects £2billion a year more in contributions than it pays out in pension benefits – this money is given to the Treasury, now the Chancellor wants more than £1billion in addition.

## **GMB'S APPROACH TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION:**

All GMB members working in the NHS are asked to exercise their right to vote in the ballot. All members regardless of job status need to have their say on the proposed reforms. NHS Professional Staff need to vote in the ballot regardless of the cover arrangements that will be organised for the day of action which is planned for the 30<sup>th</sup> November. A statement from NMC and HPC members have been issued to regions see extracts below:

NMC "we recognise that many nurses and midwives are members of trade unions and respect their democratic right to express support for their trade unions and to lobby on a wide range of issues. This does of course include their right to support and take part in strike action"

HPC "A situation in which a registrant who is involved in planned, organised industrial action is very unlikely to give rise to concerns about their continued registration"

In addition the staff side have established a Pensions Campaign group and issued the following statement after the launch:

"The unions remain committed to pension negotiations and expect the Government to reciprocate and not set out unrealistic timetables or ultimatums. One of the clear aims of the campaign group is to ensure that patient safety remains paramount. The group will look at all issues relating to the pensions negotiations, including the possibility of industrial action in the event that the talks fail to make progress".

## **CONCLUSION**

1. All GMB NHS Workers including all professional staff are asked to exercise their vote in the ballot.
2. If you have any concerns relating to the Industrial Action please contact your local GMB Rep or office.
3. If you don't receive a ballot paper speak to your local GMB Rep or Office.

Join online at [www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)



# HOW DO I JOIN? JOIN ONLINE AT [WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN](http://WWW.GMB.ORG.UK/JOIN)

Or just fill in parts 1, 2, 3 or 4 in the form below. Hand the form to your local GMB organiser or post it to: GMB, FREEPOST (WC2268), London SW19 4YY (you do not need a stamp), tel 020 8947 3131.

If you have any questions contact your local GMB office, email [info@gmb.org.uk](mailto:info@gmb.org.uk) or visit

[www.gmb.org.uk/join](http://www.gmb.org.uk/join)

FOR UNION USE ONLY Section   Branch No   Membership No            Date of joining    As

## GMB MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

### 1 TELL US ABOUT YOU

Surname  First name  Title  Mrs/Miss/Ms/Mr Date of birth

Home address  Home tel  Email

Postcode  Mobile  I agree to abide by GMB rules Signature

Date    We ask for your ethnic origins as part of our equal opportunities policy of improving services to all members  
Bangladeshi /Black African /Black Caribbean /Black British /Chinese /Indian /Irish /Pakistani /White /Other:

### 2 TELL US ABOUT YOUR JOB

Employer  Store number

Store  Your job

Address where you work  Postcode  How many hours a week do you work?

Pay No

Work tel  Pay Date

### 3 CHOOSE EITHER AUTHORISATION OF DEDUCTION OF YOUR TRADE UNION CONTRIBUTIONS FROM YOUR PAY

Section 68, Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidated) Act 1992 as amended

- I authorise my employer to deduct from my pay each week/month the sum of

£

or other amounts as may be fixed by the GMB from time to time.

- Please start the deductions immediately and pay the amounts to the GMB.
- I note that this agreement may be cancelled by one month's notice in writing.
- I give permission to my employer to notify the GMB of any future change of address.

Cash

Signed

Date

### 4 OR INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT



Please fill in the form and send to GMB, 22-24 Worpole Road, London SW19 4DD

Name and full postal address of your Bank or Building Society branch

Originator's Identification Number

9 7 4 3 3 0

To the Manager of  Bank/Building Society

Address

Postcode

For GMB official use only. This is not part of the instruction to your Bank/Building Society. If your A/C number is not available fill in your address below.

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (office use only)

#### Instructions to your Bank or Building Society.

Please pay GMB Direct Debits from the account detailed in this instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with GMB and, if so, details will be passed electronically to my Bank/Building Society.

Signature(s)

Date

Banks or Building Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account.