



Work in the NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE

DAY OF ACTION

DAY OF ACTION 30/11/11

GMB MEMBERS VOTE 4:1 IN FAVOUR OF STRIKE ACTION TO DEFEND PENSIONS. DAY OF ACTION – 30TH NOVEMBER 2011. PLEASE SUPPORT

Message from the GMB Public Services National Secretary – Brian Strutton

GMB members working in the NHS, local government and the civil service across England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland have voted by more than 4:1 in favour of strike action to defend pensions.

This strong result gives authority to call on GMB members balloted to take part in lawful strike action on 30 November alongside millions of other public sector workers

The message to government is this: their demands are unreasonable and they need to put a better offer forward. But our members resolve is clear; we are prepared to strike to defend our pensions.

Thank you for your fantastic support

NHS workers are facing a massive assault on the pensions that they have paid into throughout their working lives, spent caring for patients.

Pensions are an important part of NHS workers' terms and conditions of employment, but NHS staff are being told that that they have to:

1. Accept that hundreds and in some cases thousands of pounds will be stripped out of their take-home pay to swell Treasury funds
2. Work longer to receive their full pension, with the retirement age eventually hitting 68 years old and possibly going even higher
3. Accept that, even after paying more and working longer, they are likely to receive a lower pension.

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk/join



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 wins over £50 million each year for its members who have been injured or made ill at work. This service is free to GMB members as part of their membership package.

GMB members work in every part of the UK economy doing every type of job imaginable including your Sector. GMB members are men and women, full and part time, young and old and are made up of a wide and diverse cross section of our society.

Every day of the year GMB Workplace Representatives are solving members' problems and providing expert guidance and advice to members at work on a range of issues including:

- hours of work
- pay
- work life balance
- job security
- pensions
- health & safety
- legal advice
- how to deal with bullying and harassment
- equality at work
- disciplinary and grievance matters

GMB has almost 25,000 GMB trained Workplace Representatives - members who voluntarily give their time to negotiate, advise and represent work colleagues who are GMB members. Backing up these GMB Workplace Representatives is a network of full time GMB Organisers and specialists who are experts in the world of work.

PENSION MYTH BUSTING

At a time when almost everyone is feeling the pinch and struggling to make ends meet, it is hard to take some of the misinformation being peddled on pensions by the Government. Also, much of the press are trying to persuade people to back the changes by spreading four big myths:

Myth 1: Public sector workers get 'gold-plated' pensions - REALITY: The median occupational pension for a woman working in the NHS is £3,500 a year.

Myth 2: It's not fair that public sector staff have decent pensions when lots of private sector staff don't - REALITY: Everyone deserves a decent pension when they retire. However, the assault on public sector pensions will do nothing to improve private sector pensions. The average occupational pension in UK = £8,740 compared to the average public sector pension = £5,600.

Myth 3: Everyone needs to make sacrifices to pay off the national debt - REALITY: the bankers caused the global financial crisis that sent the deficit rocketing. Yet banking bosses continue to rake in the bonuses while ordinary working people are told to pay the price.

Myth 4: Pension costs are out of control - REALITY: NHS staffs pay into their pension scheme throughout their working lives. In fact, in 2010, nearly £2bn more was paid into the scheme than retired NHS staff received in pension payments. The NHS scheme more than covers its costs and actually generates a surplus for the Treasury to spend.

DO NOT BELIEVE THE MYTHS!

IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER JOIN THE GMB TODAY ONLINE: www.gmb.org.uk/join AND TOGETHER WE CAN ALL FIGHT FOR DECENT PENSIONS AND DIGNITY IN RETIREMENT.

Join online at www.gmb.org.uk/join



HOW DO I JOIN? JOIN ONLINE AT 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 (WC226B), 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 or visit

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

To the Manager of Bank/Building Society

Address Postcode

Name(s) of account holder(s)

Bank/Building Society Account Number

Bank/Building Society Sort Code

Reference number (office use only)

Originator's Identification Number

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.

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

Some or Holding Societies may not accept Direct Debit instructions for some types of account