

No. 334/24

16<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**TO: ALL BRANCHES**

Dear Colleagues,

## **RESULT OF THE CWU POLITICAL FUND REVIEW BALLOT 2024**

Branches will be aware that the CWU's Political Fund Review Ballot closed on the 15th October 2024. Following receipt of the attached report from the Independent Scrutineer it is confirmed that the results of the ballot are as follows:

Ballot papers despatched:	161,887
Ballot papers returned:	26,099
Spoilt papers:	40
Total number of papers to be counted	26,059
Votes cast YES:	20,777 (79.7%)
Votes cast NO:	5,282 (20.3%)

This represents a 16.1% return

Branches should ensure that the results of this ballot are brought to the urgent attention of their members through the usual channels.

A free copy of the Independent Scrutineers report is available on request from: *Tony Kearns, Senior Deputy General Secretary, CWU HQ.*

Please see the below notice, in compliance with our obligations under the law.

**CWU Formal Notice**

**EXEMPTION FROM CONTRIBUTING TO THE POLITICAL FUND- Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (as amended)**

A resolution approving the furtherance of political objects within the meaning of the above Act as an object of the union has been adopted by a ballot under the Act. Any payments in the furtherance of those objects will be made out of a separate fund, the political fund of the union.

Every member of the union has a right to be exempt from contributing to that fund. A form of exemption notice can be obtained by or on behalf of any member either by application at, or by post from, the head office or any branch office of the union or from the Certification Office for Trade Unions and Employers Associations, by emailing [info@certoffice.org](mailto:info@certoffice.org). This form, when filled in, or a written request to the like effect should be handed or sent to the General Secretary.

**Northern Ireland**

Northern Ireland members are exempt from contributing to the Political Fund unless they give written notice that they wish to do so. A form of notice indicating the wish to contribute to the Political Fund may be obtained from any branch in Northern Ireland.

In compliance with Article 59 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Northern Ireland) Order 1995, members of branches in Northern Ireland are not required to make any contribution to the Political Fund unless they:

- a) have given notice in writing of their willingness to contribute to the fund; and
- b) have not notified the Union in writing of withdrawal of such notice

A copy of the full text of the CWU political rule is available from the General Secretary's Department. To request a copy or if you have any further questions, please contact the General Secretary's department at [dlynch@cwu.org](mailto:dlynch@cwu.org).

Yours Sincerely,



Tony Kearns  
**Senior Deputy General Secretary**

## COMMUNICATION WORKERS UNION (CWU)

### BALLOT ON RETENTION OF A POLITICAL FUND

CLOSE OF VOTING: FIRST POST ON TUESDAY 15 OCTOBER 2024

**QUESTION: THE RESOLUTION is that the political objects set out in section 72 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 be approved as an object of the Union. Do you vote in favour of the Resolution?**

RESULT	Number of votes	% of valid vote
Yes	20,777	79.7%
No	5,282	20.3%

Number of ballot papers distributed:	161,887
Total number of ballot papers returned:	26,099
Turnout:	16.1%
Number of papers found to be invalid (blank/spoiled):	40
Total number of valid papers to be counted:	26,059

The ballot papers will be stored in accordance with the requirements of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (as amended by the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993).

As Scrutineers appointed in accordance with Section 75 of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992 (as amended by Schedule 1 of the Trade Union Reform and Employment Rights Act 1993), we are satisfied as to each of the matters specified in subsection 78(2) with regard to the ballot. The following points should also be noted:

- 1) The person appointed under section 77A to carry out the storage and counting of voting papers was Civica Election Services.
- 2) The person appointed under section 77A to carry out the distribution of the voting papers was Civica Election Services.
- 3) A copy of the register of voters (as at the relevant date) was examined in accordance with section 78(2A)(i). The examination took place at our own instance and did not reveal any matter that should be brought to the attention of the trade union.

We draw your attention to sections 78(4), 78(5) and 78(6). 78(4) requires that a copy of this report be published and made available to all members of the union within a three-month period from today. This, however, does not mean that every member must be notified individually.

## CIVICA ELECTION SERVICES