

Monday, February 20, 2012

A note about the Ford Dagenham contract vote results

Dear Greg,

I thought I should let you know the bad news. The "official postal strike ballot" - which is how things have to be done here since Margaret Thatcher's time, did not give the same result as the in-plant consultative ballots in November which went for rejection of Ford's offer of 2-tier, and degrading of pensions and rejected the carrot (bribe) of a 6% pay rise and 20% increase in pension lump sum (more money to take on retirement).

The result of the postal ballot was a shock to us at Dagenham - but unfortunately we don't get a breakdown of the voting. The national figure was 70% accepted the offer and 30% rejected it. Still, that's still 30% who voted to stand up against 2-tier and pension cuts and for the pensioners who are already out there. Also, there is certainly a fiddle going on - because many people (at least 10% of the union members at Dagenham) did not get ballot papers. They have sent a complaint to the commission but we doubt that will get the vote declared null and void, as it should be!

I will send a note to SOS. And keep you informed of any more positive developments - we live in hope and to fight another day!

best wishes, Anna Hunt