

Nottinghamshire UNISON
39-41 Loughborough Road
West Bridgford
Nottingham
NG2 7LJ

2 December 2010

Dear Member,

Indicative Ballot for possible Industrial Action

Please find enclosed an indicative ballot for you to complete and return to the Branch office by 17 December.

The Branch is strongly recommending that the only option available to us now is Industrial Action to defend services – Notts County Council are proposing to abolish the Welfare Rights Service, sell off all the Council run Elderly Persons Homes, close and/or drastically cut funding to the Supported Employment Services, Mental Health Day Centres, the Library Service, Services for Children with Special Educational Needs, Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities, Day Care Services. They intend to make 3000 staff redundant and sell off practically all but a handful of Council buildings.

We expressed our anger at these proposals at the massive lobby of the County Council on 21 October, but Councillor Cutts is clearly not prepared to listen to staff or service users.

If the indicative ballot goes in favour, we would then request a formal ballot in the early New Year, for “discontinuous” strike action. We would plan to have the first day of strike action on 24 February when the full council will set the budget for the next 12 months.

If we are on strike that day just think of the show of strength that we could muster at County Hall, together with all the Service User groups and campaigning groups, to say NO to CUTTS!

This fight is not about one or two jobs being lost and a small reduction in services, no, this attack by Councillor Cutts is about destroying all public services in our local communities. She’s not interested in local communities and the local services that those very communities rely upon. This is a fight for the future of Nottinghamshire, the services that are provided and the staff that provide them.

We have tried talking to the Council and we have tried working to rule but now they leave us with no alternative if we are to stop the complete destruction of services that we all need.

Vote YES in the indicative ballot.

Martin Sleath

Martin Sleath,
Joint Branch Secretary

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