

Date: 1 April 2022

NIPSA BALLOTS ITS MEMBERS FOR INDUSTRIAL ACTION AT THE NORTHERN IRELAND ASSEMBLY

NIPSA, the largest Northern Ireland based Trade Union, has today served notice of its intention to ballot its members employed by the Northern Ireland Assembly Commission for industrial action in a dispute over Pay and Working from Home.

A ballot for industrial action, up to and including strike action, will be issued to NIPSA members working for the Northern Ireland Assembly on 8 April 2022 in relation to ongoing disputes on 2021 Pay and the introduction of a new Working from Home Policy.

Speaking on this, Dooley Harte, NIPSA Official with responsibility for members employed by the Northern Ireland Assembly, stated: –

“Our members at the Northern Ireland Assembly have taken the difficult decision to give notice to their employer that NIPSA will conduct a ballot to allow our members to vote for the right to take industrial action to achieve our aims relating to 2021 Pay and also the introduction of a new Working from Home policy.”

“Despite the huge increase in the cost of living, with inflation running at over 5% and predicted to rise even higher, management have imposed a 2% increase and have failed to address all of the issues set out in our pay claim. Rather than rewarding staff who have kept our politics functioning during a global pandemic, management have imposed a derisory increase that will not in any way help their staff to cope with the increasing costs of food and energy bills.”

“Coupled to this, management are also seeking to force staff to return to Parliament Buildings without good business reason and have sought to impose limits on working from home despite many staff having successfully done so, productively and effectively over the last two years.”

Mr Harte continued: -

“Our members have decided that action is needed on both of these issues to bring the employer back to the table. We will be encouraging members to support a vote for strike action and action short of strike action.”

The ballot for industrial action will open on Friday, 8 April 2022 and run until Friday, 29 April 2022.

ENDS

For further information, please contact Dooley Harte at dooley.harte@nipsa.org.uk or call 07793782465

Carmel Gates General Secretary

Carmel Gates Rúnaí Ginearálta

Headquarters

Ceanncheathrú

54 Wellington Park,
Belfast
BT9 6DP

54 Páirc Wellington,
Béal Feirste
BT9 6DP

