

**SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:**

- Latest on pay negotiations
- Lottery
- Caseload on the increase!
- Moved Department or office?

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ISSUE 4

AUGUST 2011

Pay 2011/12

Pay negotiations for 2011/12 have now resumed and we are awaiting a response from the Commission as to recent discussions.

We are particularly concerned to resolve the issue over staff budgets being frozen. If budgets remain frozen then there is no question that an ever declining pay budget in real terms will mean jobs will be lost.

We are concerned to try and achieve something for staff which is sensible in the current climate – particularly those on the lowest incomes – the main feedback we get is from people in this category. We will revert in due course – and as ever you will be balloted on the situation as to acceptance/rejection.

Your views are welcome, and without these we will find it hard to gauge opinion/ views – so please keep

sending these in.

Other pay groups such as Whitley have yet to settle the year 2010/11. MEA are being balloted over an offer for 2011/12 which is based on that achieved for the Civil Service in 2010/11 – this following 0% achieved in 2010/11 for MEA staff.



Your details please!

The Government restructure has meant that many members work details are now totally out of date. We have to check each and every members' record over the next few months to try and allocate them to the right section (and therefore reps email lists) and to make sure we have your right work details and address if we need to contact you. We can't do this without your help!

We'll be running another campaign to get you to tell us your new details – this will be especially important if you have moved location or Department/section because of the restructure of Government. Pay/HR people can also help us by letting us know whether they have moved or when they will be moving to the central 'hubs' – we understand not everyone now is. Email us goa2@manx.net or talk to us/leave us a message 685759.



Latest on Pensions

“we have been advised that there will be no negotiation on the protection period and terms”

Unified Pension Scheme/UK Hutton Review

Negotiations have commenced at Civil Service JNC with the Commission – we are seeking a range of changes to transitional terms which ameliorate some of the detriment to

members, and also terms and conditions changes which address some of the deficiencies which you have told us you see. We have been advised there will

be no negotiation on the protection period and terms. Nonetheless we continue to forward our position on that.

The AXE Factor



The second part has launched on politicians and pensions – and we are getting a lot of feedback from the public on this. You can read the latest on the IOMTUC website.

You can also sign the IOMTUC TUPE petition online

http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/tupe_iomtuc/

This calls for basic protections for people whose employer changes – it is of great relevance to services which are privatised or sold onto

another organisation. It is something of benefit to private and public sector workers – but aims for fairness to the employer also.

You can find out more info about the Axe Factor via:

Twitter - @IOMTUC
 Facebook - <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Iomtuc/213955578628971#!/pages/Iomtuc/213955578628971>
 Website – www.iomtuc.org.uk

Recruitment—New Branches!

Recruitment is still healthy across all branches on the island. We do need to keep the pace up to grow membership – but at present we have a total of approx 1800 Prospect members on island. Recruitment is most healthy in non GOA areas

but we are continuing attempts to focus on non members with a view to offering membership.

If you can recruit a member please do – if job losses do follow the announcement of the VAT agreement changes, then now is not a good time

to be without union back up.

A form is sent with this notice to encourage colleagues to join – and anyone can join whether in the public or private sector.

MEA Pay 2011/12 and Whitley Council Pay 2010/11

Still no updates on Whitley Council for 2010/11 or 2011/12 unfortunately. We will of course notify members as soon as we have some news from Whitley Council.

MEA members are being balloted on pay for 2011/12 – this is an offer of 1.5% and a further possibility of a one off lump sum based on sharing savings made across the organisation. Ballots have been sent to home addresses and the process will close on 6 September at noon. If any MEA members have not received ballots they should notify us as soon as possible.

LOTTERY

Lottery participation has dropped in recent months mainly due to all the changes we've had on the banking side. More info and details of how to join are on our website – [click on this link](#).

Every month there is a winner – and anyone who is a member of Prospect can join whatever branch you are in – GOA, MEA, Manx Telecom, Whitley, IOM General and Retired.

Please let us know if you would like more info. Prize ranges from £170-£250 per month and your stake can be from £1 to £20 per month. The more members in the Lotto syndicate the greater the prize, and, as they say "you have to be in it to win it!"

AGM 2011

This year's AGM will be held on 17 November 2011 at 6pm – venue still to be confirmed.

Nigel Titchen, President of Prospect and Mike Clancy, Deputy General Secretary will be attending.

We will be firming up the venue details nearer the time and sending out the notices – but Facebook Group members can RSVP now online.

All Prospect members are welcome from any branch as guests – although ONLY GOA members can vote on AGM rule changes/motions/issues.



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Casework Update

70 + cases at present. The total number of cases so far this year is now 2/3 and issues are covering every subject and level – from redundancy to sex discrimination, informal advice to employment tribunals. It is difficult at time to provide the quality of service we would like and please be proactive if you feel you need to contact us – we appreciate this.

Discounts/Free Legal Services

A list of current discounts and free legal services for members can be accessed via our website page http://www.iomgoa.co.uk/cms/page_112695.html

Office Cover

There are times when the office is effectively not staffed due to appointments and meetings. Phones may be diverted to the Liverpool office to ensure that you get to speak to someone throughout these periods. Please remember too that members of the EC are generally able to speak to you and you contact them direct at any point for help, as many members already do and have done for many years. Their contact details are on the website: <http://www.iomgoa.co.uk/cms/executive.html>

Regular Notices

LOTTERY WINNER

Another Member from Department of Education and Children won the last draw which was £211

REDUCED SUBS

If you happen to go on to no pay for any reason contact us ASAP and we can arrange for your subs to reduce per month. Also remember, if you reduce your hours, then your subs might reduce so let us know of the changes.

CHANGE OF DETAILS

Let us know if you

- Move house
- Change workplace
- Change telephone contact
- Change your email

We need to update your record so if you don't tell us we won't know to do this!

membership@prospect.org.uk

REPLACEMENT CARDS

If you need a new card then please contact membership services on:

membership@prospect.org.uk

SALARY CHANGES

If you pay via direct debit and your salary changes let us know as your subs might reduce or increase. We need to ensure that the correct adjustment is made.

Facebook, Website and Twitter

We're still asking people to join our Facebook page – it is another way for us to keep in touch – especially if you are off work for any reason – you can still access news and updates.

<http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/group.php?gid=106964136000496>

[ref=home#!/group.php?gid=106964136000496](http://www.facebook.com/?ref=home#!/group.php?gid=106964136000496)

Please request to join if you're interested – we are accepting members only.

We've also pared down our website – to update it and make it a little less bulky in content so we'd appreciate your feedback/suggestions on it.

We are also on Twitter @IOMProspect