

DIRECT**ACTION**

Industrial Workers of the World

An Injury To One - Is An Injury To All!

Bosses Continue to Attack Workers Rights with NEW SCAB LAWS!

Communication Workers Strike:
Picket Line Solidarity



Today, the British government passed legislation to legalise the use of agency workers by employers whose staff are striking. Effectively, they have not only made legal, but also effectively promoted, what the trade union movement has long called "scabbing".

Bosses and scab workers can now lawfully collude to break the strike by crossing the picket line. The law is an obvious attempt to head off further strikes by the RMT union. The RMT union's recent series of strikes has woken thousands and thousands of workers up to the fact that strikes work: they hit employers where it hurts - in their pocket. Workers are looking at unionising now with either fresh eyes, or for the first time.

They see the great power they have when they unite to improve our conditions at work, and the power of our class against the bosses, bureaucrats and billionaires of this world. Many generations of workers before us have united and struggled, suffered and died for the rights we now take for granted: parental leave, sick pay, compensation for injury, to not have to suffer discrimination of any kind at work, the right to be represented, and even the weekend and forty-hour working week.

The most powerful, and indeed often the only, weapon they had was to withhold their work - to go out on strike. They struck for better conditions and to oppose injustices at work - injustices like unfair pay, harassment and discrimination, and dangerous work. They struck in solidarity with oppressed people, and in sympathy with others trying to improve conditions for all. By allowing employers to ignore the demands of the working people by hiring scabs, they are effectively allowing the employer to

ignore the workers.

Using scab workers will not help the employers: they cannot replace the experience and knowledge of those on strike, and their business will suffer greatly. Those employed by the agency may be treated much more unfairly than regular workers, protected by the union agreements with the employer, increasing the level of precariousness in their working lives - and all the social costs associated with this. The British government and the bosses want to ignore us when we speak up against discrimination, against exploitation, and against unsafe practices at work.

The IWW condemns the legislation passed today by Kwasi Kwarteng, and asks the agency workers who will be asked to break the strikes, to stand in solidarity with RMT workers and not break the strike. We also ask all workers to support the RMT in its actions, for what happens to them could happen to all of us. We must unite to resist this blatant undermining of our rights and work, and to give back the RMT workers a voice in their relationship with their employer.



Mid Ulster Council Workers' Strike:
Solidarity is strength!

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END TOXIC GOLD MINING NOW: DEFEND THE LAND!

The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) has condemned the recent issuing of gold and diamond licences to international prospecting companies by the North of Ireland, Department for Economy. It is estimated that a number of exploration licences have been granted to several companies seeking to prospect in counties Fermanagh and Tyrone.

News came as the Industrial Workers of the World Ireland Branch held its Annual General Conference. Representatives of the IWW Ireland Branch, which brought forward a motion of solidarity to its members, reiterated it's 'opposition to any toxic gold mining in the Sperrins' mountain range stating; 'This motion extends its continued solidarity with the communities in resistance in the Sperrin Mountains in Co. Tyrone, and the continued opposition to Toxic Gold Mining in the region by Canadian multinational Dalradian Gold. In turn the union will continue to campaign and highlight the impact of toxic gold mining.'

An IWW spokesperson said that "The motion was overshadowed by media reports of a number companies (Flintridge Resources, Karelian Diamond Resources and Mount Castle) recently granted prospecting licences. This will undoubtedly see increased prospecting in other counties Fermanagh and Tyrone, an act that the vast majority of local communities would overwhelmingly object to.

"The membership of our union past a motion of our continued support with local communities fighting toxic gold mining in the Sperrins and our opposition to the environmental destruction of our land and that of our communities."

Commenting on the issuing of further prospecting licences by the Department of the

Economy, a spokesperson responded stating "We have no doubt the those in power believe that it's open season for welcoming big businesses when it comes to mining in the North West. It's clear that for some, the priorities of profit comes first over the lives of workers and working class communities as well as the destruction of our environment.

"For those who still support or gain financially from those multinational companies profiting from toxic gold mining, yet still turn a blind eye to the impact it will have on all our lives, what more can be said. With the information now gathered and widely available on the devastation toxic mining will cause, our union calls for all mining licences to be immediately withdrawn. Nothing more than the immediate end to toxic mining will be acceptable to our union and that of the local communities who continue to resist and defend the land or environment."

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WOBBLIES GET ACTIVE! CONTACTS IN YOUR AREA

IWW Members in each area meet each month to discuss, support and organise activity locally. If you would like to become active in your area then we urge you to please get in touch with your local organiser.

Contact your closest local organiser at the following email nearest you or online via Facebook or Twitter:

Dublin: dublin@iww.org.uk
Derry: derry@iww.org.uk
Belfast: belfast@iww.org.uk
Cork: cork@iww.org.uk
Galway: galway@iww.org.uk

   

Email: secretary.ireland@iww.org.uk
Online: onebigunion.ie
facebook.com/iwwireland

COMMUNICATION WORKERS STRIKE ACTION

IWW solidarity with members of the Communication Workers Union in Derry as CWU strikers held a lunchtime rally in the city which received overwhelming support from a number of trade unions locally as well as from the public.

An IWW spokesperson said following the mid-day rally that "CWU workers have begun industrial action for better pay. They do so knowing that workers in other sectors are fighting also as the "cost of living crisis" impacts on working class homes around the country while the profits increase in the bosses pockets.

"As a growing revolutionary union it's important that we show and express our solidarity at this time with every worker taking on the bosses.

"If anyone was in any doubt where they should be at this present time then look no further. It is organising at our place of work or within our communities. Building working class strength and preparing for the fight ahead. Each of us should be mobilising and assisting fellow workers on strike. It is vital to show that workers are not alone and their fight is our fight. Their victories will have an impact on other workers deciding whether or not to organise, to unionise in their own place of employment in order to demand what is rightfully ours. This is a time when all of us need to unionise the fight!"

DIRECT ACTION SUBMISSIONS

If you have an issue, a story, a short news article or would like to advertise an event from your area then please remember to submit it to **Direct Action**.

If you take part in any workers solidarity actions at work, on picket lines or on the streets then consider writing or take some photographs to share for further support and solidarity.

Remember, Direct Action is printed and produced each month by volunteer labour of members. If you would like to help out then please get in touch, details below.

You can send your submissions directly to **Direct Action** at:
ireland@iww.org.uk

You can write to **Direct Action** at our postal address listed across the bottom of this page.

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