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National Highways ballot result falls short of anti-trade union threshold

PCS members in the National Highways voted overwhelmingly in favour of industrial action but fell 6.79% short of meeting the government's anti-trade union threshold.

In the ballot which closed at 12 noon yesterday, members voted by a substantial majority for industrial action, clearly angry about the refusal by the National Highways to pay the £1500 cost of living payment.

Unfortunately, members have been prevented from taking industrial action by the anti-trade union 50% turnout threshold.

Members in National Highways showed beyond a doubt, with an 79.27% vote for strike action, that they are not prepared to put up with below inflation pay rises, attacks on their pension schemes, redundancy terms, and job insecurity.

However, we fell 6.79% short of meeting the government's threshold despite strength of feeling so clearly demonstrated by those voting for strike action. This means for now that we are unable to continue strike action in National Highways at this stage.

We are now considering our next steps and we will keep members informed of developments.

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