

21 June 2024

Post election views

PCS Industrial Officer, Jim Knotts, looks at some of the big changes proposed by the Labour Party for working people

You will be reading this article after the general election and if the polls are to be believed halfway through the campaign, then we will be at the start of a new Labour government in parliament. What does this mean for working people and specifically our members who work in the private sector?

The Labour Party has pledged to implement a New Deal for Working People, which includes an ambitious set of commitments to deliver insourcing and decent work in public services. They have committed to bringing in the biggest wave of insourcing of public services in a generation, including looking to see if work can be done more effectively in-house. The test will evaluate value for money, impact on service quality and economic and social values. Through a new National Procurement Plan, Labour will ensure social value is mandatory in contract design.

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They pledge to value organisations that create local jobs, skills and wealth and treat their workers equally, including on matters such as pay, conditions, trade union access, recognition and provision for collective bargaining arrangements.

Finally, Labour say they will put in place measures to ensure that outsourcing of services can no longer be used by employers to avoid paying equal pay, including work of equal value, to women, ending this longstanding injustice.

It is the duty of all of us and the trade unions to make sure that these goals are achieved, and we bring about a fairer workplace environment.