

In this Edition: Details of Area AGMs, Notes from the National Committee, Accessing Interim Actions Taken Report, Prospect Action on Climate Change and Pensions.

MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE (SEPTEMBER 2026)

Greetings to our union's Retired Members on behalf of the RMG National Committee (NC). It had been hoped to produce an earlier bulletin around the beginning of August, but I was taken ill for a miserable fortnight during the heatwaves. At one stage, I was taken to hospital and rehydrated intravenously.

We've provided notes on the July National Committee meeting a little later than we would have liked, and producing this edition in time for the Autumn AGMs prevented us reporting on the September NC meeting.

You might feel disappointment that the glossy Autumn RoundUp is only being sent to postal-dependent Retired Members. Fret no more! If you look up "prospect knowledge library" and enter "retired members" in the library's internal search engine, you will find it there. The content is mainly what you will have read in the last few bulletins.

This bulletin comes from the Retired Members' Bulletin Editorial Group, which consists of myself, Arthur Bavister, Julian Hayhurst and Tim King.

Andrew Ruffhead, Group President

INTERIM ACTIONS TAKEN REPORT

The January Annual Delegate Conference passed 14 motions and remitted 4 others. The NC has been busy responding to the instructions. In particular, it has referred a large number of issues to the National Executive Committee (NEC) and received a response. The interim report on actions taken can be found by entering "prospect knowledge library" into your search engine. Enter "retired members" into the library's search engine and scroll down to the report.

The final Actions Taken Report may also be there by the time you read this. Failing that, it will certainly be there shortly.

NOTES FROM THE 14 JULY NC MEETING

Offering Help To Working Members. General Secretary Mike Clancy came to the part of the NC meeting which discussed ADC Resolutions 11 and 13. The former wanted the National Executive Committee (NEC) to utilise the experience of Retired Members for the benefit of Employed Members, in areas such as Workshops and Mentoring. Mike questioned whether Retired Members had sufficient up-to-date knowledge of current workplace issues. NC members' views were mixed, but it was agreed that stall volunteers at future conferences should offer help when meeting Working-Member delegates.

Help For National Pensioners Convention (NPC). Re Resolution 13, Mike Clancy told the NC that Prospect might be willing to give further financial help to the NPC if it had a realistic prospect of survival. It needed to be clear what the money was for.

Review of 2026 Prospect National Conference. The RMG stall was deemed a success. It was considered worth repeating in 2028, although it should do more by way of providing contact details.

International Issues. The North East Area Committee mandated its Representative to put an 846-word anti-Zionism motion to the NC. Among other things, it called for massive sanctions against Israel. In discussion, the motion was criticised for a number of things, including support for protest actions involving criminal damage. There was no seconder for the motion. The NC decided that, due to "too many aspects which are not supported by Retired Members", the motion should not be forwarded to the NEC.

2027 ADC. The date of the 2027 RMG Annual Delegate Conference was left to the Group President and Group Secretary to arrange for February. It will be on 11 February 2027.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Prospect's National Executive has acknowledged the climate emergency and committed to an action plan to raise awareness among members, support workplace change, and reduce the union's own carbon footprint. For full details of the Prospect statement, type "prospect climate emergency" into your search engine.

The 2026 Prospect National Conference, carried a resolution calling for greater investment in Distribution Net Operators as part of the drive to Net Zero. The RMG delegates supported the motion.

PENSIONS (AND CAPITA)

Thousands of newly-retired civil servants are still waiting for pension payments after a 'critical' deadline to resolve a myriad of ongoing problems was missed by administrator Capita. An independent advisor has now been drafted in to monitor the firm's progress fixing issues, which have left many financially struggling for up to a year.

Members experiencing hardship are reminded that they can obtain interest-free loans. To do so, they should go through go through their full-time officer. If you don't know who your FTO is, contact Mike Macdonald (mike.macdonald@prospect.org.uk) or Andrew Ruffhead (ruffhead40b@yahoo.co.uk).

Both Prospect and Public and Commercial Services PCS) have called on the Government to urgently end Capita's contract, with representatives from each union calling its administration "shambolic" and "abysmal".

You should have received Prospect's 25 August email to members about Capita. It asked members to sign the petition calling for administration of the civil service pension scheme to be brought back in-house, and we encourage members to do so whether or not they are directly affected. The in-progress petition with signatures received so far has already been submitted to 10 Downing Street to make the PM aware of the campaign.

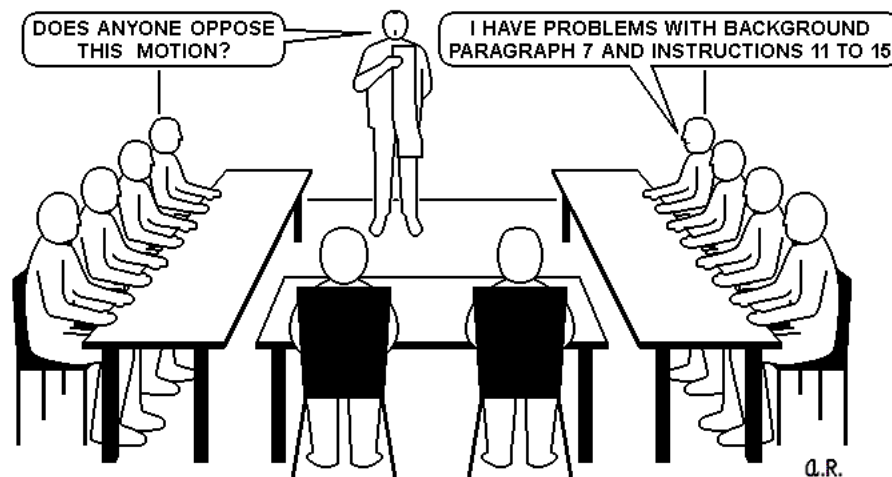
AGM MOTIONS (KEEP THEM CONCISE)

The season of Area AGMs is imminent, and no doubt there are enthusiastic members with motions in mind. If you have an idea for a motion, you might find it helpful to discuss it with your Area Representative. If you are proposing a motion, you are advised to include

an instruction to your Area Committee that the latter can then turn into an ADC motion that instructs the National Committee.

Area Secretaries are urged to read SOC guidelines on motions and submit motions well before the deadline. The SOC may offer you a chance to amend improper wording (if there's time), but it won't rewrite motions for you.

Resist the temptation to put proposing speeches in your motion. Also, remember that multiple instructions in a motion reduce its chances of achieving success, since motions are never voted on in parts when they reach Conference.



THIS YEAR'S AREA AGMs

Area AGMs are now a mixture of in-person, online and hybrid events. Areas will be sending out invitation-emails containing joining instructions for members attending online.

D309 Scotland North (ZE, KW, IV, AB, PH, DD, FK7 upwards, KY, PA20 upwards): Wednesday 30 September at 1100 on Zoom. Local POC John Taylor, 07949 313281, eljo73@icloud.com

D310 Scotland South (G, KA, ML, EH, TD, DG, FK 1-6, PA1-19): Wednesday 14 October on Teams, commencing at 1300. Local POC: Graeme Walker, 07790 739127, southscotrmg@btinternet.com

D311 Wales (SY17-SY25, SA, LD, CF, NP): Friday 06 November at the Prospect Cardiff HQ in Capital Tower Business Centre, Capital Tower, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff, CF10 3AZ, meeting at 1030 for a 1100 start. (Hybrid) Guest speaker: David Luxton (CSPA and former Prospect HQ Officer). Local POC Graham Clarkson, 07887 952688, grahamclarkson188@btinternet.com

D312 Northern Ireland: Wednesday 21 October, at Corr's Corner Hotel, Glengormley, Newtownabbey, BT36 4TQ assembling at 1245 for AGM and lunch. Volunteers are sought for nomination to Area Chair and Area Secretary. Local POC: Peter Hedgcock, 02890 628848, hedgcock241@btinternet.com

D313 North West (CA, LA, BB, PR, FY): Thursday 15 October at the Royal Station Hotel, Market Street, Camforth, commencing at 1030. Local POC Fran Butler, 07306 367210, fran_butler@blueyonder.co.uk

D314 North East (NE, DH, SR, DL, TS): Wednesday 7th October at North East Mining Institute, Neville Street, Newcastle, commencing at 1200. Guest speaker Mike Macdonald. Local POC Mike Dixon, 07922 471448, dixon4474@gmail.com

D315 Yorkshire (BD, HG, YO, LS, HX, HD, WF, S, DN, HU): Tuesday 10 November at Drax Sports Club, Main Road, Drax, North Yorkshire YO8 8PJ commencing at 11.45; buffet lunch provided. Guest speaker Mike Macdonald. Local POC George Betke, 01977 675501, georgebetke@talktalk.net or Brian Clayton, abclayton02@btinternet.com

D316 Cheshire, Manchester, Merseyside, Deeside, North Shropshire & North Wales (CMMDN) (L, CH, WN, BL, WA, MCW, SK, OL, LL, SY1-SY5, SY10-SY16): Thursday 15

October at the British Waterways Museum (in the Basuto Suite), Ellesmere Port, Wirral CH65 4FW (Hybrid), commencing 1300. (Tea and Coffee from 1230.) Guest speaker Group President Andrew Ruffhead. Local POC John Wright, 07597 366966, jkeithwright@gmail.com

D317 East Anglia (EN, NR, IP, PE, CB, CO, CM, LU, RM, SG, SS, IG, MK except MK18): Wednesday 18 November at the Red Lion Hotel, Whittlesford, Cambridge, commencing at 1300. Members usually arrive at 1200 for lunch. Guest speaker: Jessica Norris, Prospect National Secretary for Midlands. Local POC David Mills, 07973 617769, d.n.mills.69@gmail.com

D318 East Midlands (NG, LN, LE, NN, DE, CV): Wednesday 21 October at Coventry Regional Office, 2nd Floor, Bourn Building, 1 Manor House Drive, Coventry CV1 2TG (5 min from railway stn), starting at 1300 (Hybrid). Local POC Tom Smyth, 01476 400504, smyth.tom004@gmail.com

D319 West Midlands (ST, TF, WV, WS, DY, B, WR, HR, SY6-SY9): Tuesday 03 November. Event starts at 1000 with a visit to HS2 Curzon Street, Birmingham, including a project overview and viewing of the site. The AGM follows at 1200 at the Woodman Pub, Curzon Street, Birmingham. Local POC Tim King, 07511 899872, tking999888@gmail.com

D320 South West Midlands (GL, OX, MK18): Tuesday 10 November at "Inn for All Seasons", Little Barrington, Burford OX18 4TN, starting at 1330. Guest speaker: Lisa Browne, Prospect full time official. Local POC - Jerry Greenhalgh (Area Chairman), 07769 350441, jerry7g@mail.com

D321 Central Southern (PO, SO): Tuesday 03 November at the Maritime Club, 75-80 Queens Street, Portsmouth, Hants, PO1 3HS, starting at 1030 for 11:00. Local POC David Robinson, 07484 279060, gosportdave5@gmail.com

D323 London Central (HA, UB, NW, WC, WD, TW, SW, KT, SM, W, N, E, EC, SE, CR, BR): Wednesday 11 November at 100 Rochester Row, starting at 11:00. (Hybrid) Guest Speaker to be confirmed. Local POC: Ireen Goulding, 07939 201857, ireen.goulding@gmail.com

D324 Thames Valley (AL, HP, RG, SL, GU): Wednesday 11 November at the Reading International Solidarity Centre, 35-39 London Street, Reading, RG14 PS, starting at 10.30. Tea & coffee will be available from 10.00. Guest Speaker: not yet decided. Local POC: Arthur Bavister, 01635 46947, a.bavister@btinternet.com

D325 South East England (BN, TN, CT, DA, ME, RH): Thursday 15 October at the Angel Centre, Angel Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1SF, starting at 1100. Guest Speaker Prospect Pensions Officer Neil Walsh (tbc). Local POC Stephen Blunden, 07377 526946, sljblunden@outlook.com.

D318 East Midlands (NG, LN, LE, NN, DE, CV): Wednesday 21 October at Coventry Regional Office, 2nd Floor, Bourn Building, 1 Manor House Drive, Coventry CV1 2TG (5 min from railway stn), starting at 1300 (Hybrid). Local POC Tom Smyth, 01476 400504, smyth.tom004@gmail.com

D327 Southern (TA, DT, BH): Thursday 22 October at Lyme Regis Guildhall Council Chamber, Bridge Street, Lyme Regis, 1030 for a 1100 start (Hybrid). (Parking advice: Lyme's shorter-term car parks have a **maximum** stay of 3 hours.) Guest Speaker Prospect FTO Ben Middleton (if he's free). Local POC Adrian Francis, 01278 428376, prospect.rmg.southern@gmail.com

D328 South West (TR, PL, EX, TQ): Thursday 12 November at the Falstaff Inn, 75 Clittaford Road, Southway, Plymouth PL6 6DT, commencing at 1400. Local POC Paul Danneau, 07877 900364, pauldanneau@sky.com

