



Dear Colleagues,

I can confirm the outcome of the ballot was in favour of strike action as 61.4 % voted YES and 38.6% voted NO.

I will be discussing the next steps with the Strike committee and come back to you. I do have to serve the Council a 14 day notice for action before any strike can take place.

Just as a reminder, do not disclose to management if you are willing to strike or not. It is not a requirement to inform them.

I also note that the predicted rate of inflation is now set as an expected 2.8% by quarter 4 in 2021. I have included over the page a guide on how the costs of general items has increased so far over the last 12 months.

Hopefully you will now see that not accepting the 1.3% offer was the correct thing to do. If you had accepted the offer it would effectively be a 1.5% pay cut if the Treasury projections are correct. Not a great way to start 2021!

You can also see that your story is being picked up by some local press outlets, such as the Surrey Comet. We will continue to use the press to put pressure on the Council to win you a new, better pay deal. You can read the story on the Surrey Comet website at www.surreycomet.co.uk/news/epsom/15377052.bin-men-vote-to-strike-amid-claims-reigate-and-banstead-borough-council-breached-contract-agreement/

As usual, do contact me if you have any questions relating to any of this.

Paul Grafton
Membership Development Officer
GMB Southern Region

Consumer Prices Index (CPI) – January 2021

Item	%
Passenger transport by bus and coach	21.1
Accessories for information processing equipment	16.5
Hire of garages, parking spaces and personal transport equipment	13.0
Passenger transport by road and other transport services	11.8
Other furniture and furnishings	11.7
Postal services	11.5
Fixed telephone equipment	9.9
Games and hobbies	9.8
Bicycles	9.6
Software	8.6
Games, toys and hobbies	8.4
Hairdressing for men and children	8.4
Newspapers	8.0
Second-hand cars	7.8
Travel insurance	7.7
Clothing accessories	7.3
Boats, outboard motors and fitting out of boats	7.3
Toys and celebration articles	7.2
Data processing equipment	7.1
Pre-recorded recording media	7.0
Transport services	6.7
Hairdressing and personal grooming establishments	6.3
Motorcycles and bicycles	6.2
Newspapers and periodicals	6.2
Cigarettes	6.1
Personal grooming treatments	6.1
Musical instruments	6.0
Tobacco	5.9
Other floor coverings	5.9
Toll facilities and parking meters	5.9
Margarine and other vegetable fats	5.8