



CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT  
WHITEHALL LONDON SW1A 2AZ

Telephone 01 273 5400

Sir Ian Bancroft G.C.B.  
Head of the Home Civil Service

Civil Service 2  
Prime Minister  
Sitrep on today's  
strike action.  
R  
22/6  
[Handwritten signature]

T Lankester Esq  
10 Downing Street  
London SW1

22 June 1979

Dear Tim,

IPCS INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Today's strike call by the IPCS was made to all members of the union but perhaps because substantial numbers (45-50%) have already received administration-linked pay settlements, the response has varied substantially from group to group.

There was high response among Professional and Technology Officers, particularly in areas supervising industrials such as those at the Royal Ordnance Factories, HMSO, Royal Mint, GCHQ and British Nuclear Fuels, where the response has been virtually 100%. (This may be a result of a long-running IPCS dispute over differentials between industrials and non-industrials). There was also a substantial response in PSA.

Among Scientists the pattern is more difficult to discern but it seems that about two-thirds of staff in the major Government laboratories joined the strike.

From other IPCS grades, the support for the strike has been very mixed. It possibly amounts to about 33% including Inland Revenue valuers, Information Officers in some Departments, Librarians and Photographers.

Turning to specific areas, public attention has been focussed on Heathrow Airport. While the CAA say that absenteeism among Air Traffic Controllers was only 10%, interruption to power supplies caused severe disruption to air services; 25% of services from Heathrow were maintained during the day; the position will remain the same, or perhaps slightly improve during the evening. Some difficulties could also arise tomorrow. Despite strike action at the meteorological Office, weather reports for air traffic and shipping were maintained. One result of the strike has been the laying off of several thousand industrials because IPCS grades

MANAGEMENT IN CONFIDENCE

were not present to provide supervision. Production stopped at the Royal Mint, HMSO presses, British Nuclear Fuels and in Royal Ordnance Factories. No firm indications of the targets for the forthcoming campaign of selective industrial action have been received; it is assumed that this will mainly affect the dockyards, Government printing and the Royal Mint.

... For your general information, I am attaching to this letter two schedules setting out the basic details of the offers made to the IPCS, their claims, and the cost of these.

I am sending two copies of this note to Private Secretaries of Permanent Secretary Heads of Departments to keep them informed of the position and to enable them to inform Ministers of the position, and to Sir John Hunt.

Yours sincerely,  
David

DAVID LAUGHRIN  
Private Secretary

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNOLOGY STAFF

Numbers: Civil Service (including consequentials): 51,300  
 Fringe Bodies : 7,000  
 Total : 58,300

Grade	Present Maximum	Current Pay Bill £m	IPCS Claim	% Increase	Cost Increase £m	CSD Offer	% Increase	Cost Increase £m	Difference %	Difference Cost £m
PPTO	8729		12675	45.2		10700	22.6			
PTO I	7064		10150	43.7		8350	18.2			
PTO II	5739		7850	36.8		6675	16.3			
PTO III	4869		6750	38.6		5625	15.5			
PTO IV	4326		6375	47.4		5050	16.7			
Over all:										
Civil Service		263.0		43.3%	113.8		17.5%	46.1	25.8%	67.7
Civil Service + Fringe Bodies		307		43.3%	132.9		17.5%	53.8	25.8%	79.1

SCIENTISTS

Numbers: Civil Service (including consequential): 20,000  
 Fringe Bodies : 12,000

Grade	Present Maximum	Offer/Claim
PSO	8461	11300 (33.6%)
SSO	6898	8700 (26.1%)
HSO	5448	6737 (23.6%)
SO	4415	5480 (24%)
ASO	3303	4030 (22%)

	Old Pay Bill	New Pay Bill	Cost
Total (Civil Service)	£103.1m	£130.6m	£27.5m (26.7%)
Total (Fringe Bodies)	£62.5m	£79.2m*	£16.7m* (26.7%)
Overall Total	£165.6m	£209.8m*	£44.2m* (26.7%)

\*Approximate Estimate only.