

TUS NEWSLETTER

(May) 2010

URGENT NEWSBRIEF

MRC COMPENSATION SCHEME UPDATE MAY 13th 2010

Since our last newsletter on Monday, we now know that Council endorsed the MB decision that would have proposed the same unwelcome changes to the MRC compensation and early retirement scheme as in the Civil Service.

But, following the judicial review and PCS union court success MRC management have proposed to suspend any talks on the scheme until further notice. Council did agree that it was time to look at our redundancy procedures in the MRC which are very different to those in the civil service.

The new Con-Dem government will no doubt be looking at the whole issue in the near future.

MRC management are aware that our collective NTUS position (5 unions) is and will remain that current members of staff must have their accrued contractual conditions of service protected.

We are prepared to engage in preliminary discussions without prejudice on any joint approach to reducing the in built threat of redundancies that is part of the current QQR system. Members may not always be aware that if a scientific programme is cut or stopped the whole team, including scientists, but also research support and other administrative support, reviews, will be affected and often face redundancy through the subsequent Management initiated reviews.

We are pleased that Council listened to some of our arguments.

However we will remain vigilant as to any new proposals initiated by the new government that would impact on the MRC.

Alexandra McAdam Clark
MRC Trade unions

