

GOVERNMENT U-TURN ON PUBLIC SECTOR PENSION COST CAP

Dear GMB Member,

Huge thanks to all the thousands of GMB members who have supported the GMB **'Unpause the Pause Campaign'**

Your campaigning efforts have succeeded and the government has done a U-turn.

Recap

Since 2015, **4.1 million** public sector workers across NHS, the civil service and in local government have paid over the odds for their pensions.

Millions of Public Sector workers including Paramedics, teaching assistants, refuse collectors and social workers were all overcharged to the tune of **£2.4 billion**.

Back in 2015, GMB and other unions successfully negotiated sector deals to see the money paid back to members through reduced contributions and improved benefits which should have been effective from April 2019.

But after a crushing legal defeat through the McCloud judgement the government unilaterally decided to withhold the drawing down of pension benefits, pinching from the dedicated people who keep our NHS, Councils and Public Services running.

Your Union GMB has been relentlessly challenging government since 2015 through the 'Unpause the Pause' campaign. In addition, **GMB** has made a number of representations on behalf of our members at every level of government to no avail. So, we took the decision last year to start legal proceedings against the government through a judicial review with a small number of unions, the **FBU, BMA, Police Federations, PCS and POA**.

GMB was always of the view that the government had breached the pension legislation and as we have prepared for the Judicial Review, we now hear that the government has done a U-turn.

GMB welcomes the decision but are concerned that the government is now saying that the McCloud discrimination needs to be paid out of the **£2.4BN** fund on pension benefits that was suspended.

We have to stop this. GMB is considering the next steps of the campaign. Further details will follow.

For now, please see a briefing of the decision by government and the potential implications.

Read the **GMB Pensions Bulletin**

Read the **GMB Press Response**



Rehana Azam
National Secretary – Public Services