

BUSWORKER

Produced by the Busworkers Action Group (01) 4561802

August 1998 10p

Massive No vote: 2 to 1 against THE VIABILITY PLAN IS DEAD *Now it's time to fight for:*

- ★ 15% pay rise
- ★ Early retirement
- ★ Decent pension

- ★ Proper funding for public transport.

Last week's magnificent vote is major victory for all bus workers.

After all the pressure only 432 voted for the deal while 837 voted against.

We stood up to the company, government and our own union leaders and rejected a lousy plan. We defended the rights of future workers, rejected contracting and defended public transport.

Our union leaders united for the first time in many years to sell us this deal. Bus workers should now demand they unite in our interests.

In the middle of an unprecedented economic boom, with a record government tax surplus, we are expected to accept worsening conditions and the worry of future job security.

Now its time the unions launched an all-out fight for decent pay and conditions.

15% pay rise:

For too long we have survived on a miserable basic and the promise of overtime and rest-day working. If we can't improve our basic pay in the middle of an economic boom we never will.

Partnership 2000 is dead. Teachers, craft workers and busworkers are saying "If it's good enough for the Guards its good enough for us". 15% with no strings attached is the least we should be demanding.

The right to retire at 55:

Bus drivers have one of the highest incidence of heart disease, strokes and other diseases due to the stress and strain of keeping up with hectic schedules in Dublin's traffic.

Many of us won't live to see 65. We should demanding the same deal that inspectors enjoy: A minimum of one year's salary as a lump-sum on retirement and the right to retire on full pension at 55.

Decent pensions:

Drivers who have given service of a working lifetime to the job are retiring on a poverty pension.

The present pension is a scandal at no more than £52. We should be demanding a pension that allows to retire in health and dignity.

Proper funding for public transport

CIE has one of the lowest state subsidies in Europe. The table below shows how little public subsidy goes to Dublin Bus compared to other European cities, some of which are privatised!

Public transport is a social service and cannot be operated on a purely profit making basis. For a better environment and an end to the city's gridlock we need massive state funding for public transport.

No EU law should be used as an excuse to stop this happening. Recently French workers forced their government to invest £2 billion in Air France despite EU laws. We should learn from their example.

Percentage proportion of revenue from fares/subsidies

City	Fares	Subsidy
Dublin	95.6	4.4
London	85.5	14.5
Athens	27	50
Rome	23	74.5

OUR TRADE UNIONS

The vast majority of shop stewards recommended this deal. They are out of touch with the feelings and opinions of the vast majority of busworkers.

Those that supported this deal should in all honour immediately step down and face re-election.

Bus workers should take up the petition to demand immediate garage elections and campaign to replace them with reps that will fight for decent pay and conditions.

Join the Busworkers Action Group

Successive issues of *Busworker* played an important role in explaining the issues and getting out the No vote in last week's ballot.

Supporters of *Busworker* in the garages carried the word and helped organise opposition to the Viability Plan.

Busworkers Action Group Meeting

Help us organise. We urge all bus workers who agree with the platform of *Busworker* to come and organise at this meeting.

Tuesday 11th August 8pm
Chaplin's Bar (Formerly The Regal)
Hawkins Street (Opposite Screen cinema).

Come Along!

We now need workers in every garage to join us and push our unions to campaign on these issues, explain the issues to fellow workers and distribute future issues of *Busworker*.

We are *NOT* trying to set up a third union. We support the unions when they are fighting and reserve the right to campaign independently when they are not.

Fill in the slip now to help organise in your garage.

Join the Busworkers Action Group

Name

Address

Phone Garage

Union

Return to Busworker Action Group c/o 4 St Anthony's Road, Rialto, Dublin 8

BUSWORKERS!

★ **A 15%, no strings attached, actual pay rise!**

★ **The right to retire at 55!**

★ **A decent pension!**

★ **A massive investment in Public Transport!**

★ **No Private Contracting**

★ **No 8 year pay scales, part-time or seasonal workers!**

★ **City-wide garage elections**

★ **Trade unions that are rooted to the shop floor, accountable to their members and no longer acting as consultants to management.**

***We need your help! Improve our pay and conditions!
Join the Busworkers Action Group! Contact 4 St
Anthony's Road Rialto Dublin 8***

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Organisation: Busworkers Action Group

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