

Q: Why are you on strike today and what are the issues at Rowntree Way sorting office for the post workers and the Union?

.....the issues for us in delivery are unagreed and unacceptable work practices being introduced, unachievable standards that we cant reach .... we are being threatened with loss of earnings, possible suspension leading to a possible dismissal if we don't reach [targets set by management]

Q: How is managements imposition of unagreed targets affecting postal workers and how has it affected your working environment?

...people coming in off their own backs coming in early, not taking their meal breaks, working over their payed overtime because they are fearing for their jobs, .....people are coming in when they should not be here if they are sick, because Royal Mail policy is to over ride Doctors certificates, dock their pay if they don't come back .....they are highly pressurised and for me that is the main issues on a daily basis .....harassment and bullying is the biggest issue as far as i am concerned allied with, in the future, we will all be part time which is no good to anyone

Q: How would you answer those who say you should count yourself lucky to have a job and go back to work?

..... i can see where they are coming from and it is a good job but we need to keep it a good job ...so the only way to keep it as a good job is to be out here on the streets, ....a good job is not a part time job or a job where you are working 10 hours for nothing so yea, we are lucky to have a good job and we need to keep it, and if we don't fight for it now it wont be the same in the future....

Q: How do management attempt to bully post workers in the sorting office?

.... if the lads are sorting a manger will stand behind them with a stop watch and count how many letters or packets are sorted in a minute or half an hour and tell the worker that they are not sorting at the unagreed rate and that they should be sorting and as i say, has not been agreed at with the Union at any level .....management let you know that if you don't reach their standard you could have your pay stopped

Q: Has anyone been had pay stopped or threatened at Rowntree Way?

..... we have not had anyone at Rowntree had their pay stopped or been moved but over at Peterborough workers have had pay stopped and had wages held back and gone several weeks without pay

Q: How strong is the Union at Rowntree Way sorting office?

..... before the strike Union membership here was at a high percentage but since the ballot almost all the workers are now members and have joined up because they can see what is coming