

22 January 2024

Your Branch AGM - shape the future of PCS policy

What is a motion? A motion is more than a suggestion – it's an instruction to your branch, group or to the NEC which tells them which kind of policies you want them to implement.

A motion could concern an emerging workplace issue – maybe you're concerned about the use of Artificial Intelligence and its effects on civil service jobs. You could write and submit a motion urging the NEC to resist attempts to replace jobs with AI and, if passed by the Annual Delegate Conference (ADC), the incoming NEC would have to take action on your motion.

Motions don't just have to concern work related issues. Your motion could instruct your branch to join a local campaign against a library closure for example. If the members in your branch agree at your AGM then your branch would be required to support the campaign.

Even issues on a more societal or even international level can be taken forward through motions submitted by individual PCS members. Issues such as human rights, climate change or the welfare state can be submitted. The list isn't exhaustive; if it's important to you and your branch agrees then it becomes policy and could be passed up the line to be considered as national union policy.

Getting help writing a motion

There are certain ways in which a motion must be framed. Your local reps will be able to help you write the motion, making sure that it's in proper motion form, giving it the best chance of passing at your branch, group or ADC.

Trade union democracy comes from the grassroots, and even one member can make a difference impacting national union policy. You need to be quick though -

all AGMs must be held by 7 March and motions must be submitted 14 days before your branch meets. If you're unsure of the timescales your branch secretary will be able to help you. You can find out their details by [logging in to PCS Digital](#).

You can also find out more about AGMs and writing motions by visiting the [PCS Academy](#).