
Associate & Retired Members

Forum 2016

Document Pack

01/16 - April 11 2016

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7. PCS Strategic Review Consultation

8. Criteria for ARMs members in PCS ballots

9. Motion to 2015 ARMS Forum

10. 2016 Funding – South West Region

ARMS Forum
Tuesday 21 June 2011, 11.00 am to 4.00 pm
Liverpool PCS Offices

	AGENDA	approx. timings
1.	Chair's Opening Comments	5
2.	Apologies and matters arising	5
3.	2015 Forum Report and Motions	10
4.	Guest Speaker 1:	30
5.	Reports	0
	(i) Finance	5
	(ii) Membership	5
	(iii) Regions	25
	(iv) NPC	5
	<i>Break</i>	
6.	Guest Speaker 2:	15
7.	ARMS National Secretary	5
8.	Motions / Constitution	
	<i>Break</i>	
	Motions / Constitution (cont'd.)	
9.	Guest Speaker 3:	15
10.	Any Other Business & Close	5

UPDATE ON 2015 MOTIONS

1	<p>That this ARMS Forum agrees to recommend for adoption the draft revised ARMS Regional Constitution and Rules as drafted by the ARMS South West Region.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">South West Region</p>	<i>Motion withdrawn</i>
2	<p>That this ARMS Forum agrees to recommend for adoption the draft revised ARMS National Constitution and Rules as drafted by ARMS South West Regional Committee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">South West Region</p>	<i>Motion withdrawn</i>
3	<p>This Forum agrees that the time is now right for a thorough review of the ARM National Constitution, particularly given the financial and structural challenges facing our Union. We therefore instruct the ARMs National Committee to conduct a thorough review of the Constitution in liaison with the PCS National Executive Committee paying particular attention to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications with members; • The role and functions of ARMs National Committee members; • How ARMs organisation at a local level can be strengthened; • How ARMs can ensure regular interaction with PCS Branches; <p>Recommendations flowing from the Review should be publicised to ARMs members in order that they can be discussed at 2016 ARMs Regional AGMs and at the 2016 ARMs Annual Forum.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Y&H ARMS Region</p>	<p><i>Motion supported</i></p> <p><i>21/9/15 - PCS Strategic Review submission produced covering issues. Arising from that constitutional amendments will be produced.</i></p> <p><i>4/4/16 – Arising from our submission to the Strategic Review and a thorough examination of the National Constitution, the National Committee agreed amendments. These amendments, with the rationale behind them, plus Enabling motions to the PCS National Constitution were issued to ARMS Committees in advance of AGMs. Any amendments were to be submitted as motions by the closing date of 28/3 and would be taken before the National Committee substantive motions. What is agreed will go to the NEC in a rewrite of the National Constitution and the Enabling motions for their consideration.</i></p> <p><i>If the structure of the National Committee is agreed the role and functions of members will be produced for issue before nominations.</i></p> <p><i>Action complete</i></p>
4	<p>This Forum instructs the National Committee to conduct a review of the ARMS National Constitution and to bring proposals for amendments to the ARMS Forum in 2016.</p> <p>Regions should be consulted and invited to submit their own proposals.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ARMS London Region</p>	<i>Motion withdrawn. No proposer</i>
		<i>Reference back against felling of motions 5-11 was supported.</i>
5	<p>This ARMS forum recognises that the members of the ARMS National Committee are elected to represent and promote the interests of all ARMS members. As such, the Department, Agency or other</p>	<p><i>Motion supported but did not achieve two thirds majority</i></p> <p><i>For: 4, Against 3, Abs 1</i></p>

	<p>Public Body in which each member of the Committee served prior to retirement, or otherwise leaving their employment, is not relevant to their office on the National Committee. This forum therefore sees no justification for the continuation of the restriction placed on the election of members by Rule 6.1, final paragraph.</p> <p>This Forum agrees to amend rule 6.1, final paragraph, as follows:</p> <p>After, 'cast', insert full stop and delete the rest of the sentence.</p> <p>The amended paragraph therefore to read; Candidates shall be declared elected in order of votes cast.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ARMS SE Region Committee</p>	
6	<p>That this ARMS Forum agrees to the amendment to the ARMS National Constitution Rule 6.1, final paragraph, as follows:</p> <p>After "cast" insert full stop and delete rest of the sentence.</p> <p>The amended paragraph to therefore read.</p> <p>"Candidates shall be declared elected in order of votes cast"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South West Region</p>	<p><i>Composite motion with no 5.</i></p>
7	<p>This AGM instructs the Union to draw up, as a matter of urgency, the necessary constitutional amendments allowing for the annual election of local, regional and national ARMS officers and committees.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North West Region</p>	<p><i>Vote on remission For 4, Against 5, Abs 0</i></p> <p><i>Vote supporting motion For 5, Against 3, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 This will be considered when reviewing the Constitution 4/4/16 – Annual elections not considered feasible if new structure of National Committee agreed. However it will be voted on in that context at the Forum. Regional Committees at the moment have the flexibility to have annual elections. There is no model local Constitution. Action complete.</i></p>
8	<p>This AGM instructs that 6.1 of the ARMs Constitution is to be amended to DELETE "All</p>	<p><i>Vote supporting motion For 8, Against 0, Abs 1 Motion Carried</i></p>

	<p>candidates must be nominated and seconded by two other Associate members" and INSERT "All candidates must be nominated from Regional ARMs branches AGMs, where a nomination must be approved by at least 50% of members attending".</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wales Region</p>	<p>3/7 To go to NEC 4/4 Submitted to NEC and included in the rewrite of the Constitution. Action complete.</p>
9	<p>This AGM instructs that the following is inserted at 6.1 of the ARMs constitution "No more than two members of the ARMs National committee shall come from the same ARMs region. In the event of more than two nominations from one region, only the first two shall be deemed to be elected."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wales Region</p>	<p>Vote supporting motion For 2, Against 6, Abs 1 Motion Lost</p>
10	<p>This AGM instructs that item 6.2 of the constitution is amended to include the following "The Chair and Assistant Secretary of the National Committee shall serve no longer than three terms in their posts."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wales Region</p>	<p>Vote supporting motion For 2, Against 6, Abs 1 Motion Lost</p>
11	<p>This AGM notes with concern that there has been little evidence to suggest that the necessary constitutional amendments – as called for at last year's AGM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to allow for delegates from local ARMS groups to attend National ARMS forums with full voting and speaking rights; and • to require the ARMS National Committee to call for motions for debate and decision from local ARMS groups for all future ARMs Forums have been prepared. <p>This AGM instructs the Union to produce these constitutional amendments in time for Conference 2015.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">North West Region</p>	<p>Vote supporting motions For 2, Against 5, Abs 2 Motion Lost</p>
12	<p>This AGM requests that ARMs National Committee seriously consider gender balance on the National executive in line with elections to other PCS National committees and consider amending the constitution as deemed necessary.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wales Region</p>	<p>Vote on remittance For 9, Against 0 Abs 0 Motion remitted 3/7 Supportive wording in the Constitution will be considered 4/4/16 – There was no recommendation for reserved seats, but an amendment to 6.1 of the National Constitution has been put forward. Action complete.</p>
13	<p>That this ARMS Forum calls upon the NEC to declare where within the PCS organisation the Associate and Retired Members Association (ARMS) stands.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">South West Region</p>	<p>Vote on remittance For 2, Against 7, Abs 0</p> <p>Vote in favour of motion For 7, Against 2, Abs 0</p>

		<p><i>Motion Carried</i> <i>3/7 To be considered as part of the Strategic Review. See also motion 17</i> <i>21/9/15 – Covered in PCS Strategic Review submission.</i> <i>4/4/16 This year's diary entry also does that. Action complete.</i></p>
14	<p>This Annual General Meeting of the Midlands Region of PCS ARMS notes the growing recognition within PCS of the contribution that ARMS members can offer.</p> <p>We recognise that PCS is subject to an unprecedented political attack (e.g. withdrawal of check-off) and this, combined with job cuts as a result of austerity measures, has serious financial implications. As a result, PCS is seeking to identify savings and use resources more effectively.</p> <p>Welcoming the opportunity to continue to use our experience and skills to benefit the wider union, we agree that we can enhance and complement - but not substitute - the work of elected representatives and full-time officers.</p> <p>We note that the ARMS journal costs several thousands of pounds to produce and distribute and that it is proposed that, from 2016, this will be an online journal only resulting in savings.</p> <p>It is our view that any consideration of savings that can be achieved in relation to ARMS should recognise that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Age is a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010 and therefore any proposals should consider adverse impact in relation to age • Many of our ARMS members do not use IT and will therefore not have access to an online journal • Limiting coverage of issues relating to older people to an ARMS journal does little to develop awareness amongst the wider union membership • PCS People is delivered in paper format to all PCS members including ARMS members. 	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 9, Against 0, Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>3/7 Raised at Forum with General Secretary and as alternative an inset of the ARMS Newsletter in PCS People</i> <i>21/9/15 – Included in PCS Strategic Review submission.</i> <i>4/4/16 – We have reported back we have not achieved our objective and our objective was reinforced in our Strategic Review submission. No information on any Branch that would put forward a motion on this to the ADC. I tried DWP Leicester where the Secretary is the DWP Editor, but no response.</i> <i>With the need to unite the Generations on numerous issues, it is even more crucial. If Prospect allow it PCS should.</i> <i>C/F</i></p>

	<p>Integrating ARMS issues into PCS People could therefore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of ARMS throughout the wider union • Achieve savings <p>This AGM recognises all the efforts of the National Committee to achieve this and instructs them to continue their efforts and to report back to ARMS Secretaries no later than December 2015 with the recommendation that if it is not achieved ARMS Secretaries should enlist the support of local PCS branches for a motion of censure.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Midlands Region</p>	
15	<p>That this ARMS Forum calls for an explanation as to why "Recommendation Four" of the ARMS Review (accepted by the NEC) has not been implemented in full. The Recommendation stated "There should be regular coverage of ARMS related issues in PCS People magazine. This should be the main vehicle to promote ARMS membership and publicise their activities"</p> <p>How else is it proposed to keep the PCS working membership informed of ARMS issues and activities.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">South West Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 9, Against 0 Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>3/7 See above</i> <i>4/4/16 – See above.</i> <i>C/F</i></p>
16	<p>Pensioners who are not on the Internet or do not have a Personal Computer are treated as second-class citizens in respect of communications and this matter has been ignored by many including governments and trade unions. This Forum agrees that access to written Communication should be retained for all those who need it or request it. This Forum will work to achieve this.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">North East Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of remittance</i> <i>For 3, Against 6, Abs 0</i></p> <p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 6, Against 3 Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>ARMS Committee to consider how this is implemented. See also motion14</i> <i>21/9/15 – Included in PCS Strategic Review submission. Also part of discussion with Union Learning Resources.</i> <i>4/4/16 – No progress made</i> <i>C/F</i></p>
17	<p>PCS DIARY ENTRY</p> <p>The 2012 PCS diary entry on ARMS was amended in the 2013 edition without any consultation. The reason given was that ARMS does not make policy. That might be correct but the amended entry did not reflect our role in policy. The relevant part reads " ARMS is also a great way to remain active in promoting our unions policies"</p> <p>The ARMS National Committee have supported the following amendment " ARMS is also a great way</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 9, Against 0, Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i></p> <p><i>Qualified support.</i></p> <p><i>3/7 We have been asked for our wording for this year's diary and this has been submitted 4/4/16 – Wording accepted.</i> <i>Action complete.</i></p>

	to remain active in recommending policies appropriate for retired members and promoting the union policies overall" This AGM requests the amendment should be submitted by the ARMS Secretary to the PCS Policy Committee for consideration as an amended entry for future editions of the diary.	
18	ARMS Cymru wishes to know if the NEC would approve bilingual applications online for prospective members. This would be in line with the Welsh Language Commissioner's rules on bilingual translations. Wales Region	<i>Vote in favour of Motion For 9, Against 0, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 To go to NEC 4/4/16 Submitted to NEC. Action complete.</i>
19	This Branch expresses concern that the lack of adequate funding is having a detrimental effect on the working of ARMS Committees. It is unacceptable that carefully calculated bids are reduced seemingly arbitrarily without explanation. This Branch, therefore, demands that where annual bids are reduced, a full explanation is given. It also demands that ARMS regions can appeal against any reduction for further meaningful consideration. Wales Region	<i>Vote in favour of motion For 6, Against 3, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 For action by ARMS Secretary on next year's bids 4/4/16 – As at date C/F.</i>
20	This Forum welcomes the greater clarity regarding when and where meetings of the ARMS National Committee take place. In order to provide further clarification of the work done on behalf of ARMS members by the National Committee we instruct the National Committee to issue a breakdown on the roles and responsibilities of National Committee members and to include this information on the ARMS pages of the National PCS website. Yorks & Humber Region	<i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 To be part of the review of the Constitution 21/9/15 – Included in PCS Strategic Review submission. 4/4/16 – See 3. Action complete.</i>
21	That this ARMS Forum instructs the ARMS National Committee to reinstate the National Committee/Regional Representatives meeting called for in Rule 5.3 of the ARMS National Constitution. South West Region	<i>Vote in favour of Motion For 7, Against 1 Abs 0 Motion Carried Qualified support 3/7 Depends on finance 4/4/16 – Wording left in Constitution. Action complete.</i>
22	This AGM notes with frustration that one year on arrangements have still not been put in place to ensure that all ARMS circulars are issued to PCS ARMS regional and local groups, departmental groups and branches within PCS. The Union is instructed to put these arrangements in place as a	<i>Vote in favour of motion For 3, Against 5 Abs 0 Motion Lost</i>

	<p>matter of urgency and certainly no later than the end of 2015.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North West Region</p>	
23	<p>This AGM welcomes the formation of the PCS Merseyside ARMS group and instructs the Union at all levels to maximise its efforts to set up similar local ARMS groups throughout the length and breadth of the United Kingdom.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North West Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 8, Against 0 Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>3/7 To be considered as part of the Strategic Review</i> <i>21/9/15 – Included in PCS Strategic Review submission.</i> <i>Action complete.</i></p>
24	<p>This AGM notes with concern the lack of progress within PCS - since the passage of a motion at last year's AGM - to establish a comprehensive electronic archive of ARMS documents on the PCS website - to be accessible to all ARMS members. This AGM instructs the Union to ensure such an archive is both established and maintained as a matter of urgency and certainly by no later than the end of 2015.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">North West Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 9, Against 0, Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>Qualified support</i> <i>3/7 There has been improvement and the site will be monitored</i> <i>4/4/16 – Change of Full Timer who is in PCS HQ may bring further improvements.</i> <i>C/F.</i></p>
25	<p>ARMs Cymru applauds / notes the decision to reinstate the annual diary to all members. Whilst this is to be welcomed, there is concern at the cost implication.</p> <p>This Branch instructs the NEC to seek sponsorship / advertising from one or more of our partner business service providers, such as Thomson's solicitors or UBS or another of our PCS recommended companies.</p> <p>This is to be undertaken without undue delay in order to defray costs in time for next year's publication.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wales Region</p>	<p><i>Vote for remittance</i> <i>For 8, Against 0, Abs 0</i> <i>Motion remitted</i> <i>3/7 No disagreement but outside our remit.</i> <i>Action complete</i></p>
26	<p>This AGM notes with extreme concern the Government's continued attack on the Union through its withdrawal of the 'Check Off' facility. Whilst it is recognised that this is the biggest threat faced by the Union, this AGM places on record its full support for the campaign currently underway to sign up as many PCS members as possible via Direct Debit and other such methods as deemed appropriate. Furthermore this AGM instructs the Union at all levels to utilise fully the resources within ARMS to assist with the signing up of members via Direct Debit or any other appropriate electronic payment method.</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i> <i>For 8, Against 0, Abs 0</i> <i>Motion Carried</i> <i>Qualified support</i> <i>3/7 This will go to NEC with other motions.</i> <i>4/4/16- Action complete.</i></p>

	North West Region	
27	<p>Millions of workers in the UK face a future pensions' crisis when they retire. The state pension is currently ranked as 36th out of 37 OECD countries, one in six older people already live below the official poverty line of £175 a week and six million pensioners - the vast majority of whom are older women - have an income less than £10,500 a year.</p> <p>For years, successive governments have relied on large sections of the workforce having a decent occupational pension, based on final salary as an alternative to providing a higher state pension. However; over the last decade we have seen the gradual decline of .good occupational pensions, only to be replaced by more insecure market-based alternatives where the risk lies almost solely with the Individual.</p> <p>As a result of insecure employment patterns, low pay and poorer pension alternatives, the vast majority of future pensioners will therefore become increasingly reliant on the state pension to form a large source of their income in retirement.</p> <p>It is therefore vital that the NEC now recognises the need to campaign more vigorously for a decent state pension system for all - including future pensioners.</p> <p>Following the general election this campaign should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening links between the ARMS National Committee and the PCS Pensions Officer and supporting organisations such as Britain's biggest pensioner organisation, the National Pensioners Convention and the TUC Pensioners Committee. • Lobbying the government to ensure all existing and future pensioners receive a state pension set above the official poverty level • Calling for annual increases in pensions to be linked to the best of wages. CPI, RPI or 2.5% • Rejecting any further attempts to raise the state pension age beyond 67. <p style="text-align: right;">Midlands Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0 Abs 0 Motion Carried</i></p> <p><i>3/7 This motion was supported at the PCS ADC. We have established liaison arrangements with the PCS Pensions Officer and there was an article on Pensions in the June edition of PCS People.</i></p> <p><i>13/10 – Discussion at National Meeting of NPC about lack of interest of working TU members about Pensions. This to be raised with National TUC Secretary with a view to doing something on day New State Pension comes in.</i></p> <p><i>4/4/16 Since 3/7 no response on issues from PCS Pensions Officer. She has now retired and Chris Haswell has taken over. I have contacted her on a number of issues, including why PCS did not make a submission to the Works and Pensions Select Committee (UNITE did). I have received a holding reply as she is going into hospital.</i></p> <p><i>I am hoping to get the NPC submission to the Works and Pensions Select Committee on the PCS Website.</i></p> <p><i>Two articles in PCS People on the new State Pension, but not clear on the lower State Pension most members will get. Chris Baugh however did say the objective was to reduce the pensions of PCS and Public Sector Workers and they will continue to challenge the Government. Action complete.</i></p>
28	<p>This ARMS Forum is very concerned that the Basic State Pension (BSP) has remained below the poverty level for many years. In April 2014, it was increased</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0 Abs 0 Motion Carried</i></p>

<p>to £113.10 per week for a single pensioner, a rise of £2.95 per week. The National Pensioners Convention statistic for the poverty level is £175. The deficit of £64.90 is appalling! The BSP in the UK is still one of the lowest levels in Europe (4th from bottom) although we are the 7th richest nation in the world.</p> <p>If the Retail Price Index (RPI) had still been in place, the increase would have been 3.2% instead of the September 2013 Consumer Price Index (CPI) rise of 2.7% (£2.95). For the calculation of CPI, the basket of goods and services should be more appropriate to pensioners and should not be a calculation for general use. The measure of inflation should return to RPI for uprating all pensions.</p> <p>Means testing pensioners for the Pension Credit Guarantee is continuing and for a single pensioner it rose from £145.40 per week to £148.35, an increase of £2.95. This indicates that the Government believes that £148.35 is the amount pensioners need to live on.</p> <p>The new Pensions Bill became law on 14 May 2014 and means that the new BSP will not be less than £148.40 per week, the actual amount will be set in the autumn of 2015 and will be paid to 'new' pensioners. The present BSP is £113.10 and is £35.30 below this amount and CPI will be based on September 2014 inflation for the rise in the present 2014 BSP to be paid in 2015, it probably won't be more than £3. Therefore, present pensioners will receive a BSP of, say, £116.10 but the new pensioners will receive £148.40!</p> <p>Therefore, this ARMS Forum urges the National ARMS Committee and calls on the National Executive Council to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campaign urgently for an increase in the Basic State Pension to at least the poverty level of £175 a week for a single pensioner and £325 for couples; • Campaign for a return to annual increases in the Basic State Pension based on the Retail Price Index (RPI) or the annual increase in average earnings or an increase sufficient to 	<p><i>Qualified Support</i></p> <p><i>3/7 It is unlikely that RPI will be reinstated but we should press for an index better than the CPI. The NPC have now based their minimum demands for a State Pension based on the Living Wage and not the Poverty Level.</i></p> <p><i>NPC will shortly have a meeting with the new Pensions Minister to press these demands.</i></p> <p><i>The TUC Pensioners Committee have motion 27 but so far only two unions have taken it to the General Council. We are asking PCS to do the same. See also comments in motion 27 but as this motion has more information submit to NEC.</i></p> <p><i>21/9/15 – The Pensions Minister has refused to meet NPC and attend the meeting in the Houses of Parliament on 4/11/15. The ARMS National Committee will be represented at the lobby and meeting, where the main theme will be Pensions.</i></p> <p><i>The only motion on Pensions at the TUC Conference was from TASS. We assume it was supported by PCS since it was nearly identical to the motion passed at the 2015 ADC.</i></p> <p><i>13/10 – See 27</i></p> <p><i>4/4/16 – See 27</i></p> <p><i>Action complete.</i></p>
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	<p>ensure that the Basic State Pension is not lower than the poverty level, whichever is greater;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take positive action to make our concerns known to the Government through national and regional branches of the Trades Union Congress (TUC), local Trades Councils, by lobbying MPs and by supporting the National Pensioners' Convention and the Scottish Pensioners' Forum in these campaigns; • Report regularly on progress to National Retired Members' Committee meetings and publicise on all appropriate communications channels, including the ARMS pages on the PCS website, PCS People Magazine and Up in ARMS. The information must also be circulated to Regions and Branches; • Report back to the 2016 National ARMS Forum on action taken and actual achievements. <p style="text-align: right;">South East Region</p>	
29	<p>This AGM acknowledges that the median income of a women pensioner is less than two thirds of men and that two thirds of pensioners living below the poverty line are women.</p> <p>Discrimination at work in pay is well documented.</p> <p>Future changes for existing workers including the single tier and attacks on our occupational pensions do not guarantee women pensioners will fare or even equal current pensioners' income.</p> <p>A clear set of campaigning proposals that both women workers and women pensioners can work on together is required.</p> <p>This AGM calls on the National ARMS Committee to discuss the above with the National Womens Committee with a view to developing a strategy and programme of work.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Midlands Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 8, Against 0, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 To be sent to National Womens Forum 21/9/15 – Acknowledgement received from Equality Department but nothing further. Resubmitted to Norina O'Hare with notes of NPC meeting with politicians on this issue. Notes circulated to ARMS Committees. NPC General Secretary Dot Gibson on Women's Hour 21/9/15 discussing this issue. 13/10 – No reply from PCS. 4/4/16 – Eventually in 1/16 some response and consideration of article in NWF Magazine. NPC also contacted PCS in 1/16 about signing up to Pensions Justice Campaign – no response. 29/3/16 E Mailed Phyllis new Equality Officer and Chris Haswell Pensions Officer on these issues. C/F.</i></p>
30	<p>The freeze on age related tax allowances was announced in the March 2012 Budget. Because it has been frozen the general tax allowance has now caught up so there is no longer age related allowances.</p> <p>In 1925 the old age relief was introduced by Winston Churchill for those 64 and over. For decades it has</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 8, Against 0 Abs 1 Motion Carried 3/7 To be submitted to NPC National Council and TUC Pensioners Committee 21/9/15 – Peter Wood to raise at TUC Pensioners Committee. To be submitted to NPC National Council.</i></p>

	<p>been acknowledged there is a need for additional support for older people to maintain independence in their own home. It was revised in 1975 and 1987 for those 65 to 74 and a higher allowance for someone 75 or over.</p> <p>In the Care policies of all Parties great play is made of maintaining independence in their own home. Many pensioners can only continue with this by having to spend money on help, adaptations, call out, security, safety etc. which the majority of other people do not need. As a result of the withdrawal pensioners are losing between £285 and £ 322 a year after tax. The ARMS National Committee are asked to press the NPC and the TUC to return to the issue and campaign with the new Government for its reinstatement.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Midlands Region</p>	<p><i>4/4/16 National Council agreed to refer to Pensions Working Party. Action complete.</i></p>
31	<p>Pensioners who do not pay tax miss out on Government tax threshold rises. This Forum agrees to investigate ways to compensate such pensioners for this loss and work to achieve this end.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">North East Region</p>	<p><i>Vote for remittance For 8, Against 0 Abs 1 Motion remitted 3/7 To ask Region to explain and how other Pensioners gain. 21/9/15 – Explanation given to Region as to why remitted. Accepted by Region. Action complete.</i></p>
32	<p>This ARMS Forum supports integrating health and social care services providing the principal aim of doing so is to improve the quality of services particularly for older people. This ARMS Forum believes that services can only be successfully integrated if social care is made, like health, free at the point of need.</p> <p>This ARMS Forum therefore welcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Labour Party's policy 'Whole Person Care' to integrate the two services in England: and 2. Reports that the Labour Party is considering making social care in England free at the point of need. <p>However, This ARMS Forum remains concerned:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. That the principal aim driving the government's approach to integration is not service quality but that pooling budgets will save money and its analysis that integration is quite compatible with competition: 	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0, Abs 0 Motion Carried 3/7 To be referred to NPC Health Working Party. 21/9/15 – Health Working Party has now produced an Action Plan which has been circulated. Information on the Better Care Fund has also been circulated. Also information on problems with this. New Care Minister refuses to meet NPC and did not attend UK Age Factor Alliance. Motion from UNITE at TUC Conference supporting NPC's stance on Care which I am sure will have been supported by PCS. 20/2 – This motion supported by the NPC Health and Social Care Working Party for submission to NPC National Council, but to emphasise NPC's reason for Integration differs from that of the Government who see it as cost saving. 4/4/16 – Since then NPC have had support from the Labour Party for its policies and on 10/2/16 Dot Gibson amplified these policies in a letter to John McDonnell. John will also be at the Pensioners Parliament. Action complete.</i></p>

	<p>B. That Labour has not rejected this approach, rather it too appears more concerned with the integration of budgets and organisations than of services and committed to a model where the proposed Health and Wellbeing Boards will commission services not provide them.</p> <p>This ARMS Forum reiterates PCS's view that public services are at their best when they are delivered directly by bodies which have been directly elected to do so and which remain accountable to the general public.</p> <p>This ARMS Forum therefore urges that integration be pursued as an anti-market measure and as an opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Introduce free social care for older people ii. Rebuild the public sector in social care and defend health from privatisation: and iii. Defend and rebuild collective bargaining, level up terms and conditions and root out abusive employment practices like zero-hours contracts. <p style="text-align: right;">South East Region</p>	
33	<p>This ARMS Forum believes it is vital that PCS's strategy on care should be based on uniting the aims and values of the workforce with those of older people and other service users.</p> <p>This ARMS Forum notes that millions of pounds annually are saved to the economy by the efforts of unpaid carers looking after parents or other relatives in their own homes, often on a 24/7 basis. The great majority of those receiving such care are elderly people, many with physical disabilities or mental illnesses such as dementia. The Carer's Allowance (paid only if the carer does 35 hours a week or more) is £61.35 a week. Attendance Allowance of £54 or £81 a week is paid to disabled people over 65 in need of 24/7 care.</p> <p>This ARMS Forum is appalled that what is a strenuous, physically and emotionally demanding job is not recognised as such and is rewarded at a level far below the National Minimum Wage.</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0 Abs 0 Motion Carried Qualified Support To be referred to NPC Health Working Party, Department of Health GEC and NEC 21/9/15 – Reply only from NPC. To go to NPC National Council and to find an NPC Branch to submit it to the PCS ADC. 20/10 – NPC Health and Social Care Working Party supports putting this to the National Council and integrating motion 34 into it. 4/4/16 – No reply from NEC. Integration has now become a dangerous word, because of Funding and Devolvment. The issue of unpaid carers is important as under the Care Act Local Authorities were supposed to risk assess them. I will integrate 33 and 34 and put forward as a motion to next year's NPC BDC and also try and get a Branch to put it forward to next year's PCS ADC. C/F</i></p>

	<p>This ARMS Forum requests the National ARMS Committee to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Urge the National Executive Council to continue to bring together PCS's campaigns on integration and on free social care for older people: b) Raise this matter with the relevant PCS Service Group Executives and seek to ensure that, in discussions about integration, PCS reflects the views both of PCS members employed in health and social care and ARMS members who use the services. c) Raise the issue with the National Pensioners' Convention: d) Publicise progress on the ARMS pages of the PCS website and report results of discussions with PCS Service Group Executives and the National Pensioners' Convention to all ARMS Regional Committees in order to keep Regions/Branches informed: <p>Work with the National Executive Council to seek the backing of the whole union and other relevant bodies in mounting a major campaign aimed at improving payments and other help for carers so that our retired members and all other elderly people needing care can have their needs met without their carers being exploited.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">South East Region</p>	
34	<p>Government grants to Local authorities have been cut by up to 40% and 35% of local authority budgets are spent on adult care. This means Community Care services have been cut resulting in an increased reliance on informal carers to volunteer and provide care.</p> <p>Many of these volunteers care for over 50 hours per week. Some of the carers themselves being over 80 years of age. For some the struggle to care and cope means they die earlier than those they care for. This is a national scandal.</p> <p>This Forum agrees that there must be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) sufficient funding to support informal volunteer carers and that 	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion For 9, Against 0, Abs 0 Motion carried 3/7 To be referred to NPC Health Working Party and NEC 20/10 – see 33 above</i></p>

	<p>b) all informal carers must have regular community assessments to establish sustainability and</p> <p>c) free assistance when needed.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">North East Region</p>	
35	<p>This AGM reaffirms its full support for a properly equipped, staffed and funded National Health Service – to remain free at the point of delivery. In light of the continuing Government attacks on the NHS, we instruct the Union at all levels to play a leading role in all campaigns in support of defending and further improving the NHS.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">North West Region</p>	<p><i>Vote in favour of motion</i></p> <p><i>For 9 Against 0 Abs 0</i></p> <p><i>Motion carried</i></p> <p><i>Qualified support</i></p> <p><i>3/7 This already clear policy of the Union</i></p> <p><i>21/9/15 – UNITE motion to TUC Conference – see 32 above</i></p> <p><i>Action complete.</i></p>

B HERBERTSON 4/4/15

MOTIONS CARRIED FORWARD FROM 2014

(13) TO BE TAKEN IN GENERAL DEBATE WITH MOTION 14

This Forum recognises the importance of ensuring that joining PCS ARMs is made as easy and straightforward as possible in order that we can help PCS Branches recruit members to ARMs. Whilst we wish to work with PCS Organisation and Membership Departments to find practical ways of ensuring a seamless transfer from ordinary PCS Membership to ARMs PCS membership we believe that it is vital that the facility for PCS members to join ARMs online is put in place as a matter of utmost urgency. We therefore instruct the ARMs National Committee to take immediate steps to implement arrangements for ensuring online joining of ARMs is possible and to publicise this as widely as possible amongst PCS members and Branches.

NORTH WEST

23/7/14 Supported.

We have been promised On Line by the Autumn. Still waiting therefore motion carried forward. 6/7/15 Still outstanding although seamless approach may mean it is less of a priority.

21/9/15 – To be raised again in view of the fact once there is a gap, a new application form needs completing.

4/4/16 – No progress. With Direct Debit this has become less of a priority. To raise again at meeting on 6/4.

Action not complete but 2 years up.

17

This Forum understands that ARMs members who receive Distinguished or Honorary Life Membership (DLM or HLM) awards and other members who have their subs waived for historical reasons are not required to pay union subscriptions for their ARMs membership. We also understand that this number accounts for about 25% of ARMs Membership. A number of these ARMs members do wish to continue making a financial contribution to PCS funds. We therefore instruct the ARMs National Committee to ensure that our DLM and HLM ARMs colleagues and other members who do not pay ARMs subscriptions are offered the opportunity to make a reasonable, regular voluntary financial contribution to PCS.

YORKS AND HUMBERSIDE

19

23/7/14 Supported. Proposals put to PCS Policy Committee/AGS/NEC. Any letter to be either written by ARMS or agreed by them. Still outstanding because of other issues in PCS. Carried Forward. 6/7/15 – Letter produced but it has not been agreed yet nor has it been agreed by NEC. 21/9/15 - Included in PCS Strategic Review.

4/4/16 – If our motion for all to pay fails, we will raise the voluntary issue again.

Action not complete but 2 years up.

Each ARMS Committee in submitting its budget should indicate how many are on their Committee and the category of people who are paid their expenses at meetings and the AGM.

MIDLANDS

28

23/7/14 Supported. Will be included in instruction on Bidding. 23/10/14 – Not included in 2015 bidding instructions. Carried forward.

4/4/16 – Not included in 2016 instructions.

Action not complete but 2 years up.

The National ARMS Secretary in producing the annual report should alongside the number of Committee meetings held include the attendance record of Committee Members during the year.

MIDLANDS

23/7/14 Supported. Carried forward. ARMS Secretary to be reminded. Published. Action complete

30

This Forum whilst accepting that there would be advantages in releasing care data within the NHS is gravely concerned that without proper safeguards this information could also be sold, supplied or even leaked to private organisations such as private insurance companies or companies such as Serco or big pharmaceutical companies who would love to see our NHS privatised and run entirely for profit.

Bearing in mind that the proposal to introduce the legislation has been deferred until October calls upon the National Executive of PCS in conjunction with the TUC and NPC to ensure that suitable safeguards are built into the legislation and operational procedures to ensure this information is not misused, and failing obtaining this, recommending that members should opt out of the scheme.

YORKS AND HUMBERSIDE

23/7/14 Supported with statement in that the campaign would be against the Care Data System and not the Care Record System. The role out has been postponed because of the confusion and outcry. We will await to see if the new information satisfies our misgivings. New information suggests otherwise and all has gone quiet.

Carried forward.

21/9/15 - All pilots of the care data scheme are paused until the New Year due to a review of security of confidential medical information in the health service.

4/4/16 – All has gone quiet.

Action complete.

31

This AGM considers that the TUC Pensioners' Committee is not as effective as it could be and as a result the TUC sometimes fails to gain pensioners' support for its aims and campaigns etc.

We consider the Committee would be more effective if:

- Its constitution and purpose were clearer and more widely understood
- Affiliated Unions had a greater opportunity to influence its priorities and
- Be more accountable.

This AGM believes this could be achieved with a structure like the other TUC Equality bodies.

This AGM instructs the National ARMS Committee to canvass support with a view to putting it to the TUC.

MIDLANDS

23/7/14 Supported. To take issue to the General Secretaries Office for discussion with TUC representatives. This has been raised again in the TUC Pensioners Committee. No response from PCS although other pressing issues. Carried forward.

21/9/15 - I raised this with the TUC Pensions Officer when he attended the Midlands Pensioners Network meeting.

4/4/16 – Discussed again at Midlands Pensioners Network AGM. This motion to go to a smaller TU for submission to National TUC AGM.

Action complete.

BRIAN HERBERTSON 4/4/16

Constitution, National Committee Recommendations

To: ARMs National Committee

From: Brian Herbertson

ARMs Strategic and Constitutional Review

The last National Committee meeting agreed a series of recommendations to be submitted to the NEC and Senior Full Time Officers (SFTOs) as part of our submission to the PCS National Strategic Review. Flowing from that we agreed that the National Committee sub-group that had proposed the recommendations should consider necessary amendments required to the ARMs National Constitution and PCS National Constitution to implement those recommendations. This paper sets out:

1. The current ARMs National Constitution with the recommended changes to relevant Rules to reflect the recommendations agreed at the last ARMs National Committee meeting. (ie: the two column document attached)
2. Proposed enabling motions to be submitted to the NEC and SFTOs setting out the changes to the PCS National Rules and Constitution to ensure it is consistent with the recommendations we have made to the PCS Strategic Review.
3. Proposed ARMs Forum Standing Orders to bring clarity to the management of business at the ARMs Annual Forum.

The National Committee will need to decide upon these recommendations when we meet on 03 December 2015.

**Brian Herbertson
November 2015**

CURRENT ARMs CONSTITUTION	RECOMMENDATION
1.1 The Association shall be called “Associate and Retired Members” (ARMs) of the Public and Commercial Services Union (PCS).	No Change (N/C)
2.1 To promote and protect Associate and Retired Members’ interests, needs and aspirations.	N/C
2.2 To campaign and co-operate with pensioner organisation and others, for the protection of pensions and other benefits which maintain or improve the quality of life of ARMs members. ARMs shall also work with other public sector pensioner organisations to protect existing benefits for pensioners and seek to improve public sector retirement provision.	N/C
2.3 To keep the ARMs membership informed of PCS benefits available to them.	N/C
2.4 To advise the PCS National Executive Committee of the needs and requirements of the ARMs members.	N/C
2.5 To be of assistance to the PCS as and when required including the recruitment of ARMs members.	N/C
2.6 To represent views of the PCS and ARMs in the wider pensioner movement both within the UK and the European Union.	N/C
2.7 To meet the TUC request from unions to organise Pensioner Sections.	N/C
2.8 To create a social contact between members.	N/C
2.9 To pay specific attention to the needs of members who reside overseas.	N/C
2.10 To maintain links and liaise with all PCS Branches and assist in Local and National campaigns, including Regional representation on the appropriate PCS Regional Committees.	N/C
2.11 To affiliate to and participate nationally and locally in such organisations having similar aims and objectives subject to the overriding authority of the NEC.	N/C

<p>3.1 Membership of the ARMs shall be confined to those qualified for associate membership as detailed in Rule 3.6(a) and Rule 3.6(b) of the PCS Rules.</p>	<p>Change to 3.6 and 3.7 RATIONALE – This reflects the changes in the PCS National Constitution</p>
<p>3.2 In addition, those awarded Distinguished and Honorary Life Membership of the PCS as detailed in Rule 3.10 of the PCS Rules shall be deemed to be Associate members and shall be eligible to receive such benefits of the Association as shall be determined from time to time by the PCS National Executive Committee.</p>	<p>See proposals on enabling motions to the NEC.</p>
<p>4.1 ARMs will be structured into 12 principal geographical Regions mainly based on PCS Regional structures, but one of which will be for members generally not resident in the UK.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>4.2 Each Region shall elect at least once every two years in a manner determined and approved by the National Committee, a Regional Secretary to act as the main contact between the Region and its local groups and the National Committee, and shall also elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer , and up to two Auditors. Auditors may attend Regional Committee meetings by invitation but may not be an elected member of the Regional Committee.</p>	<p>4.2 Each Region shall elect at least once every two years in a manner determined and approved by the National Committee, a Regional Secretary to act as the main contact between the Region and its local groups and the National Committee, and shall also elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer, and such other Officers it may deem necessary within the overall limitations on Regional Committee size as prescribed in Rule 4.3. RATIONALE- This is to reflect that some Committees want to appoint additional officers such as Assistant Secretary, Organiser, Membership Secretary</p>
<p>4.3 Each Region shall arrange, in a manner agreed Regionally, a Committee to co-ordinate its activities which is answerable to both the members in its Region and to the National Committee. Each Regional Committee shall budget for not more than 4 meetings a year. The Regional Committee shall comprise of its officers plus no more than 4 members, but the Committee shall be empowered to co-opt members when specialist knowledge is required. Each Region shall arrange the creation of local groups within that Region. Each Region shall ensure that local groups function properly (and keep adequate financial records for submission annually to the Regional Treasurer).</p>	<p>4.3 Each Region shall arrange, in a manner agreed Regionally, a Committee to co-ordinate its activities which is answerable to both the members in its Region and to the National Committee. <u>Each Regional Committee shall budget for at least 4 meetings a year. The Regional Committee shall comprise of no more than 10 members.</u> However the Committee shall be empowered to co-opt members when specialist knowledge is required. Each Region shall arrange the creation of local groups within that Region. Each Region shall ensure that local groups function properly (and keep adequate financial records for submission annually to the Regional Treasurer). RATIONALE- This gives Committees the flexibility without going over the top</p>

<p>4.4 Each Region shall hold an Annual General Meeting, to which all members in that Region shall be invited.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>4.5 Each Region shall be supplied with an up to date membership list and advised regularly of any leavers and joiners by the ARMs Secretary.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>4.6 Each Region shall be eligible to receive on request and in a manner to be determined by the National Committee an Annual subvention from funds agreed by the PCS National Executive Committee, and shall be empowered to meet any additional expenses by self-funding. These funds shall support both Regional and local activities. An annual statement of accounts shall be submitted to the National Committee. Full accounts will be kept which will be internally audited and may be called for full audit at any time at the discretion of the National Committee or the NEC. The Treasurer shall prepare a budget of expenditure and submit this to the Regional Committee and eventually make a bid for funding to the National Committee.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>4.7 Each Region shall produce a detailed Constitution and Rules which shall be approved by its membership at a properly constituted General Meeting. This Constitution and Rules shall be subject to the approval of the National Committee and NEC.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>5.1 There shall be one meeting a year held between one representative from each Region and the National Committee where matters affecting ARMs shall be discussed. This shall be called the ARMs Forum. The date for the Forum shall be published no later than 16 weeks in advance of the Forum. The items for discussion may be composited together by the National Committee in consultation with the proposers to ensure the business of the Forum to proceed in an expeditious manner. The agenda of the Forum shall be compiled by the National Committee from specific matters on ARMs issues submitted by Regions and the National Committee no later than 10 weeks before the Forum. It shall be for each Region to determine who it will send to the Forum. The agenda for the Forum shall be published no later than 8 weeks before the Forum.</p>	<p>N/C</p>

<p>5.2 If a matter has been raised at a Forum it may not be raised again for a period of two years unless there has been a material alteration in the matter or with the specific consent of the Chair whose decision on this would be final. There can be no reference back made against this decision.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>5.3 There will normally be one further meeting each year between the National Committee and one representative from each Region.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.1 There shall be a National Committee of 10 – the Chair and Assistant Secretary <u>plus</u> 8 ordinary members which shall be accountable to the membership in general through their Regional Committee and to the NEC.</p> <p>Nominations for election to the National Committee shall normally be called from the membership once every two years via the Winter issue of the ARMs Newsletter preceding the election.</p> <p>All candidates shall be permitted to submit an election address up to 150 words and a C.V. of up to 100 words. All candidates must be nominated and seconded by two other Associate members. The election addresses and ballot papers shall normally be issued to all members in the Spring issue of the ARMs Newsletter preceding the commencement of the term of office.</p> <p>Candidates shall be declared elected in order of votes cast in such a manner that not more than one half come from any PCS Group (current at the time the election closes).</p>	<p>There shall be a National Committee of 11 consisting of – the Chair, Vice-Chair/Editor, Secretary, Assistant Secretary/Organiser and Treasurer, plus six ordinary National Committee members which shall be accountable to the membership in general and to the NEC.</p> <p>RATIONALE- This reflects our submission to the Structures Review and keeps ordinary members one more than the officers</p> <p>Nominations for election to ARMs National Committee posts shall <u>normally be called from ARMs Regions every two years.</u></p> <p>RATIONALE- With the number of officers, with yearly elections they would hardly get their feet under the table before nominations were called for</p> <p>All candidates shall be permitted to submit an election address up to 250 words and a CV of up to 100 words. <u>All candidates must be nominated by the AGM or Special General Meeting of ARMs Regional Committees by no less than 50% of the members in attendance at the meeting.</u> The election addresses and ballot papers shall normally be issued to all members in Spring.</p> <p>RATIONALE- New nomination procedure agreed by carrying of motion8 at Forum It was felt 150 words was too restrictive</p> <p>The National Committee shall encourage the widest possible involvement from its diverse ARMs membership.</p> <p>Candidates shall be declared elected in order of votes cast in such a manner that <u>not more than one half of ARMs ordinary National Committee Members come from any PCS Group (current at the time the election closes).</u></p> <p>RATIONALE – Motion 5 removing the restriction did not get the two thirds votes at the Forum. It was felt however applying the restriction to officers was impractical</p>

<p>6.2 The Chair and Assistant Secretary shall be elected by the whole ARMs membership. A Vice Chair of the National Committee shall be appointed by and from the National Committee.</p>	<p>6.2 The ARMs National Committee shall be elected by the whole ARMs membership and will normally take up office after the ARMs Annual Forum. However newly elected National Committee members can attend the pre-Forum National Committee meeting as a nonvoting member and also the Forum as a nonvoting member unless they are a delegate. RATIONALE- Reflects the way we have been operating</p>
<p>6.3 The Chair shall preside at all meetings at which he/she is present, except at sub-committees, unless appointed to the Chair.</p> <p>The Chair shall sign all minutes of meetings, supervise the workings of the ARMs and its Officers, and have the right to inspect all ARMs books and documents at any time.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall chair all National Committee meetings or in the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, those present will nominate a chair.</p> <p>The Chair of any meeting shall have, in the event of an equality in any vote, an additional casting vote which should normally be in favour of the status quo.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.4 ARMs will be serviced by an Officer of the PCS appointed by the PCS General Secretary who shall act as Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a proper record of the proceedings of the National Committee, minutes of all Committee meetings, National meetings and Forums and deal with all correspondence for ARMs. He/she shall act generally under the instructions of the Committee and acquaint its members with matters of general and particular interest with the least possible delay. The Secretary will impartially advise the National Committee on matters of National PCS policy and other matters, but is unable to vote on any matter.</p> <p>The Secretary shall also carry out the duties of Treasurer who shall administer funds according to the directions of the National Committee. The National Committee shall</p>	<p>6.4 The ARMs National Committee Officers shall keep a proper record of the proceedings of the National Committee, minutes of all Committee meetings, National meetings and Forums and deal with all correspondence for ARMs. They shall act under the instructions of the Committee and acquaint its members with matters of general and particular interest with the least possible delay. Officers will advise the National Committee on matters of National PCS policy and other matters. Minutes of National Committee meetings and relevant Reports will be sent to ARMs Regional Secretaries. RATIONALE- Reflects Structures submission</p> <p>The Treasurer shall administer funds according to the directions of the National Committee. The National Committee shall prepare statements of account to 31st December each year and publish an annual report of finances to the membership</p>

<p>prepare statements of account to 31st December each year and publish an annual report of finances to the membership within 4 months of the end of the accounts year. The Treasurer shall also prepare any budget forecast required by the National Committee and the NEC and prepare the annual bid to the NEC.</p>	<p>within 4 months of the end of the accounts year. The Treasurer shall also prepare any budget forecast required by the National Committee and the NEC and prepare the annual bid to the NEC. A full time officer will be appointed by the General Secretary to support the work of the ARMS National Committee. RATIONALE-Reflects Structures submission</p>
<p>6.5 The National Committee shall normally meet not more than four times a year in a venue which is both convenient to the members of the Committee and be cost effective to the union. A quorum shall consist of at least 5 members present and voting.</p>	<p>6.5 The National Committee shall normally meet not more than four times a year. Meetings will be held in a venue which is both convenient to the members of the Committee and be cost effective to the union. A quorum shall consist of a majority of National Committee members present and voting. If a National Committee Members misses two consecutive meetings without submitting apologies they will be deemed to have resigned their post. In the event a National Committee member misses two consecutive meetings and sends apologies the Chair will speak to them to determine their reasons and commitment and if felt necessary will make an appropriate recommendation to the National Committee. RATIONALE- This gives us a procedure for managing attendance</p>
<p>6.6 The National Committee shall be the immediate managing body of ARMs subject to over-riding authority of the NEC.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.7 Reasonable expenses to National Committee meetings and any other expenses incurred with the approval of the National Committee may be claimed by the member and this will be reimbursed from ARMs funds. Expenses incurred by Regions shall be authorised at that level and reimbursed from Regional funds. PCS rules on expenses will be applied.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.8 The Chair shall be empowered to invite the attendance of any member of the NEC or Secretariat but such invitation shall not entitle the said member to vote at the meeting.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.9 The National Committee shall set up such sub-committees from within itself and outside as may be required from time to time to attend to the business of the Association. The Chair and the Secretary to the National</p>	<p>N/C</p>

<p>Committee shall be ex-officio members of all sub-committees, if they so wish.</p>	
<p>6.10 The National Committee shall have power to appoint delegates or observers to non PCS Conferences and meetings which the National Committee considers to be in the interest of the membership. All such delegates or observers shall report back to the National Committee who will normally make the reports available to Regions in particular and the membership in general.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>6.11 The National Committee shall produce an annual report during the first quarter of its year which shall normally be circulated to members via the Newsletter.</p>	<p>N/C</p>
<p>7. All Associate members shall be entitled to all the benefits of membership in accordance with PCS Rules and by decision of the National Executive Committee.</p> <p>8. In meeting the Aims and Objectives, the ARMs nationally will affiliate to such organisations as are appropriate and are agreed by the PCS National Executive Committee.</p> <p>Local Groups will: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide an opportunity for social activity; - be available to assist local PCS branches; - be available to assist as appropriate in local and national campaigns; - encourage ARMs members to maintain their links with their former Branches as outlined in PCS rules; - be entitled to affiliate and participate locally, to such organisations as the Union is affiliated nationally, any costs to borne by local funds which are raised or provided by the Region. 	<p>N/C</p>
<p>9. ARMs members will receive copies of the appropriate PCS publications plus the <i>Associate & Retired Members Newsletter</i> as and when published.</p>	<p>9. ARMs members will receive copies of the appropriate PCS publications plus the <i>Associate & Retired Members Newsletter</i> as and when published. ARMs Regional Secretaries will also be provided with regular updates on issues and will be responsible for circulating this information</p>

	to Committee Members and members within their Region as appropriate. RATIONALE- Motion 22 at Forum was lost but this addresses some of the issues
10.1 These rules shall be altered only by the approval of two-thirds of members present and voting at a properly constituted Forum. Full details of the amendments to be debated will be passed to all Regional Committees no later than 8 weeks before the Forum in order for them to advise their membership, take soundings and mandate their representatives.	N/C
10.2 The National Committee shall have the power to interpret any of these rules or any alteration thereto, and also give rulings on any matters on which the rules are silent.	N/C
10.3 A copy of these Constitution and Rules and any subsequent variation shall be supplied to the National Committee, Regional Committees and to any member of ARMs upon request. A current copy of this Constitution and Rules shall be placed on the ARMs website.	N/C
10.4 The Constitution and Rules and any subsequent amendments and interpretation are subject to the over-riding authority of the NEC.	N/C

National Constitution Rules Changes

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
	<p><u>Motion One</u> "This ARMs Forum approves the following numbering and heading of each of the rules in the proposed 'new' ARMs National Constitution." "1.0 – Title" "2.0 – Aims and Objects" "3.0 – Membership" "4.0 – Structure" "5.0 – Meetings" "6.0 – National Committee" "7.0 – Membership Benefits" "8.0 – Affiliations" "9.0 – Publications" "10.00 – Alteration to Rules" Renumber "7" to "7.1". Renumber "8" to "8.1". Renumber "9" to "9.1". (ARMs South West)</p>
<p>3.1 3.1 Membership of the ARMs shall be confined to those qualified for associate membership as detailed in Rule 3.6(a) and Rule 3.6(b) of the PCS Rules.</p> <p>2.2 To campaign and co-operate with pensioner organisation and others, for the protection of pensions and other benefits which maintain or improve the quality of life of ARMs members. ARMs shall also work with other public sector pensioner organisations to protect existing benefits for pensioners and seek to improve public sector retirement provision.</p>	<p><u>Motion Two</u> Change to 3.6 and 3.7 National Committee</p> <p><u>Motion Three</u> Rule 2.2 first sentence – add "s" to "organisation". (ARMs South West)</p>
<p>4.2 Each Region shall elect at least once every two years in a manner determined and approved by the National Committee, a Regional Secretary to act as the main contact between the Region and its local groups and</p>	<p><u>Motion Four</u> Rule 4.2 Each Region shall elect at least once every two years in a manner determined and approved by the National Committee, a Regional Secretary to act as the main contact between the Region and its local groups and the National</p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
<p>the National Committee, and shall also elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer , and up to two Auditors. Auditors may attend Regional Committee meetings by invitation but may not be an elected member of the Regional Committee.</p>	<p>Committee, and shall also elect a Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer, and such other Officers it may deem necessary within the overall limitations on Regional Committee size as prescribed in Rule 4.3. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Five</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u> Rule 4.2 first sentence - after "Chair, a Vice Chair, a Treasurer," add "up to two Auditors/Independent Examiners," Add as final sentence "Auditors/Independent Examiners may attend Regional Committee meetings by invitation but may not be an elected member(s) of the Regional Committee." <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p>
<p>4.3 Each Region shall arrange, in a manner agreed Regionally, a Committee to co-ordinate its activities which is answerable to both the members in its Region and to the National Committee. Each Regional Committee shall budget for at least 4 meetings a year. The Regional Committee shall comprise of no more than 10 members. However the Committee shall be empowered to co-opt members when specialist knowledge is required. Each Region shall arrange the creation of local groups within that Region. Each Region shall ensure that local groups function properly (and keep adequate financial records for submission annually to the Regional Treasurer).</p>	<p><u>Motion Six</u> Rule 4.3 Each Region shall arrange, in a manner agreed Regionally, a Committee to co-ordinate its activities which is answerable to both the members in its Region and to the National Committee. Each Regional Committee shall budget for at least 4 meetings a year. The Regional Committee shall comprise of no more than 10 members. However the Committee shall be empowered to co-opt members when specialist knowledge is required. Each Region shall arrange the creation of local groups within that Region. Each Region shall ensure that local groups function properly (and keep adequate financial records for submission annually to the Regional Treasurer). <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Seven</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u> Rule 4.3 third sentence – after "10" insert "elected". <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Eight</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u></p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
	<p>Rule 4.3 - delete fifth and sixth sentence and insert new Sub Rule 4.3.1 "Each Region shall arrange the creation of local groups within that Region. Each Region shall ensure that local groups function properly (and keep adequate financial records for submission annually to the Regional Treasurer). (<i>ARMs South West</i>)</p> <p><u>Motion Nine</u> <u>New Sub Rule</u> number 4.3.2 insert para – "Local Groups will: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ provide an opportunity for social activity ➤ be available to assist local PCS branches; ➤ be available to assist as appropriate in local and national campaigns; ➤ encourage ARMs members to maintain their links with their former Branches as outlined in PCS rules; ➤ be entitled to affiliate and participate locally, to such organisations as the Union is affiliated nationally, any costs to borne by local funds which are raised or provided by the Region." <p>(<i>ARMs South West</i>)</p>
<p>4.5 Each Region shall be supplied with an up to date membership list and advised regularly of any leavers and joiners by the ARMs Secretary.</p>	<p><u>Motion Ten</u></p> <p>Rule 4.5 after "ARMs" add "National". (<i>ARMs South West</i>)</p>
	<p><u>Motion Eleven</u> <u>Insert new Rule 4.8</u> – "ARMs Regions may confer the honour of Life Membership on any member in recognition of services to the Union and the ARMs Region in particular. Life members shall not be deemed to be life members of the Union for the purposes of PCS Rules. An ARMs Region life member may attend all meetings and address meetings with the Chair's permission but will not be permitted to vote.</p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
	<p>An ARMs Region life member shall continue to enjoy the rights and benefits of, and be subject to the duties of, associate membership.” <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p>
<p>5.3 There will normally be one further meeting each year between the National Committee and one representative from each Region.</p>	<p><u>Motion Twelve</u> Rule 5.3 delete “and one representative from each Region.” and insert “and the Regional Secretary (or a deputy) from each Region.” <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p>
<p>6.1 There shall be a National Committee of 10 – the Chair and Assistant Secretary plus 8 ordinary members which shall be accountable to the membership in general through their Regional Committee and to the NEC.</p> <p>Nominations for election to the National Committee shall normally be called from the membership once every two years via the Winter issue of the ARMs Newsletter preceding the election.</p> <p>All candidates shall be permitted to submit an election address up to 150 words and a C.V. of up to 100 words. All candidates must be nominated and seconded by two other Associate members. The election addresses and ballot papers shall normally be issued to all members in the Spring issue of the ARMs</p>	<p><u>Motion Thirteen</u> Rule 6.1 There shall be a National Committee of 11 consisting of – the Chair, Vice-Chair/Editor, Secretary, Assistant Secretary/Organiser and Treasurer, plus six ordinary National Committee members which shall be accountable to the membership in general and to the NEC. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Fourteen</u> Nominations for election to ARMs National Committee posts shall normally be called from ARMs Regions every two years. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Fifteen</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u> Create New Sub Rule number 6.1.1 – for para beginning “Nominations for election”. New Sub Rule number 6.1.1 – after “to” insert “the” – delete first “ARMs” and delete “posts”. <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Sixteen</u> All candidates shall be permitted to submit an election address up to 250 words and a CV of up to 100 words. All candidates must be nominated by the AGM or Special General Meeting of ARMs Regional Committees by no less than 50% of the members in attendance at the meeting. The election addresses and ballot papers shall</p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
	<p>Members come from any PCS Group (current at the time the election closes)". Northern Region</p> <p><u>Falls if Motion 18 is carried</u></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty</u> <u>Amendment to Motion Eighteen</u> Create New Sub Rule number 6.1.3 – for para beginning "Candidates shall be declared".</p>
<p>6.2 The Chair and Assistant Secretary shall be elected by the whole ARMs membership. A Vice Chair of the National Committee shall be appointed by and from the National Committee.</p>	<p><u>Motion Twenty One</u></p> <p>6.2 The ARMs National Committee shall be elected by the whole ARMs membership and will normally take up office after the ARMs Annual Forum. However newly elected National Committee members can attend the pre-Forum National Committee meeting as a nonvoting member and also the Forum as a nonvoting member unless they are a delegate. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p>
<p>6.3 The Chair shall preside at all meetings at which he/she is present, except at sub-committees, unless appointed to the Chair.</p> <p>The Chair shall sign all minutes of meetings, supervise the workings of the ARMs and its Officers, and have the right to inspect all ARMs books and documents at any time.</p> <p>In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair shall chair all National Committee meetings or in the absence of both the Chair and the Vice-Chair, those present will nominate a chair.</p> <p>The Chair of any meeting shall have, in the event of an equality in any vote, an additional casting vote which should normally be in favour of the status quo.</p>	<p><u>Motion Twenty Two</u> <u>Amendment</u> Create New Sub Rule number 6.3.1 - for para beginning "The Chair shall sign". <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty Three</u> Create New Sub Rule number 6.3.2 – for para beginning "In the absence". <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty Four</u> Create New Sub Rule number 6.3.3 – insert para beginning "The Chair of any meeting". <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
<p>6.4 ARMs will be serviced by an Officer of the PCS appointed by the PCS General Secretary who shall act as Secretary. The Secretary shall keep a proper record of the proceedings of the National Committee, minutes of all Committee meetings, National meetings and Forums and deal with all correspondence for ARMs. He/she shall act generally under the instructions of the Committee and acquaint its members with matters of general and particular interest with the least possible delay. The Secretary will impartially advise the National Committee on matters of National PCS policy and other matters, but is unable to vote on any matter.</p> <p>The Secretary shall also carry out the duties of Treasurer who shall administer funds according to the directions of the National Committee. The National Committee shall prepare statements of account to 31st December each year and publish an annual report of finances to the membership within 4 months of the end of the accounts year. The Treasurer shall also prepare any budget forecast required by the National Committee and the NEC and prepare the annual bid to the NEC.</p>	<p><u>Motion Twenty Five</u> 6.4 The ARMs National Committee Officers shall keep a proper record of the proceedings of the National Committee, minutes of all Committee meetings, National meetings and Forums and deal with all correspondence for ARMs. They shall act under the instructions of the Committee and acquaint its members with matters of general and particular interest with the least possible delay. Officers will advise the National Committee on matters of National PCS policy and other matters. Minutes of National Committee meetings and relevant Reports will be sent to ARMs Regional Secretaries. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty Six</u> Amendment to the original 6.4 first para – first, second and fourth sentence before “Secretary” add “National” <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p><u>Falls if Motion Twenty Five Accepted</u></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty Seven</u> The Treasurer shall administer funds according to the directions of the National Committee. The National Committee shall prepare statements of account to 31st December each year and publish an annual report of finances to the membership within 4 months of the end of the accounts year. The Treasurer shall also prepare any budget forecast required by the National Committee and the NEC and prepare the annual bid to the NEC. A full time officer will be appointed by the General Secretary to support the work of the ARMS National Committee. <i>(ARMs National Committee)</i></p> <p><u>Motion Twenty Eight</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u> New Sub Rule number 6.4.1 – for proposed para beginning “The Treasurer shall administer”. New Sub Rule number 6.4.2 – for proposed para beginning “A full time officer”.</p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
	<p data-bbox="804 241 1046 277"><i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p data-bbox="804 322 1091 353"><u>Motion Twenty Nine</u></p> <p data-bbox="804 362 1401 470">Amendment to original 6.4 second para - first sentence before "Secretary" add "National" <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p> <p data-bbox="804 479 1343 510"><u>Falls if Motion Twenty Seven Accepted</u></p>
<p data-bbox="150 604 775 833">6.5 The National Committee shall normally meet not more than four times a year in a venue which is both convenient to the members of the Committee and be cost effective to the union. A quorum shall consist of at least 5 members present and voting.</p>	<p data-bbox="804 564 999 595"><u>Motion Thirty</u></p> <p data-bbox="804 604 1439 1128">6.5 The National Committee shall normally meet not more than four times a year. Meetings will be held in a venue which is both convenient to the members of the Committee and be cost effective to the union. A quorum shall consist of a majority of National Committee members present and voting. If a National Committee Members misses two consecutive meetings without submitting apologies they will be deemed to have resigned their post. In the event a National Committee member misses two consecutive meetings and sends apologies the Chair will speak to them to determine their reasons and commitment and if felt necessary will make an appropriate recommendation to the National Committee.</p> <p data-bbox="804 1137 1158 1169">ARMS National Committee</p> <p data-bbox="804 1178 1062 1209"><u>Motion Thirty One</u></p> <p data-bbox="804 1218 1439 1711">This Forum notes that it is proposed to reduce the quorum for the ARMs National Committee to possibly a quorum consisting of at least 3 members present and voting. This forum agrees that the current quorum for the ARMs National Committee consisting of at least 5 members present and voting should be maintained. This Forum therefore agrees to amend the proposed amendment to column 1, item 6.5 (National Committee) presented by the ARMs PCS National Committee in the document headed, "Strategic and Constitutional Review" (and numbered as item 1 in the ARMs PCS National Committee document of November 2015) as follows:</p> <p data-bbox="804 1720 1439 1872">Delete at 6.5 in column 2 under the National Committee heading the following, "A quorum shall consist of a majority of National Committee members present and voting."</p> <p data-bbox="804 1881 1024 1912">Northern Region</p> <p data-bbox="804 1921 1203 1953"><u>Falls if Motion Thirty Carried</u></p>

Current ARMs National Constitution Paragraph	Amendment Motions
<p>8. In meeting the Aims and Objectives, the ARMs nationally will affiliate to such organisations as are appropriate and are agreed by the PCS National Executive Committee.</p> <p>Local Groups will: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ provide an opportunity for social activity; ○ be available to assist local PCS branches; ○ be available to assist as appropriate in local and national campaigns; ○ encourage ARMs members to maintain their links with their former Branches as outlined in PCS rules; ○ be entitled to affiliate and participate locally, to such organisations as the Union is affiliated nationally, any costs to borne by local funds which are raised or provided by the Region. 	<p><u>Motion Thirty Two</u></p> <p>Renumbered Rule 8.1 – delete the reference to “Local Groups” and move text to new Sub Rule 4.3.2. (<i>ARMs South West</i>)</p>
<p>9. ARMs members will receive copies of the appropriate PCS publications plus the <i>Associate & Retired Members Newsletter</i> as and when published.</p>	<p><u>Motion Thirty Three</u></p> <p>9. ARMs members will receive copies of the appropriate PCS publications plus the <i>Associate & Retired Members Newsletter</i> as and when published. ARMs Regional Secretaries will also be provided with regular updates on issues and will be responsible for circulating this information to Committee Members and members within their Region as appropriate. (<i>ARMs National Committee</i>)</p> <p><u>Motion Thirty Four</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u></p> <p>Renumbered Rule 9.1 – second sentence – after “updates” insert “similar to Branch Bulletins” Renumbered Rule 9.1 – second sentence – delete “issues” and insert “subjects of interest” (<i>ARMs South West</i>)</p>

ARMs National Committee Enabling Motion and Amendments

Rule numbers from PCS Rule Book

PCS Rule 3.6 – The following shall be qualified for associate membership:

(a) A member who has retired (whether due to ill health or reaching retirement age or under an early retirement scheme).

(b) A member who is made redundant, or who resigns from their employment.

(c) A Full-time Officer of the Union. Any former full-time officer of the Inland Revenue Staff Federation ("IRSF") shall continue to receive those benefits to which they would otherwise have been entitled as an ordinary member of the IRSF.

Application shall be made in such form as the NEC may prescribe.

PCS Rule 3.8 – An associate member may attend General Meetings of the Branch of which they were last an ordinary member or which is nearest to their place of residence. They may not speak (except at the invitation of the Branch), or propose or second any motion or amendment, or vote on any issue, or hold any Union office specified in the Union's Rules (subject to supplementary rule 3.19(f)). They shall have those rights and benefits expressly provided for in the Union's Rules, and those determined by the NEC. Nothing in this rule shall limit the

Motion One

All members of the Union will be entitled to be Associate Members when they retire, are made redundant, or resign from their employment subject to the payment by Direct Debit of the monthly Associate Membership subscription rate. (ARMs National Committee)

Motion Two

Amendment to Above

PCS Rule 3.6 first sentence - delete "be" and insert "become".

(ARMs South West)

Motion Three

Amendment to Motion One

This Forum agrees that it is important to recognise and maintain lifelong free membership for those that have been honoured by the union with life membership. This forum therefore agrees to amend the enabling motion presented by the ARMs PCS National Committee in the document headed, "Strategic and Constitutional Delete full stop following "Membership subscription rates" and insert "except for life members who will not be required to pay any subscription."

Northern Region

Falls if Motion One Carried

Motion Four

Proposed amendment to the wording of PCS

Rule 3.8 - Amend to show when they become an Associate Member as well as becoming an ARMS member they will also remain where appropriate in their old Branch as a non-voting member. They will be invited to AGMs and other General meetings, hold on a temporary basis posts such as Treasurer, Minute Secretary. They will also be

<p><i>powers of a Full-time Officer to perform the duties of their post.</i></p> <p><i>PCS Rule 3.15 "No subscriptions shall be payable by a life member, or by an associate member who is a Full-time Officer."</i></p> <p><i>PCS Rule 3.19 – All members shall:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>(a) Belong to such Branch as the NEC may direct.</i> <i>(b) Pay all subscriptions and other sums payable under the Union's Rules, when due.</i> <i>(c) Abide by the Rules and any decision made under them; and carry out any duty or direction arising under them.</i> <i>(d) Ensure that the Head Office is informed of their proper address at all times.</i> <i>(e) On ceasing to be a member, give up any right in the Union's funds and property.</i> <i>(f) On ceasing to be an ordinary member, immediately resign any office and cease to represent the Union, except that: (i) a National Appeals Committee member or Standing Orders Committee member who becomes a member of another type shall not be required to resign until the next appropriate election, and (ii) a Member Trustee shall not be required to resign.</i> <p><i>PCS Rule 3.21 - A member may resign by giving not fewer than 4 weeks' written notice to the Branch Secretary.</i></p>	<p>invited to relevant Town Committees as a non-representational, non-voting member. (ARMs National Committee)</p> <p><u>Motion Five</u> <u>Amendment to Above</u> If the proposed amendment to Rule 3.8 is accepted by the Forum then the word "t(T)hey" in each sentence may need to be defined. (ARMs South West)</p> <p><u>Motion Six</u> Delete Rule 3.15 (ARMs National Committee)</p> <p><u>Motion Seven</u> <u>Proposed amendment to PCS Rule 3.19 -</u> Amend to allow them to carry on as Treasurer, Minute Secretary on a temporary basis without voting rights. (ARMs National Committee)</p> <p><u>Motion Eight</u> <u>Proposed amendment to PCS Rule 3.21 - ADD</u> - PCS are keen to retain Full Members who are leaving or retiring as Associate Members. If they are on Direct Debit in addition to notifying their Branch Secretary they should consider notifying Membership of their leaving date and give</p>
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<p>8/ A motion will succeed by obtaining a simple majority unless it is a constitutional amendment which requires a two thirds majority. It is only the delegates who vote.</p> <p>9/ The result on motions will be sent to ARMs Secretaries.</p>	<p>SO9 – delete full stop and add “within 90 days.”. <i>(ARMs South West)</i></p>
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OTHER MOTIONS FOR FORUM

- **EXTERNAL**

Motion One

The NPC position is "Creation of a National Care Service alongside the NHS funded through general taxation and based on medical and care needs rather than the ability to pay"

The Kings Fund, the Chief Executive of the NHS and others have suggested to the Chancellor that Pensioners should pay towards the Care Service by the loss of the Triple Lock and alteration to Pension Tax relief.

This AGM rejects losing the Triple Lock and in the case of Taxation any changes to pay for Care should be shared by all Taxpayers. This position on Taxation should be made clear in the NPC's position. In the case of the Triple Lock, if it is abandoned it should be replaced by reinstatement of the RPI.

Midlands

Motion Two

This Forum agrees with the NPC that devolving of Benefits such as free TV licences for the over 75s and Attendance Allowance is a disturbing development. PCS are therefore urged to support the NPC's position on these and any other similar devolvments as part of the Devolvment Bill.

Midlands

- **INTERNAL**

Motion Three

This ARM's Forum recognises the financial challenges facing PCS and that one of the decisions taken to reduce costs was to make a charge for the PCS diary.

The timing of this decision meant that diaries were not distributed until early in December when many members will have been making arrangements for appointments, meetings, events etc some months previously.

To the best of our knowledge this decision was only communicated electronically and the only method of purchasing a diary was electronically. Members who do not have access to the internet were disadvantaged and we believe this disproportionately impacted on retired members. Although arrangements were later introduced for branches to purchase in bulk this did not help ARM's regions as the cost of contacting members by 'snail mail', collecting payment and distribution would have been beyond our financial resources.

This Forum therefore requests that:

- Arrangements for future diaries (whether free or at a cost) are set in motion in good time for them to be distributed earlier

That details of any process requiring members to take action are communicated to members in such a way that those without IT are not disadvantaged
Midlands

Motion Four

This ARMs Forum agrees that the PCS diary, despite the growing use of electronic diaries, is still valued by many of our members as it i) contains useful information about our union and ii) meets the needs of members who do not use electronic forms.

We note, however, that the diary omits mention of some events that are of significance to our members. These include International Women's Day, International Workers Memorial Day and International Day of Older Persons.

This Forum therefore requests that future diary contents are reviewed to ensure that significant events are included.

Midlands

Motion Five

Midlands ARMS Regional Committee are concerned that no reports from the TUC National Pensioners Committee have been circulated to ARMS Regional Committees. The National Committee are asked for an explanation as to why nothing has been forthcoming.

Midlands

Motion Six

This AGM notes the ongoing work of the ARMs National Committee in pursuing through the National Union policies agreed at the ARMs National Annual Forum. However ARMs requires a higher profile. Regular recognition still needs to be given to ARMs on the National Website and to include reference to ARMs in the reports on the Strategic Review and Leavers Section.

In order to further develop this work this AGM instructs the ARMs National Committee to pursue the following activity:

1. Make a positive submission on the PCS Structural Review Consultation Report identifying those issues relevant to ARMs with recommendations to fully integrate ARMs into the union structure;
2. Agree with the NEC and Senior Officers changes to the Direct Debit system to enable a more streamlined approach to joining ARMs through lifelong membership;
3. Compile a strategy paper drawing on the existing ARMs submission to the PCS Strategic Review and updating that in the light of the recent Strategic Review Consultation Report.

4. Present the ARMs Strategy paper to a meeting of PCS Senior Officers and ensure a discussion is held over the role of ARMs and its relationship with PCS at that meeting to confirm that ARMs will have access to PCS staff in the following areas:
 - Organisation,
 - Communications/Editor of PCS People,
 - Pensions Officer,
 - Campaigns Officer,
 - FTO for MyCSP, and
 - Senior Officers as appropriate.
 5. Confirm that ARMs should continue to work on behalf of our retired members with local and national Pensioners bodies to campaign independently on the key issues facing our retired members and to have a robust structure in place which works with the National Union to take forward issues on behalf of members.
 6. Develop a robust communication strategy.
 7. Publish agreed outcomes to PCS representatives.
- NW

Motion Seven

This AGM is dismayed at the treatment of ARMS by PCS. The ARMS National Committee put in an early positive submission to the PCS Structural Review. The recommendations that have come from that Review make reference to Young members, the Commercial Sector, Equality Groups, Mentoring, but not once ARMS. Separately there has been a new instruction on Resignations which makes no reference to ARMS membership or the procedure to change the Direct Debit to continue as an Associate member through ARMS.

We thought we had made progress particularly with the help of Andrew Lloyd, and the helpful things the General Secretary said at the last Forum, but we seem to be wasting This motion if agreed should go to the General Secretary. our time. This motion if agreed should go to the General Secretary.

Midlands

Motion Eight

That this ARMs Forum supports the decision of PCS to invite ARMS members to vote in the 2015 Political Fund ballot however notes that we are rarely included in any PCS Ballots. This AGM/Forum fully understands why it would not be appropriate to invite ARMS members to participate in Industrial Action or Workplace Ballots but cannot see the reasons for excluding ARMS Members from other ballots –e.g. General Secretary Election, Merger Ballot or NEC Elections. This forum requests the PCS NEC to state the criteria governing whether ARMS members are included in PCS ballots.
(*ARMS South West*)

Motion Nine

That this ARMs Forum expresses its concern that the ARMs National Committee decided to override a decision taken at the 2015 ARMs Forum concerning one of the successful Motions.

(ARMs South West)

Motion Ten

That this ARMs Forum expresses its disappointment that a quarter of the way through the year (2016) the ARMs South West Regional Committee (*ARMs South West*) have not been informed what funding is being made available to the Region for 2016.

(ARMs South West)