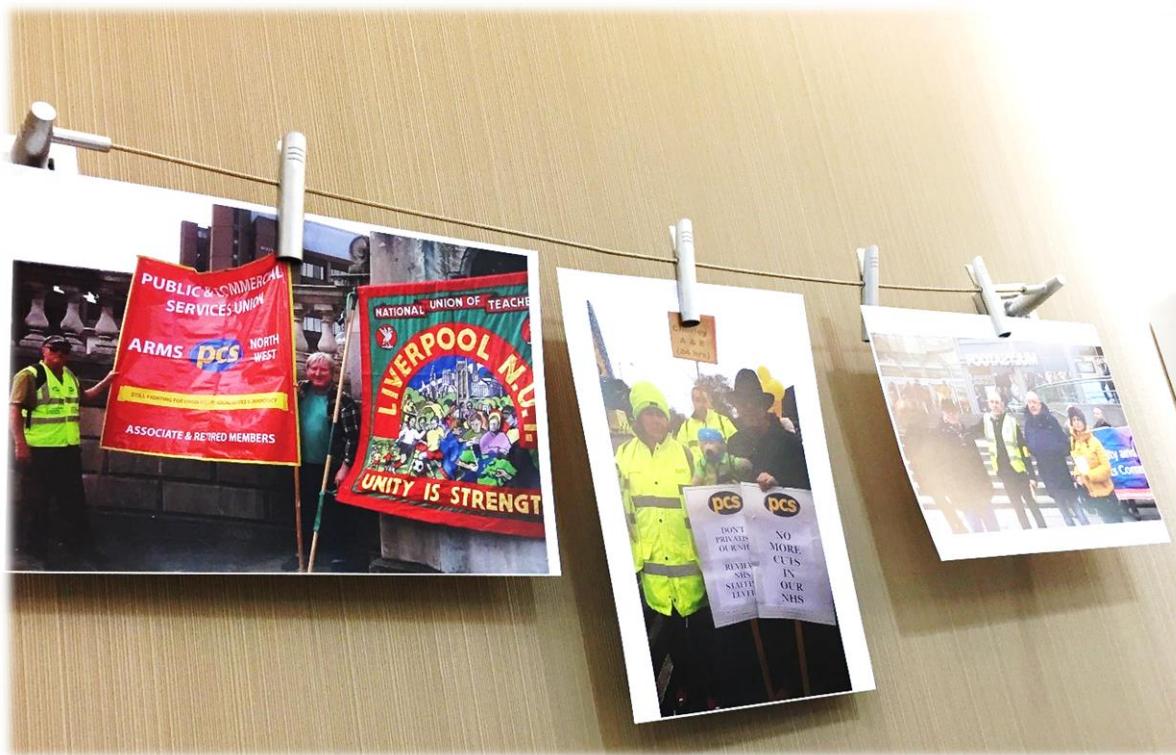


ANNUAL REPORT 2017

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ARMs ANNUAL REPORT

INTRODUCTION / OVERVIEW

Phil Green – National Chair

This year's annual report is being issued to ARMs regions and members earlier than in the past. We have done this for two reasons:

1. The national committee has agreed that ARMs needs to mirror as much as possible the way branches and groups function within PCS. This will (hopefully) help change our perceived status from being one of just an anachronistic add-on to PCS - to one of a fully integrated and supportive part of the national union. We are therefore changing our usual timetable for reports etc. to comply (within the constraints we operate in) with the national PCS rules.
2. The national committee also believes that, by issuing the annual report now, it will allow those ARMs regions which are currently in the process of arranging their AGMs to have a note of the work of the national committee available to them when members are considering motions to be submitted to the ARMs Forum.

This is however just one part of the process that the national committee will have to pursue if we are to achieve the aims and objectives provided to us by ARMs members via the Forum. You will see elsewhere in this report the large amount of work that has already been carried out by committee members during 2017.

We now have national blog, a Facebook page and up to four regular editions of our newsletter, Up in ARMs. The September/October edition was sent out to all ARMs members in hard copy format with the national PCS publication "PCS People". The National Committee sees that as just one step in improving our communications with ARMs members over the forthcoming months.

Those of us fortunate enough to have access to and happy in the use of technology understand the ease by which communications can be issued/received at little or no cost. However, it remains a fact that the majority of ARMs members (for whatever reason) do not have access to or use that same technology and we continue to press the national body that such ARMs members must retain access to the information provided by PCS. After all, they are PCS members and are paying their subscriptions just like everyone else.

It would be remiss of me not to mention in my contribution to the annual report the work carried out on our behalf by our National Officer, Gaynelle Samuel. As many of you will be aware, responsibility for ARMs has recently moved to the Assistant General Secretary's office and so we are having to say goodbye to Gaynelle. Her work, support and advice during the time she has provided support to ARMs has been exemplary and I for one have benefitted from that same support and advice. I am sure ARMs members will wish her well for the future and at the same time provide a warm welcome to her successor, Tracy Edwards.

There is a lot of work still to be done, but this Annual Report will show that we are travelling in the right direction. As always, we are grateful for the work carried out by ARMs Regions over the past twelve months. Without the support of Regions and, through them, the support of the membership, we would not have got this far.

COMMUNICATIONS

Eddie Spence – National Vice Chair / Editor

BACKGROUND

The ARMs National Communications Team established by the incoming National Committee in November 2016 continues to oversee all our communications activity. The Team consists of the National Vice-Chair/Editor – Eddie Spence, Treasurer – Sandra Durkin and National Committee Members – Jacquie Hadfield and Steve Ion. Invaluable support and guidance in setting up and updating the National Blog was provided by Neville Grundy – Chair of the ARMs Merseyside Group.

COMMUNICATIONS GENERAL

Following the participation of ARMs Regions in a ‘communications questionnaire’ exercise in early 2017 a number of action points have been taken forward to improve our communications with members. This report focuses on those developments.

The National Committee recognises that we operate in a difficult political and financial climate and that ARMs regions are all different and will adapt to developments at a different pace. We do our utmost to ensure that where we need to change and update our communications arrangements we provide as much background information and guidance on new developments as we can. We also encourage ARMs representatives to contact our Communications Team members if they require any further information or advice on developments.

UP IN ARMs (UiA) NATIONAL NEWSLETTER

We produced three editions of Up in ARMs in 2017 in February, September and November, two were ‘on-line’ editions and one (September) was a printed copy mailed to all ARMs members along with our Unions national newsletter ‘PCS People’. Agreement to this hard copy circulation followed discussions between ARMs elected National Officers and PCS Senior Officers. The September edition of UiA encouraged members to register their e-mail addresses with PCS and provided guidance on how this can be done directly and confidentially by members via their PCS on-line iMembership account accessed through the PCS national website. The number of e-mail addresses provided by ARMs members continues to increase and an up to date report on progress will be provided in advance of the ARMs 2018 Annual Forum in June. The September edition also carried details of majority of ARMs region/nation AGMs and we hope that will have a positive impact on AGM attendance.

Editions of UiA cover a range of issues and we always publicise the deadline for members to make contributions and welcome those we receive. However we have also included articles from other trade unions and organisations as well as recently offering PCS Young Members a regular opportunity to share their thoughts with ARMs members via UiA.

We have four editions of UiA planned for 2018 and due for issue in February, June, August and November. We will be involved in further discussions with PCS senior officers early in 2018 to increase the number of printed ‘hard copies’ we are able to issue to all ARMs members in the forthcoming year. We will continue to press for UIA to be issued along with editions of PCS People as the most cost effective approach to regularly communicating with all our ARMs membership.

Finally we welcome ideas, views and comment about the content of UiA from all members and representatives and thank those members who have shared their thoughts with us.

ARMs AND PCS PEOPLE

We have had occasional items included about ARMs in 'PCS People' the Unions national Newsletter and we wish to ensure this is done regularly as 'PCS People' is the only communication issued to the whole PCS membership. Recognising that PCS members may leave and/or retire from employment at any time of the year and if we are to improve recruitment into ARMs membership we need to continue to make members aware of PCS ARMs, who we are and what we do. This critical area of publicity and recruitment will be the subject of discussions with PCS senior officers as will other aspects of publicity and recruitment that are commented upon elsewhere in this Report.

ARMs WEBPAGES

National webpages

We continue to adapt and update the content of the ARMs national webpages to try and ensure that information they contain is up to date and accurate. There is always room for improvement and we welcome any views from ARMs members and representatives on how we might improve the content.

Regional Hub webpages

In 2017 we established the following as a minimum standard for ARMs regional/nation webpage content.

Dates, times and venues for ARMs Regional Committee meetings and the AGM;

Contact details for ARMs Regional Committee contacts;

Advice on joining ARMs using the standard format on the National webpages.

Majority of ARMs Regions now have dedicated webpages. We will be working with those regions/nations that do not at least meet the minimum standards agreed by the National Committee. The importance of this is that the region/nation webpage content is the basic building block to improving communications to the growing number of ARMs members we can contact by e-mail in each region/nation. ARMs regions/nations can utilise their webpages in tandem with a new system of issuing e-mails to all the members in their particular region/nation that we have agreed with PCS nationally. We are continuing to issue guidance to regions/nations to assist them to take full advantage of these developments.

Further to the above we need to 'future proof' our communications with current and potential members as well as use online content to improve the profile of ARMs within PCS and encourage improved ARMs recruitment outcomes.

We are confident that once regions/nations are more familiar with arrangements for establishing and keeping their webpages up to date that they will prove extremely helpful for members and representatives in managing communications more effectively. We aim to have up to date and well managed ARMs webpages in place for every ARMs region/nation by the end of 2018. An interim progress report will be provided to the ARMs Annual Forum in June.

ARMS NATIONAL BLOG

The first ever ARMs National Blog was established in April 2017. If you've never heard of one it is a regularly updated website or web page, run by our ARMs national Communications Team, written in an informal/conversational style. You can visit the site now at [ARMs National BLOG](#)

The Blog is updated with topical news stories, information and comment that may be of interest to current members, prospective members and PCS representatives who wish to find out more about ARMs.

Members can register to receive blog updates by submitting their e-mail address in the box marked "E-mail address" on the right hand side of the screen, a verification message will be sent to you, and once you respond to this message, you will be e-mailed each post as it appears on the blog. We welcome members' comments and exchanges of comments on the site which is monitored and moderated by ARMs nationally.

Please note: registering to receive ARMs Blogposts is not the same as registering your e-mail address with the PCS central Membership Database. To do that members should follow the guidance issued in the September issue of Up in ARMs.

ARMS FACEBOOK LAUNCH

Delivering on a commitment to ARMs members and a promise to PCS Group Conference delegates the ARMs National Committee launched a Facebook closed group in September 2017 at [PCS Associate and Retired Members \(ARMs\)](#). We welcome members joining the group and sharing details of meetings, information, campaigning activity and any items of interest to ARMs members, PCS and the wider trade union movement.

As a closed group any person can find the Facebook page by searching the name and can request to join the group. They cannot join unless they are approved by one of the administrators who are members of the ARMs National Communications Team and only current group members can see posted content. Hence the privacy of the group is maintained.

Membership of the Group continues to increase and provides quick and easy access to information about PCS ARMs.

COMMUNICATIONS ACROSS PCS

Our work with PCS senior officers is to keep their support for improving and increasing the profile of ARMs across all PCS Branches.

We aim to make sure that it becomes the norm and not the exception for PCS members to keep the benefits of our union membership when we leave employment. In an ever changing world it is important that we stay organised, able to make our views heard and have the capacity to campaign and challenge the politicians and decision makers who continue to have a significant impact on our day to day lives and those of our families and friends.

National Secretary Overview

Brian Herbertson – National Secretary

National Committee

There has been a substantial amount of activity undertaken by the National Committee during the period covered by this report.

There have been four National Committee Meetings and two Officers Team Meetings. The Chair and I attended a meeting with PCS Senior Officers on 24th January 2017 and a further meeting is in the process of being set up. The annual ARMs Forum was held on 21st June with only the North East not providing a delegate. At the Forum, the Guest Speakers were National President Janice Godrich and Declan Henry from the Young Members Committee.

The Chair, Sandra Durkin and Jacqui Hadfield attended the PCS ADC 2017 in Brighton as both observers and custodians of the ARMs stall and, for the first time in the history of ARMs, spoke at 6 Group Conferences. Eddie Spence and Sheila Banks (Yorkshire ARMs) spoke at the Young Members Conference.

Following on from last year's report and the various constitutional motions carried at the ARMs Forum 2017, we now have a Model Regional Constitution which is fit for purpose in terms of our objectives. It has been agreed by the NEC and so far adopted by 3 Regional/Nation ARMs Committees with the rest expected from 2018 AGMs.

All members of the National Committee and particularly the officers have their responsibilities spelt out. We therefore ask all ARMs members and ARMs Committees to contact me or the appropriate officer, on issues and not go direct to our newly appointed full-time National Officer, Tracy Edwards.

Based on the discussions held at National Committee meetings and Forum motions, our objectives are to

- increase membership
- improve our records
- improve the status of ARMs with working members, Branches, the NEC and PCS staff
- improve communications with ARMs Committees, ARMs members, working members and the NEC
- support and publicise campaigns.

You will see elsewhere in this report the work other officers have carried out in pursuit of these objectives.

As indicated above, the National officers meet in between National Committee Meetings to ensure we are progressing issues. We have a well organised Committee and have had good support from our Full Time Officer.

In March 2017, for personal and health reasons, Jim Park indicated that he was stepping down from his role as a member of the National Committee and Steve Ion was therefore called-up to fill Jim's place from the July 2017 meeting.

National Pensioner's Convention (NPC).

ARMs has a good reputation and relationship with the NPC and this will continue with four officers holding positions. The Chair on the National Council, me on the Executive, Barry Fuge on the TU Working Party and Sandra Durkin on the Women's Working Party.

The Chair and I attended the NPC's Biennial Delegate Conference on 21-22 March 2017 and spoke on a number of motions including seconding a successful motion to Affiliate to the People's Assembly. Our own motion on Carers has been taken forward by the NPC and I will be circulating details of progress made in due course. The Chair, Brian Gibson and I attended the NPC Pensioners Parliament where we staffed the PCS stall. Because of the Parliamentary elections, we were unable to hold our usual fringe meeting at the Parliament. I also attended the well-organised NPC lobby of Parliament on 18th October.

Other work

We have a strong representative in Eddie Spence on the National TUC Pensioners Committee. Many of our Regions support Trades Councils.

During the year we have supported campaigns organised by PCS, Peoples Assembly, NPC, TUC, Care NHS, WASPI and contributed to a number of Pensions Reviews and made a submission to the Cridland Review.

Sandra Durkin attended the CSPA AGM.

ARMs Regional Secretaries receive regular mailings from me through the Admin ARMs distribution system and now have the facility to use the iMembership list of E Mail addresses of members in their Region.



ARMs members staffing our stall at PCS annual conference in Brighton May 2017

MEMBERSHIP & ORGANISATION

Barry Fuge – National Assistant Secretary / Organiser

1. Membership Trends

According to the 2017 conference documentation we were the 6th largest Group in PCS. The following chart shows the membership figures by region and their slow but seemingly inevitable growth over the last year.

	Jan 18	Jan 17	Mar 17	Apr 17	Jul 17	Oct 17
Midlands	1119	1216	1227	1254	1258	1277
North West	1104	1214	1224	1226	1229	1234
Northern	576	648	650	658	667	674
Scotland	721	798	802	807	796	821
Wales	636	706	718	722	748	757
Y & H	705	779	792	810	810	819
South West	935	1076	1086	1078	1089	1094
Eastern	*2846	1968	1176	1024	1023	1023
South East	As above	1174	1931	2097	2126	2154
London	755	831	813	821	822	851
N.I.	102	111	110	114	113	113
Overseas	26	28	38	38	37	35
Life members	855					
Total	10,380	10,549	10,561	10,649	10,718	10,852

*Eastern and South East membership combined

Please note that the figures for each region shown after January 2017 include life members Recruitment

The figures show that membership has increased in our first year by 472 which is the largest increase that I can find in the records I hold (i.e. from 2012). There may have been a number of reasons that have contributed to this increase.

Procedures - There have been some improvements in recruitment procedures which were introduced this year, in particular PCS membership no longer require members to complete an application form to join ARMs. PCS now accept that members who leave employment can transfer to ARMs by simply calling membership section and asking them to make the transfer. Clearly some members may be required to complete a direct debit mandate but for the majority who pay subs by direct debit or those who wish to continue paying their subs by check off from their pension the transfer should be seamless.

Activity – This must have been the most active year for ARMs members. Members have supported PCS members in struggle on a regular basis, supported community activists fighting NHS closures, protested against fracking, visited other union's picket line and attended local and national demonstrations as part of PCS. We have put the PCS case in meetings to MPs' and shadow cabinet members and contributed to the work of the National Pensioners Convention (the largest and most effective campaigning organisation for pensioner's rights).

Profile – Our communications strategy primarily using digital media has meant that our activity has been publicised and is well known.

PCS Profile - ARMs representatives spoke at a number of PCS Group Conferences in 2017 which has raised the understanding of ARMs amongst working members. Although we have spent a lot of time talking about membership figures there is no doubt that the major factors in recruitment for ARMs are the number of members who are leaving (retirement, redundancies & cuts) and the appreciation of PCS working branches.

My conclusion is that the most influential factor on ARMs recruitment is the working members and their branches.

Lifelong membership

It has been a long term policy of PCS ARMs to promote a policy of lifelong membership. This means that when someone joins PCS they will commit to being a lifelong member. This means that the responsibility would be on those who do not want to maintain their membership to inform PCS that they wanted to resign. If PCS adopted such a system would be that every PCS member who leaves work would automatically be transferred to the PCS ARMs Group and their subscriptions would be adjusted accordingly.

The advantages are clear, instead of having growth of only 1% or 2% per annum we could reasonably expect annual growth of ARMs membership to be closer to 50%. I think it is helpful to demonstrate the point by using actual figures from the organising strategy. In the year between 2014 and 2015 the PCS membership numbers fell by 37,998(net) and ARMs membership increased by 260(net). Therefore we recruited 0.68% of the potential. Under a system of lifelong membership retaining only 25% of those who left would mean we would have increased our membership by almost 9,500!

I understand that the calculations are not arithmetically perfect but never the less the argument is undeniable especially when you consider the financial implications for PCS.

A paper has been circulated to the ARMs national committee and we are aware that there are a number of quite significant practical problems in implementing such a system but because the advantages are so clear we have agreed to raise the principle with PCS for discussion and investigation into its feasibility.

I membership

The take up of I membership has been very disappointing. I understand that the access to membership records is limited but it is clearly progress for ARMs regions to be able to confirm who is a member in their region and effect transfers from one region to another when necessary. I will continue to encourage regions to take this option.

Lapsing procedures

The union's procedure for dealing with members who fail to pay subs is in three parts. In the first month PCS HQ send the member a letter inviting them to restart payment of their subs. If the member fails to respond then in the second month PCS send a lapsing notice to their branch asking them to contact the lapsed member. Since ARMs regions do not have members contact details this notice fails. The final stage is in week three when PCS HQ send a final notice to the member.

I have proposed some suggested amendments to the lapsing procedures for ARMs to PCS HQ and am waiting a response.

Death Benefit

The ARMs national committee are aware that ARMs members qualify for all PCS benefits other than death benefit. Therefore it was agreed to approach PCS HQ with a view to investigating whether it was possible for PCS to offer death benefit to ARMs members. We are still waiting for a response.

FINANCE

Sandra Durkin – National Treasurer

Background

PCS allocates an annual budget to ARMs which is held centrally by PCS but regular reports are provided to enable us to monitor expenditure. Regions/nations are requested to submit bids in October each year, recommendations are made by the National Officers for ratification by the full National Committee.

2017 Expenditure

Our overall budget for 2017 was £12,800. Initial expenditure forecasts from regions/nations totalled £9,872 which was clearly unaffordable. The National Committee agreed that a robust, fair and transparent process should take place which took account of balances in region/nation accounts and individual dialogue with regions/nations - this reduced the total by some 50%. It was our aim to ensure that the national committee and all regions/nations were able to operate effectively within the terms of their constitutions and no additional emergency requests were received.

Officers and the National Committee also scrutinised all proposed activity at national level including the number of delegates/representatives at all meetings events.

Final expenditure in 2017 was as follows:

ARMs National Committee and Officers meetings	2818.51
2017 Annual Forum in Liverpool June 2017	4350.75
Allocations to Regions/Nations	4046.00
Up in Arms insert in PCS People	686.68
National Pensioners Convention (includes national committee representation, NPC Bi-annual Delegate Conference and the Pensioners Parliament)	1866.11
Other – includes attendance at national and regional TUC pensioner committees/networks, ARMs attendance at PCS Annual Delegate Conference, officers and National Committee visits to support region/nation committees, attendance at PCS Young Members annual forum, attendance at the Civil Service Pensioners Alliance AGM and ad hoc costs	2745.95
Total	16514.00

Budget was £12,800 so the over spend was £3,714 – for information, 2016 spend was £16,333, budget £13,300.

2018 Forecast

For 2018, our budget is £12,800

At the time of writing, bids received for 2018 from regions/nations total £7,250 so we are again undergoing a process of scrutiny as this would lead to an overspend of c£7,000.

As stated above, our aim is to ensure that we are able to operate effectively within the terms of our constitutions. Guidance was issued to support treasurers and regions/nations in preparing their bids.

Feeling positive (treasurers are usually doom and gloom....)

You will note from the reports from other national officers that we have increased our membership. We have raised the profile of ARMs (including at PCS ADC where our stall was staffed throughout ADC and our representatives spoke at 6 group conferences) and our Facebook group now has 142 members. We also have a blog. We have 2 local groups in the North West and there is potential for more local groups in other regions/nations. We are engaging with workplace branches to encourage promotion of ARMs membership to members who retire/are made redundant.

ARMs members are actively engaged in PCS campaigns (eg closure of offices) and wider activity such as local Trade Union Councils, Keep our NHS Public, save local hospitals and anti-austerity movements such as the People's Assembly. We have members who are PCS lay tutors supporting on courses such as new reps, personal cases, ULR, equality, disability and mental health. We helped on phone banks during the PCS consultative ballot in 2017.

And we make a major contribution to PCS finances!

We will no doubt have an over spend again but we will continue to strive to ensure that we can deliver on our aims and objectives and increase participation by ARMs members. Through our engagement with PCS senior officers we will continue to make the case for adequate funding for ARMs.

Finally - thank you

My thanks to ARMs treasurers, region/nation committees and national officers/committee members for their support, co-operation and hard work during 2017.



ARMs members supporting DWP workers taking strike action against office closures in Sheffield.

National Committee Attendance Record

Name	National Committee		Sub Committees	
	Actual	Possible	Actual	Possible
Philip Green	4	4	2	2
Eddie Spence	4	4	3	3
Brian Herbertson	4	4	2	2
Barry Fuge	4	4	2	2
Sandra Durkin	4	4	2	3
Anne Bryant	0	4	-	-
Margaret Galloway	4	4	-	-
Brian Gibson	4	4	-	-
Jacquie Hadfield	4	4	1	1
Steve Ion Called up Jul 2017	2	2	-	-
Jim Park Resigned Mar 2017	0	1	-	-
Kevin Thomas	4	4	-	-

ACTION ON 2017 FORUM MOTIONS – UPDATE:

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
1. Constitutional	A1	Amendment to Model Draft Regional ARMs Constitution – Rule 4.10	Updated Model which will go to NEC for endorsement Nat. Secretary & ARMs FTO	August 2017: Model Constitution referred to the union's Constitution & Rules Committee for clearance when it next meets. (GLS).
	A2	Amendment to Model Draft Regional ARMs Constitution – Rule 9.1	As above Nat. Secretary & ARMs FTO	
	A3	Enabling Motion to amend PCS National Rule 3.15 (to enable payment of a voluntary subscription by Life members towards their ARMs membership).	FTO to discuss with GS SNO in the first instance. ARMs FTO	October 2017: Issue to be raised with GS SNO.
	A4	Proposal to the NEC to allow DLMs to pay the ARMs subscription.	FTO to discuss with GS SNO in the first instance. ARMs FTO	October 2017: Issue to be raised with GS SNO.
2. ARMs Internal	A5	Consideration of holding ARMs National Forum immediately prior to and in same location as PCS Annual Delegate Conference.	FTO to investigate feasibility with GS SNO and Conference Organisers and to report back to NC. ARMs FTO & Nat. Officers	October 2017: Feasibility currently being explored by FTO with appropriate PCS Officers.
	A6	Consider ways of working with PCS Town Committees under the auspices of the PCS Regional Committees, to facilitate stronger links.	Nat. Organiser	October 2017: Will write to the national organiser to enquire about the number of town committees there are and whether they are active, before addressing the specific terms of the motion.

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
	A8	Produce a report to Regions on all aspects of our work with MyCSP and a negotiating strategy.	Before any action discuss with FTO Responsible / Chris Baugh Vice Chair, Nat. Secretary & ARMs FTO	6/10/17: Chris Baugh supports our approach of inviting MyCSP Communications Officer to our first meeting in 2018
3. PCS Internal	A9	Welcomes positive approach and commitment of meetings between Senior Officers and ARMs National Officers. Report back to ARMs regions on progress made.	FTO to liaise with PCS SNOs and ARMs Chair & Secretary to identify a date for a follow-up meeting later in 2017 ARMs FTO	
	A10 <u>Remitted</u>	<i>Proposal for ADC Representation:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 delegates who would also staff the ARMs stall; • 2 motions on retired members issues, to be looked on favourably by the SOC; • The ADC delegate to speak and vote on motions specifically relevant to retired members, or that affect all members <i>Answer from the NEC by 31.12.17</i>	<i>ARMs Secretary to draft a paper for the National Officers to consider – and ultimately to present to the PCS President – highlighting the pros and cons of what the motions proposes.</i> Nat. Secretary / Nat. Officers	October 2017: Draft proposals produced and will go to Officers Meeting 27/11/17
4. Recruitment to ARMs	A12	Automatic transfer to ARMs on retirement etc. Request to NEC to amend membership process by making automatic transfer to ARMs the default position.	ARMs Organiser to produce a paper on behalf of the National Officers to raise with the PCS Head of Membership. Nat. Organiser	October 2017: A discussion paper has been produced for the National Committee proposing a way forward.
	A13	Examine subs payment by direct debit to establish a method of retaining members once they leave.	ARMs Organiser to produce a paper on behalf of the National Officers to raise with	

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
			the PCS Head of Membership. Nat. Organiser	
	A14	Provision of sufficient information as PCS members are about to leave to aid recruitment.	ARMs Organiser to produce a paper on behalf of the National Officers to raise with the PCS Head of Membership. Nat. Organiser	October 2017: Paper being prepared for the NC Officers' meeting.
5. Communications	A15	Communications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate ways to increase the number of emails held for ARMs members, 	UiA in September will highlight the importance of ARMs members registering their e-mail contact details with PCS HQ.	October 2017: Hard copy edition of Up in ARMs provided guidance to members on registering their e-mail addresses with PCS via iMembership. We will evaluate the number of e-mails addresses we have when the next UiA is issued and whether this has increased.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ways for ARMs Regional Committees to obtain and update contact details. 	Access to ARMs Membership data by ARMs elected representatives will be discussed with Senior Officials at the next meeting.	ARMs National Chair and Secretary to discuss with PCS Senior Officers at the next meeting.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Post items on PCS members and National ARMs Facebook pages; Encourage full use of regional and group pages and blogs. 	The Comms Team work with the rest of the ARMs National Committee and Regional Secretaries to promote postings on the ARMs National Blog and National Facebook pages.	The Comms Team/Vice Chair/Editor will continue to encourage this. A further Communications Update Briefing will be issued to Regions to this effect and further articles will cover these issues in future editions of UiA.

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ‘Instruct’ PCS to make available space in group journals to promote ARMs; and 	The Comms Team will establish arrangements for contacting Group and Equality Journal Editors to include articles on ARMs.	The Comms Team/Vice-chair will provide material for Journal Editors to consider in the early 2018 publications.
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Look to issue Up in ARMs as a regular insert to PCS People. 	Future hard copy editions of UiA will be discussed with Senior Officials at the next meeting. Vice Chair / Comms Team	ARMs National Chair and Secretary to discuss with PCS Senior Officers at the next meeting.
	A16	In any talks with the national union, press for a regular communication / article in PCS People.	As above – see last bullet point. Vice Chair / Comms Team	October 2017: ARMs National Chair and Secretary to discuss with PCS Senior Officers at the next meeting.
	A17	Up in ARMs – ask PCS to investigate the possibility of taking adverts.	FTO will liaise with PCS Communications on behalf of Vice Chair/Editor. ARMs FTO, Vice Chair & Treasurer	October 2017: Vice-chair/Editor Report to October National Committee to be considered.
	A18 <u>Remitted</u>	<i>Up in ARMs – availability of hard copies for those who need them; small supply to Regional Secretaries; and a register of members not computerised.</i>	Defer to next NC meeting (October) NC to discuss	October 2017: No action taken on remitted motion to date.
6. NHS, Care & Public Services	A19	National Committee to support and publicise campaigns to save local hospitals and defend NHS services.	Regional Secretaries to keep us informed of involvement of members and photographs Vice Chair	October 2017: Will continue to publicise campaigning work done by ARMs Regions in UiA. Regional Secretaries will be reminded of this in the Briefing circular that will remind them of the next UiA deadline.

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
	A21	National Committee to pursue an article in PCS People on compulsory insurance to cover the cost of care.	FTO to discuss with PCS Communications / Editorial Board. ARMs Secretary to produce a draft article. ARMs FTO & Nat. Secretary	6/10/17: Letter featured in September PCS People. • Action complete
	A23	Campaign against closure of DWP Phoenix House, Barrow-in-Furness. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertise PCS Cumbria's petition at change.org Write to the Secretary of State using model letter devised by The Asbestos Support Forum opposing closure; Encourage ARMs member to do likewise 	Noted successful outcome to the Dispute / campaign. Resolved.	Dispute/Campaign successfully resolved.
	A24 <u>Remitted</u>	<i>NHS, publicly funded care homes, community and family support. PCS support.</i>	<i>As per view expressed for action on Motion A21.</i> <i>6/10/17 See A 21. Action complete</i>	6/10/17: See A 21. • Action complete
7. Pensions	A25	Campaign for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A full state pension for all regardless of occupation on reaching the same retirement age – 60; Campaign amongst members and PCS nationally and the NPC to sure the policy is agreed; Mount a campaign involving the NPC to win over the Labour Party to get the policy reversed. 	Refer to PCS Campaigns, proposing they look to incorporate into the union's ongoing campaigning and political lobbying. ARMs FTO	August 2017: Referred to Campaigns to action as appropriate (GLS).

Section	Motion	Subject	Proposal / Officer	Action taken by ARMs NC / PCS
	A26	WASPI; Call to campaign for fair transitional arrangements for women affected by the Pensions Acts.	Refer to PCS Campaigns and copy to PCS Equality, proposing that it is raised with the appropriate people and look to incorporate into the union's ongoing campaigning and political lobbying. ARMs FTO & Nat Secretary	August 2017: Referred to Campaigns and copied to Equality to action as appropriate (GLS). 11/8/17: Presentation from WASPI Organiser, Early Day Motion 63, list of 184 MP signatories, model letter to MPs will be circulated prior to reassembly of Parliament 6/10/17 Presentation forwarded to PCS Equality Officer. Also emailed to Dawn Butler, Labour's Equality Officer.
	A27 <u>Remitted</u>	<i>Campaign to highlight discrimination of pension schemes impacting on widowers, surviving civil partners and same-sex spouses.</i> <i>Support by:</i> 1. <i>Advertising the discrimination and obtain ARMs members case studies;</i> 2. <i>Supporting the campaign within PCS and TUC using the case studies.</i>	Refer to PCS Campaigns and copy to PCS Equality, proposing that it is raised with the appropriate people and look to incorporate into the union's ongoing campaigning and political lobbying. ARMs FTO Nat Secretary	July 2017: Gay man wins Supreme Court case on equal pension rights before 5.12.2005 the date civil partnerships became legal in the UK. August 2017: Referred to Campaigns and copied to Equality to action as appropriate (GLS).