

# UCU SHU Branch Meeting (online)

## 2 June 2026

There were 221 members present.

The draft minutes for 13 and 20 May were not available yet.

The Chair welcomed members.

The Branch Secretary gave an update on the VS scheme and the offer made to UCU at the meeting with UEB and ACAS. There were contributions from the Negotiating team.

Members were invited by the chair to discuss the details of the offer which had been circulated by email ahead of the meeting and was summarised below. There was extensive discussion by the wider membership, including the pros and cons of accepting or rejecting the offer. Discussion was detailed and robust with a range of views.

### **Summary of the offer:**

#### **You have the choice to either accept or reject the offer:**

**ACCEPT.** The current strike action would be suspended immediately (so 2nd June would effectively be the last strike day of this block). We expect selection pools for redundancy to be announced in June alongside a VR scheme, but selection processes, if required, would not begin until September. Once the situation is known in September, dispute issues may already be resolved to some extent, particularly withdrawal of the subsidiary company plan, and any outstanding issues will be addressed through negotiation, backed by strike action under the current mandate if necessary. In the worst case, the proposals will be delayed but unchanged.

**REJECT.** We continue the strike action as scheduled to contest the proposals immediately. This would help to build momentum and potentially lead to an earlier resolution through further negotiation. Our demands have not yet been met. If we delay strike action until October, we will have lost members of UCU through the VS and VR schemes. However, it appears unlikely that UEB will agree to withdraw the subsidiary company proposal until they know the TPS situation in mid-June at the earliest, thereby blocking dispute resolution. UEB are expected to start selection procedures for compulsory redundancy in early June, putting jobs at imminent risk.

Whether we accept or reject the offer, our dispute remains open enabling us to take strike action up to when the mandate ends in April 2027.

#### **RESULT OF THE VOTE OF WHETHER TO ACCEPT OR REJECT UEB'S OFFER:**

- Those in Favour: 78
- Those Against: 114
- Abstain: 22

The result of the vote was confirmed by the Chair and other committee members before the close of the meeting and the final action was for the Branch Secretary and Negotiating team to communicate the result of the vote to UEB.