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## A NEW START...

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HELLO and welcome to a new start, "*Probably*," I am confident that all the news that is news for York Processing CWU Members will be published regularly in this newsletter, for your information, comment, and enlightenment. I do hope that while you read this, a little recognition is given to the fact that I am constrained in exactly what is said and published on general view.

Therefore, for a much better and in depth understanding of any of the highlights mentioned then please take the time to chat to myself or any of the processing reps.

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### First week Merseyside...

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Just about the first week in the job of Area rep and it was straight off the Liverpool and annual conference. Which proved lively, informative and a definite eye-opener.

According to the rules and the nature of being a democratic Union, conference is the sovereign body, a chance for all the senior reps from around the country meet to debate and agree strategy on issues that directly concern our membership.

Of interest in Processing was the question of the issue of Pro-rata payment by Royal Mail to the part time staff under phase 2 of the flexibility agreement.

Locally we have already written to Headquarters on the issue of why the £400 had not been paid as promised to part time staff and we are awaiting an answer.

The reporting officer from the Headquarters informed conference that they had recently

received a letter from the business, which effectively said that it was their own policy, not an agreement with the Union and they could change it as they saw fit, i.e. by not honouring their promises. Therefore, we are still pursuing the issue and have not given up on achieving what the part time staff had been promised.

Harassment was a massive debate and took up much of one of the days, with horror stories from across the country being recalled.

Many delegates believed Royal Mail were hiding the true extent by directing staff to use the Grievance procedure instead of harassment. Moreover, many believed that royal mail are using the procedure for their own agenda. To such an extent that people are scared to talk to each other just incase they offend someone. Many could not believe that a common sense approach was being completely ignored in place of an authoritarian one.

If anyone wishes more information on what other issues motions etc were passed and what motions the Branch supported put forward please contact me. On the phone number or email address on the bottom of this

### Promises, promises...

We have been promised that proposals will be with us in the very near future on Processing's future.

When I receive them I will share them straight away.