



DS/am

18th September 2003

TO: ALL BRANCHES (Copy to be placed on Union website)

Dear Colleagues,

Election of Amicus National Executive Council 2004-2006

I refer to my letter of 27 August calling for nominations. You should also have received a copy of the "Amicus NEC election special supplement". These documents explain the most important aspects of the election process.

In the light of some of the complaints and queries I have received, it appears that the following further clarification is required:

1. There is no provision in the rules relating to this election for the Union to circulate correspondence from or otherwise draw attention to individuals who are seeking nominations.
2. It is the responsibility of individuals who wish to be candidates to use their own contacts within the Union to obtain the necessary nominations.
3. If an individual who wishes to obtain a branch nomination writes to the branch secretary that correspondence should be drawn to the attention of the next branch meeting. That correspondence should not be circulated by the branch, post, e-mail or in any other fashion.
4. A branch which has nominated individuals as candidates for election to the NEC may write once to the members of that branch to inform them of the names of the individuals nominated by the branch and to urge the branch members to vote for those candidates. No other material may be enclosed with that correspondence.
5. Details of the nominations received for each candidate will be published on the Union's website.
6. Save as described above, the name, logo, style of notepaper and other resources of the Union or of any body constituted by or under the rules of the Union may not be used to directly publicise or promote the candidacy of any person.

7. Nomination forms should be obtained personally by those so entitled, and should not be photocopied or obtained en mass for wider distribution.

It should be clear from the above that:

- (a) Individual members are free to canvass support for candidates and potential candidates.
- (b) Branches, branch committees and branch officers (when acting in that capacity) should not do anything to promote the candidacy of any individual except as described under items 2 and 4 above.
- (c) No other body constituted by or under the rules and no individual when acting in his/her capacity as an employee, office holder, or elected representative of the Union (or of any part of the Union) should do anything to promote the candidacy of any individual.
- (d) Materials produced by or on behalf of candidates or potential candidates should not use the Union's name, logo or style of presentation or otherwise give the impression that they have been issued with the authority or support of the Union or of any section, sector, conference, council, committee, sub-committee or branch of the Union.

Yours fraternally,

DEREK SIMPSON

RETURNING OFFICER