



Dear member,

Last week, in [a column in *The Independent*](#), I set out our priorities for the government's COVID-19 economic recovery plan.

Unfortunately, while there were some positives in his summer statement this week, the chancellor came up short of delivering on the measures we called for.

He promised that "nobody will be left without hope", but there was nothing in his new package for the millions of forgotten freelancers and others, many of whom - in the words of a member in this situation - are "in varying stages of despair".

It was also disappointing that the chancellor missed the opportunity to ramp up the scale of investment in green industries and jobs by committing to large-scale projects like new nuclear.

While Wednesday's statement will have been a let-down for many, a theme of the pandemic has been that unions have proved ourselves to be part of the solution, so we won't lose hope and will continue to fight for every one of our 150,000 members.

As part of that, today I have [written to the chancellor](#), urging him to engage with our constructive suggestions to ensure that, as he said, "nobody will be left without hope".

Thank you for your support during this time and I hope you have a good weekend.

Mike Clancy

Prospect general secretary

[Read Mike Clancy's letter to the chancellor](#)



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- Returning to workplaces
- Health and safety
- Self-employment Income Support Scheme
- Furlough and the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme
- Pensions
- Rights at work

[See more on our Coronavirus Hub](#)

Prospect political fund and the Trade Union Act 2016

The Trade Union Act 2016 requires us to notify any members who joined on or after 1 March 2018 that they may opt out of payment to the political fund (regardless of whether the member has actually elected to opt-in).

This provision only applies to members who joined the union on or after 1 March 2018 (those in membership before that date are covered by different political fund rules).

The 2016 Act provides that any member joining since 1 March 2018 cannot contribute to the political fund unless they have given notice of their willingness to contribute to that fund by completing an opt-in notice.

A member who has completed an opt-in notice may withdraw the notice by giving a withdrawal notice at any time and that will take effect within one month. Opt-in and withdrawal notices may be delivered by hand, post or email:

Member Contact Centre, 8 Leake Street, London SE1 7NN

Email: membership@prospect.org.uk

For queries, please call [0300 600 1878](tel:03006001878)



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