**To: All Branch Delegates and Secretaries**

ESBRSA have had many calls and emails recently from members requesting information/guidance regarding the upcoming Trustee election.

You will have received election material and ballot papers for the upcoming election of member Trustees, both employee and retired, to the board of Trustees for the ESB Pension Scheme.

The latest date for the return of ballot papers is Monday 27th June 2016 and our next NEC Meeting is Thursday 30th June 2016, so we will not be in a position to discuss the Trustee elections before the ballot deadline.

You are also aware of the selection process that member nominees for the Trustee positions must undergo prior to their names appearing on the ballot paper. ESBRSA are totally opposed to this process and have made their views known in the strongest possible way to both ESB and Pension Scheme Management and have demanded that this process be abolished. This process applies to member nominees only.

While the NEC is not in a position to endorse/recommend any particular candidate/s it would be worth highlighting a number of issues with regard to some candidates as follows:

Davy Naughton, whose name appears on the ballot paper for retired member candidates, was one of the main architects and signatories of the, now infamous, 2010 Pensions Agreement between ESB Management and ESB GOU. This Agreement between these two parties excluded any input or involvement from ESBRSA and was highly detrimental to pensioners as a group, abandoning the long observed custom and practice of linking pensions to staff salaries and imposing an indefinite pay freeze on pensioners. ESBRSA do not recognise this Agreement and are currently working hard to overturn it’s measures imposed on pensioners.

The current incumbent on the Board of Trustees, and elected at the last Trustee election as a member Trustee is Jim Dullaghan. While he has had no official contact with ESBRSA we are aware that he has been acting in the interests of retired and all Pension Scheme members in his official capacity as an elected Trustee.

ESBRSA cannot comment on the other candidates on the ballot papers as we have had no contact, official or otherwise, with these candidates.

I hope this information will be helpful for your members when making decisions in the upcoming election. Please ensure that this notice gets the widest possible circulation among your membership.

Regards,

Michael MacNamara,

National Executive Secretary