

MATS NEWS

The newsletter for managers & admin on London Underground

Pay Talks

Your RMT negotiating team have met London Underground a number of times now to discuss a Pay Deal. A MATS rep has been present at all of these talks.

We outlined our demands, including a 32 hour week, PRIV travel facilities for all staff, parity of SPIC and other payments, amongst other issues.

The company have dismissed all of our claims and have instead offered a derisory one-year "deal" of RPI only, which is 2.5%. This in real terms will leave our members worse off, as other living costs have risen more than RPI.

This "offer" is an insult to all of us and does not reflect the work that you do to keep the Underground running. It does not appreciate your fatigue or the impact on your home life. It does not value you.

We will be entering into dispute with London Underground and if they are not willing to return with a decent offer, we must be ready to act!



More Job Cuts Announced

In our last issue of MATS News, we reported that we had asked the company to be honest with us about their upcoming plans for new 'Transformations' and which of our members would be at risk. True to form, LU ignored our request and announced their latest plans to cut jobs.

They want to cut over 100 jobs from many areas of the business including Trainers, LUCC, Track Access and Power. London Underground ignored previous agreements made during the last Transformation and did not provide your RMT reps with any information prior to these proposals being presented to the affected staff.

They have not followed their obligation under the Main Agreement (6.1.1) to prove to us that these savage cuts are safe, and the reason we believe they have not done this, is because the proposals are clearly unsafe. They have withheld information from the RMT, including business cases and the names of those who are at risk.

What is MATS Functional Council?



The MATS Functional Council meet four times a year to discuss workplace issues affecting Managers, Admin, Technical & Support staff on London Underground.

Reps from all unions raise your concerns with management and try to reach a resolution. MATS Council can only discuss issues which will affect more than one person and is not for individual problems. These should be raised with your rep. Any significant changes must be consulted on at MATS Council (job losses, restructuring, changes to roles and responsibilities).

The RMT have two reps on the MATS Functional Council. We are Lorna Tooley & Mick James. You can find our contact details on the work e-mail system or via RMT Head Office on 02073874771

We had a MATS Council Meeting on March 6th and our next meeting is scheduled for the end of May.

In the meantime, don't hesitate to contact us or look out for more updates online at www.RMTLondonCalling.org.uk

Next Steps

We have written to London Underground stating our opposition to job cuts, demanding that they comply with the Main Agreement and conduct a correct safety validation of these proposed changes, and that failure to do so will result in us being in formal dispute with the company.

Your reps will be conducting workplace visits, as well as organising meetings for those at risk. You are also encouraged to attend your local Branch meeting for further reports and advice. If you would like to arrange a workplace visit, please contact your rep to arrange this, or feel free to contact us for any advice.

Changes to HR and ER

TfL have recently reorganised their HR and ER department, with many jobs being lost. This was part of the company's unrealistic aim to cut jobs by over 30% to balance the books due to our government subsidy being removed.

The loss of these jobs will have a detrimental impact on London Underground staff who access these services on a daily basis. Your MATS reps will be asking for a full briefing at our next Functional Council on how these changes will impact our members and how we are supposed to access services since these changes have been introduced.

It is vital that our members do not take on extra work to bail the company out for making these cuts. We must continue to work to our current job descriptions and not be forced into increasing our workload.

We must still work to our normal Procedures and Policies, for example a PMA must be present at a Case Conference, no formal action can be taken against you at a 'Sick Review' and there is no obligation for you to attend such a meeting.

If you have any issues you would like to see covered in this newsletter, please get in touch