



# Bakerloo news



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**February 2020 – Drivers' Strike Special #2**

## All out to win a workable timetable

### **Our ballot returned a 95% majority for taking industrial action.**

At the heart of this dispute, and what most people believe to be the problem with our timetables, are the turnaround times in the North Sheds at Queen's Park. These turnaround times have been cut to the bone over the past couple of years. The RMT have demanded that these are improved. This in turn would require more drivers. This in turn would make our working day bearable.

We entered into discussions with LU's negotiating team, led by the Director of Train Operations and supported by Bakerloo trains boss Frank Ibe, who decided to take a bullish approach and insisted that there would be no further concessions.

Their attitude flies in the face of hardworking drivers who are under pressure to provide a safe reliable and frequent service in the most difficult circumstances.



## PICKET LINES

**A strike is not just a day off!**

All members are strongly encouraged to attend a picket line. Pickets will be organised at Queen's Park and Elephant and Castle.

Speak to your local rep to discuss picketing times, and sign up for a slot. Refreshments will be provided.

### STRIKE DETAILS



**We have called two strikes, spread over four days, as follows:**

**Do not book on for any duty between 11:59 on Friday 21 February and 11:59 on Saturday 22 February.**

**Do not book on for any duty between 11:59 on Sunday 23 February and Monday 24 February.**

### GET ACTIVE IN YOUR BRANCH

**RMT Bakerloo branch meets on the FIRST TUESDAY of every month, 16:00, at the Royal Standard (8-9 Sale Place, W2 1PH). Nearest station: Edgware Road**

**Next meeting: Tuesday 3 March**

# A first-time striker's guide to taking industrial action

*For some branch members, this will be the first experience of striking. We've produced this handy guide to help you make the most of it...*

## **Q: Do I have to tell anyone (e.g., my manager) that I'm striking?**

A: No. Managers have no right to pressure staff into telling them whether you're striking or not. They may ask you if you are coming in, and you can politely explain that's personal. You do not have to tell them.

## **Q: What do I do on the day?**

A: It's simple: don't go to work! You do not have to report your absence in any way. All members are encouraged to take part in picketing, but the most basic and important thing is that you do not work your allocated duty.

Obviously, if you are rostered to be Rest Day or Annual Leave, you wouldn't be working anyway, but are still encouraged to attend a picket line. Speak to your rep to arrange transport.

## **Q: What is a picket line?**

A: A picket line is a group of striking workers making a physical stand outside a workplace.

It has several purposes; it acts as a visible expression of the strike, and allows us to come together as workers to discuss our dispute. It raises the profile of the dispute, and allows us to explain to the public why we're striking. And it allows us to discuss with colleagues who may have decided to come to work and attempt to persuade them to join us.

## **Q: Anything else I should know?**

A: Members are strongly advised not to use staff passes to travel on strike days, and to use Oyster Cards or contactless cards instead. The union will reimburse any travel costs you incur travelling to and from picket lines. Do not wear uniform to picket in (obviously!).

If you are in serious financial hardship and genuinely feel like you cannot afford to lose money, please speak to your rep.

## **Q: What will happen after the strike?**

A: After the strike you will return to your next allocated duty. Your absence will be marked on SAP as "Industrial Action", and you will obviously lose a day's pay. That's it. It won't count against you if you go sick at a later date, nor can management take any action against you for participating in official industrial action.

## Us vs. Them

### **Management have:**

**Failed to deliver a workable solution to the timetable crisis.**

### **Management are:**

**Trying to push ahead with an alternative timetable which does not address the root cause of the problem: turn around times at Queen's Park.**

### **Management want:**

**To play hard and fast with our jobs and care nothing for our welfare.**

### **We want:**

- Increased turnaround times at Queens Park
- Mitigation put in place to prevent chronic fatigue, stress, and late running
- Meaningful consultation on the timetable
- Protection from SPAD/safety related traps related to the current timetable

