



# Bakerloo news



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October 2023

## Strike to defend jobs!

**LUL STATION AND REVENUE GRADES:  
STRIKE ON WEDNESDAY 4 AND FRIDAY 6  
OCTOBER**

**NO OVERTIME FROM 15-21 OCTOBER**

**DO NOT FAMILIARISE AMBASSADORS OR ANYONE WHO DOESN'T ORDINARILY WORK AT YOUR STATION**

**In 2023, LUL has axed hundreds of positions from stations.**

On our line, we've seen especially drastic cuts at Oxford Circus, Piccadilly Circus, and Charing Cross, with staffing levels stretched to breaking point and stations often on the brink of closure.

**Need financial support to help you participate in our upcoming strikes? Speak to a rep in confidence about applying to the hardship fund.**

On top of this, LUL has now announced a new restructure of the CSM grade which will involve hundreds of displacements, the recategorisation of stations leading to fewer CSS jobs, and the reconfiguration of cover groups, leading to increased travelling time for CSAs.

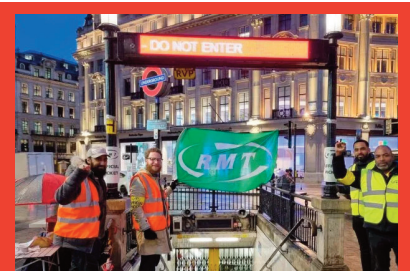
We want LUL to reverse these cuts and reinstate the jobs we've lost. We want a guarantee of lifetime protection of earnings for any member of staff displaced as a result of restructures. And we want a commitment that

our pension arrangements won't be attacked. Instead of passing on cuts dictated by the Tory government, we want Mayor Khan to stand up to the Department for Transport and insist on regular, strings-free funding for TfL, allowing for sustainable investment in increasing staffing levels, improving services, and expanding environmental projects to help London decarbonise.

**Strike on 4 and 6 October - fight for the future of public transport!**

**JOIN A PICKET LINE: OXFORD CIRCUS, 05:00-12:00 BOTH DAYS**

**USE BUSES, LONDON OVERGROUND, OR ELIZABETH LINE TO TRAVEL INTO CENTRAL LONDON - DO NOT USE YOUR STAFF PASS**



# Prepare to defy anti-strike laws

**The Tories' Minimum Service Levels bill is now law. The government can set "minimum service levels" in rail, health, education services, fire and rescue, border security and nuclear decommissioning.**

In the event of strikes, employers can issue "work notices" compelling workers to provide the minimum service. Unions which do not make "reasonable efforts" to ensure members comply could face injunctions and fines. Individual workers could be open to dismissal.

The government is yet to determine the "minimum service level" for TfL/LUL, so the law cannot be effectively enforced. We want Mayor Khan to follow the lead of Scottish First Minister Humza Yousaf and commit to refusing to issue work notices. The law only says that employers "may" issue them, not that they have to.

If work notices are issued, we must prepare to defy them. RMT's

policy, also passed at the TUC Congress, is for "non-compliance". This can only mean refusing to take any steps whatsoever to "ensure members comply with work notices", and going ahead with strikes even in the face of threatened injunctions.

The right to withdraw our labour is a fundamental human right. That right is already significantly constrained in the UK. The new law effectively removes it from workers named in work notices.

**Sometimes the only reasonable response to unjust laws is to defy them.**

• More: [freeourunions.org](http://freeourunions.org)

## LUL PAY UPDATE

**LUL's latest offer was 4%, covering April 2023-April 2024.**

This falls well short of RMT's demand for an RPI+ pay increase with a £5,000 flat-rate minimum. LUL has said talks will resume on 11 October.

**RMT Bakerloo's policy is for a swift ballot and strikes to win a better pay settlement!**

## All-grades action still needed

**The 4 and 6 October strikes are just of RMT members in stations and revenue grades.**

RMT Bakerloo's position, voted on in our branch meetings, is that further all-grades action will be required to win our dispute over jobs, pensions, and conditions. We hope an LUL-wide reps' meeting will be called as soon as possible to agree a timetable for all-grades action.

RMT Bakerloo members in other roles (e.g., trains or service control, or on outsourced contracts) cannot officially participate in the strikes on 4 and 6 October. However, drivers should ensure managers give them full briefings about the staffing situation at stations prior to taking trains into service. It is unsafe for drivers to drive trains through stations that may not be appropriately staffed.

For ABM cleaners, anyone who is forced to take a holiday day due to not being able to get to their usual place of work should report this to a rep as soon as possible.

# October is Black History Month



**This national celebration aims to promote and celebrate Black contributions to British society, and to foster an understanding of Black history in general.**

Its origins go back to the 1920s and the establishment of a "Negro History Week" in the USA. BHM has also attracted criticism, for providing an excuse to ignore Black history the rest of the year, and for being a mechanism for separating "Black history" from British history more widely.

These debates point to the continuing importance of engaging

with history as a way to understand the present and possible futures.

**To obtain BHM materials for your union notice case, please contact Mel using the details below.**

## RMT BHM event

**21 October, 17:00, Friends Meeting House, Euston Road NW1 2BJ**

A meal will follow the meeting. More info: Mel Mullings, RMT B&EMAC Secretary, [bemmac@rmt.org.uk](mailto:bemmac@rmt.org.uk), 077186 45817

**RMT Bakerloo meets on the FIRST TUESDAY**



of every month, 16:00. We are currently in the process of moving venue. Speak to a rep for the latest.

**ALL MEMBERS WELCOME**

# Are you a future union rep?

The following positions are currently vacant;. If you are interested in standing for any of these positions, or would like more information about what any of the roles entail, email [melmullingsrmt@gmail.com](mailto:melmullingsrmt@gmail.com). If elected, the branch will provide you with training and support.

- **Tier One (Health & Safety) rep, North Group stations**
- **Tier One (Health & Safety), Centre Group stations**
- **Tier One (Health & Safety), SRT**
- **Union Learning Rep, SRT**
- **Union Learning Rep, Bakerloo Stations**
- **ABM cleaners' rep, Bakerloo Stations (Nights)**

*Bakerloo News* is a monthly newsletter from the Bakerloo branch of the RMT union. To submit a story, or to contact the branch, email [melmullingsrmt@gmail.com](mailto:melmullingsrmt@gmail.com), or ring Branch Secretary Mel Mullings on 07718 645817