

news for station and revenue staff - 27th April 2011



Stop The Victimisation

Station and revenue staff should support RMT's campaign to win the reinstatement of sacked driver reps Eamonn Lynch and Arwyn Thomas.

London Underground sacked Eamonn for following instructions from line control when he had a defective trip cock! Other drivers in similar situations, even those more at fault, have not been sacked. LU sacked Arwyn following allegations from a strike-breaker during last year's strikes against stations job cuts.

In both cases, Employment Tribunals have awarded 'Interim relief', after ruling that Eamonn's and Arwyn's sacking's were unfair and unlawful, and that LU sacked them because of their trade union activity. But still management have not reinstated them, apparently thinking that they are above the law. That's why RMT has had to organise industrial action.

Following two one-day strikes on their own lines, RMT escalated the dispute to a ballot of all drivers. Two thirds voted Yes to strikes, and as we write, RMT is discussing what action to call should management not back down and reinstate Eamonn and Arwyn. This unjust treatment of two of our driver colleagues must not be ignored by station and revenue staff as it is clear that this kind of victimisation is becoming commonplace.

For the last few months RCI Rep Tony Rowntree has been put on alternate duties following allegations that he called a TSSA rep An offensive name for coming in on the strike an allegation that has been denied by over ten people who were present at the time but still this has gone to CDI. Tony has since been refused his legal right to a Rep of his choice when he tried to take Steve Hedley to his CDI.

Eamonn and Arwyn were sacked because they supported the strikes against station job cuts. RMT drivers supported our fight against station job cuts; we should support the fight to reinstate the drivers' reps. An attack on reps in one grade is an attack on members in all grades. There are plenty of ways in which we can help this campaign - details to follow!

Support Eamonn and Arwyn!

RMT General Grades Committee decision

We welcome the fact that London Underground has finally accepted that Version 22a of the Stations Framework Agreement is the agreed Framework which applies to station staff and that its Version 24 has not been agreed and does not apply. We particularly welcome the fact that management's attempt to worsen our members' working conditions - including requiring staff to work away from their rostered station in non-urgent situations, and allowing management to impose roster changes - have not succeeded.

We note LU's threat that our members will lose the benefits of improved rights that were to be incorporated in Version 24. However, these improvements were already agreed at functional council and therefore remain in place.

We instruct the General Secretary, in conjunction with our functional council representatives and GGC member, to produce a plain-English 'know your rights' guide for LU station staff outlining their rights as specified by both the Framework Agreement and other agreements.

We instruct the General Secretary to write to LU affirming that Version 22a is the agreed Framework; asking that the company issue a bulletin to staff confirming this and withdraw Version 24 from circulation, including from its Intranet; and seeking the withdrawal of any disciplinary sanctions against members for allegedly breaching Version 24.



Your RMT Stations and Revenue Council representatives are:

- John Reid** 07748-760261
- Neil Cochrane** 07739-869867
- Mick Crossey** 07931-570521
- John Kelly** 07740-065367
- Mac McKenna** 07801-071363
- Malcolm Taylor** 07748-933241

Pay Deal Update

RATES OF PAY & CONDITIONS OF SERVICE 2011 – LONDON UNDERGROUND LTD

In line with RMT policy, a pay claim for an increase in pay and improved terms and conditions was submitted to London Underground on behalf of you and your colleagues. An offer has been received from LUL and it is as follows:

- Year 1 (April 11 to March 12): 4%
- Year 2 (April 12 to March 13): RPI + 0.25%
- Year 3 (April 13 to March 14): RPI + 0.25%
- Year 4 (April 14 to March 15): RPI + 0.25%
- Year 5 (April 15 to March 16): RPI + 0.25%R

This offer has been considered by your union's Executive Committee and been rejected for the reasons I will outline below.

This is why the derisory offer has been rejected and why your union shall continue to press the company for significant improvements.

Your union also believes that a better deal for London Underground workers can best be achieved by all trade unions in London Underground taking a united approach in this matter and that is why the RMT will continue to pursue unity in a way which has already seen much progress being made.

I will of course keep you advised of all further developments in your union's campaign to win pay justice for you and your colleagues.

Station and Revenue Grades Committee

The station and revenue grades committee now have an organising plan available from the secretary upon request. Some of the main issues though are recruitment of activists and strengthening the way members are kept updated along with more workplace visibility etc. If there are specific issues you want raised at these committees feel free to come along they are on the last Thursday of every month at 14:30 and currently held in the St Aloysius just next to Euston Station. If you cannot make it then feel free to email or call Gary with your issues and we will raise them time and agenda permitting.

We hope to see you there

Your RMT Stations And Revenue Committee Secretary is:

Gary Lazell 07812-757552

RMT GGC decision:

That we note that London Underground has made a five-year pay offer, with this year's 'rise' being just 4%. With February's RPI being 5.5%, this is a real-terms pay cut of 1.5%. Further, LU has dismissed most of our claims for improved conditions, and on the two its offer has mentioned, makes no firms commitments.

This offer falls well short of our claim for a substantial, above-inflation pay rise in a one-year deal, together with improvements to conditions; and comes despite LU carrying record numbers of passengers, charging high fares following above-inflation fare rises, cutting staff and thus increasing productivity, and continuing to pay a large number of senior managers excessive, 'fat cat' salaries.

We therefore reject this offer, and will press the company for significant improvements.

We believe that a better deal for London Underground workers can best be achieved by all the trade unions in London Underground taking a united approach. We acknowledge the progress already made towards this, and will continue to pursue such unity.

We believe that it is appropriate to specify a figure for the pay rise we seek, and will set such a figure following consultation with our representatives and the other unions.

We acknowledge that our members would like to see progress with our efforts to secure a better deal.

We therefore instruct the General Secretary to:

1. Advise London Underground Ltd of this union's rejection of its pay offer.
2. Write to LU members advising them of our rejection of LU's pay offer, our reasons for rejecting it, and our efforts to secure an improved offer.
3. Post this letter on the union's web site.
4. Keep members informed of all developments and progress in a timely fashion.
5. Include an article in RMT News.

We refer this matter to our Southern Sub-Committee for further examination and report.