



## Tube bosses confirm driverless train testing has taken place



Following a number of reports of London Underground carrying out trials of 'driverless' trains into and out of Willesden Green sidings on the Jubilee line, the Trains Health & Safety Council formally asked LUL at director level if the reports were correct. They confirmed that they have been testing technology that would allow trains to move in and out of sidings without a Train Operator on the train.

LUL stated that the Jubilee line currently operates 32 trains per hour, which they would like to see raised to 36 trains per hour and that this was one of the options currently being considered to allow the enhanced service. At this time a feasibility process is ongoing. As and when a final decision is made LUL stated they would then consult with

relevant parties.

The issue of driverless trains is a major concern for the RMT and breaches our 'Tube Drivers' Charter'. It is also the

case that similar technology could be explored at other locations. As such the matter is being considered at RMT head office level with a view to how we wish to proceed. This issue was discussed at a recent Trains Grade meeting and will continue to be on the agenda.

The RMT have previously made clear that any plan to introduce driverless trains will result in a ballot for industrial action.

### Happy New Year to Night Tube drivers

London Underground has agreed with the RMT about the fairest way to operate services on New Years Eve. Now all Night Tube drivers will have the opportunity to either work or apply for annual leave on NYE. If Night Tube drivers choose to work they will be paid the same enhancements as full time drivers who volunteer.

This has been a prolonged process, but at last we have a position which is both fair and consistent with current procedures.

ASLEF reps had been demanding that all Night Tube drivers be booked off and have to APPLY to work their own rostered shift. However seniority selection for NYE working would mean that those Night Tube drivers who wanted to work would be very unlikely to be picked. RMT insistence that Night Tube drivers be treated fairly has now meant this position has been overturned.

## RMT demands end of cuts following North Greenwich bomb incident

A viable explosive device was found at North Greenwich station on the 20th of October and a man has since been arrested. Passengers and workers were kept safe because of the professionalism of the train driver and station staff involved.

An emergency meeting was held with our Regional Organiser, Tier 2 H&S reps and London Underground bosses shortly after. The RMT called for the reversal of all London Underground job cuts, and we raised our concerns about the HOT procedure which is now to be reviewed. The RMT has concerns around the relevance of the HOT procedure, and whether training is adequate.

Since Fit for the Future on London Underground stations over 700 jobs have gone, and station workers have been shifted across London which has had an impact on experience and training levels. On the day of the North Greenwich incident, there was no planned coverage for the

control room, a dangerous situation frequently repeated.

Station workers will soon be balloted for industrial action against job cuts and Fit for the Future. It is essential that a strong yes vote is returned and that they are supported. As train driver's we need well staffed stations with experienced, trained and well rested workers to enable us to do our jobs safely too.



## District and H&C Line dispute over Boxing day and NYE working

A dispute is brewing on these lines as too many drivers are expected to work on Boxing Day, NYE and bank holidays in breach of agreements, and proposed 'holiday' duties

include 'cross line working'.

The Unfair allocation of duties would see more drivers required to work than necessary. Management on the line are refusing to discuss the issue any further and so a ballot is being prepared.

## Piccadilly Line Ballot

A strike ballot is to be held on the Piccadilly Line over numerous issues that management are unwilling to resolve, including:

- Breaches and misuse of policies and procedures
- Bullying of reps
- Safety and Training
- Cockfosters depot issues including safety and facilities.

The RMT has been working hard to resolve these issues and a proposed dispute resolution agreement has been sent to senior management but ignored.

A 'yes' vote in the upcoming ballot will give your union a voice to help you. Speak to your Piccadilly Line RMT rep for more information.

### Get in touch

#### Functional (Industrial) reps:

Will Reid - 07983 958 429

Paul Shannon- 07800 808 297

Vaughan Thomas - 07720 297657

#### H&S reps:

Gary Doyle- 07830 221 543

Nigel Eivers- 07961 141 924

Dave Rayfield- 07719 132 161

#### Upgrades rep:

Adam Evans - 0789 005 6868

### Night Tube & Trains Grades meetings

Trains grades is a monthly combine wide meeting for all RMT members in the trains grade to discuss industrial and H&S issues. Functional and Tier 2 reps update local reps and members at this meeting, and questions can be asked. The meeting will be preceded by a Night Tube driver's meeting to cover issues specific to Night Tube working. All members may attend either meeting.

**Night Tube meeting - 1300 on 24<sup>th</sup> November**  
**Trains Grades meeting - 1430 on 24<sup>th</sup> November**

Both meetings take place at RMT Unity House, near Euston Station. [www.rmt.org.uk/about/visit-us](http://www.rmt.org.uk/about/visit-us)