

Why we are striking



London Underground staff are striking from 5-11 January. We're resisting attempts by our employer to cut our pay by imposing a below-inflation pay settlement.

DID YOU KNOW?



LUL has cut hundreds of frontline positions from Tube stations



TfL says it needs to make £500 million of cuts every year to be "self-financing"



TfL is the only system of its type not to receive regular funding



TfL relies on fares for 75% of its regular revenue. By comparison, only 38% of the

New York subway's revenue comes from fares.

For almost the entirety of 2023, inflation has been high - sometimes higher than 10%. If wages don't keep pace with inflation, that's equivalent to a pay cut. LUL wants to impose a 5% pay "increase" on London Underground workers, which comes nowhere near to restoring the value we've lost from our wages throughout 2023.

OUR WORKING CONDITIONS ARE YOUR TRAVELING CONDITIONS

Throughout 2022-3, we've fought cuts to staffing levels. LUL's attempt to impose a pay cut is part of the same austerity approach that has seen hundreds of positions axed from stations.

More job cuts are threatened elsewhere, including fleet maintenance, which could lead to a deterioration of safety standards.

If we're not able, via industrial and political pressure, to persuade TfL/LUL to change course, then we'll see the continuation of what Mayor Khan has called the "managed decline" of London's transport system.

Our fight to defend and improve our working conditions, including our pay, is part of a wider fight to defend the quality of the service we provide to London.

Our jobs = your Tube

AREN'T TUBE WORKERS ALREADY WELL PAID?

Some LU workers have relatively high wages compared to workers in some other sectors. Part of the reason for that is that we have historically fought to win and defend our pay and conditions.

But many LU workers earn salaries that don't stretch that far, especially for those raising families in central London. For example, the starting salary for LU station staff is £30k.

Rather than accepting a divide-and-rule logic that pits worker against worker, RMT believes all workers' pay and conditions should improve. Our activists have supported nurses, school workers, doctors, and other workers fighting for higher pay throughout 2022-3, standing on picket lines alongside them.

We also need to look at differentials *within* industries. In every sector, the gap between the pay of the workers, on whose labour businesses actually rely, and the top bosses continues to widen.

TfL has ring-fenced £12 million for senior management bonuses; rather than paying bonuses to bosses who already earn six-figure salaries, that money could be used to level up the pay of frontline workers.

During the pandemic, the number of billionaires in Britain has reached a record high. Their wealth increased by 21.7%.

Rather than forcing workers to pay, we believe this money should be taxed to fund services such as public transport, and improve our pay and conditions.

We know our strikes cause inconvenience. This is an inevitable consequence of transport workers withdrawing our labour. But if TfL and LUL's cuts - to our jobs, to our pensions, and to our pay - go ahead, passengers will face a worse service. This will cause far greater inconvenience in the long run.

We urge you to support our strikes. If you're facing attacks on terms and conditions in your own workplace, we urge you to organise via a trade union and fight back. You can count on the support of the RMT.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

- Write to Sadiq Khan to tell him you support the RMT's demands: major@london.gov.uk
- Join more than 10,000 others in signing our petition in defence of public transport: bit.ly/tfl-petition
- Join a union in your own workplace if you're not a member of one already: tuc.org.uk/joinunion
- For more, see: rmtlondoncalling.org.uk