



**18TH DEC 2020**

# TFL & LUL SPECIAL BULLETIN



## TIME TO FIGHT BACK

### DEFEND PENSIONS

Not one day longer to qualify for a full pension  
Not one penny off our benefits  
Not one penny more in contributions  
RMT has been fighting for a shorter working week. We know that working the kind of shifts we work on London Underground reduces life expectancy by 4/5 years. Many shift workers suffer ill-health in retirement and are not able to work to supplement an inadequate pension. An attack on your pension is just another way of imposing a pay cut. RMT will fight to protect our pension

The government says TfL must return to self-funding. This will mean making millions of pounds of cuts every year for a decade. Jobs, conditions and the service we provide will all be hit.

Now the London Mayor has commissioned his own report – the report couldn't be clearer – it rejects asking big business and their billionaire owners to pay towards London's public transport system. Instead, the Mayor's report raises:

Attacks on the TfL pension  
Job cuts and unstaffed stations  
Another decade of cuts - £700m of further cutbacks over the next 10 years

And tube workers will be hit outside of work too. The report also raises: Road pricing if you use your car in London, Council tax increases to fund public transport AND an additional rate of VAT on purchases made in London.

### NO MORE CUTS

We've suffered £700m in cuts over the last two business cycles of five years each. Now the government and mayor want the same again. Of course, it won't apply to their pay!  
London Underground workers have delivered massive productivity gains over the last 20 years. Fit for the future cut hundreds of jobs from stations and now the mayor's report wants more -with some stations operating without staff at



**MASS MEMBERS MEETING**  
**4PM 14TH JANUARY**  
**ZOOM LINK TO FOLLOW.**



### DEFEND OUR CLEANERS

Cleaners on the Tube have kept it safe to use carrying out hazardous work day in, day out. In return their employer, ABM, has insulted them with the offer of a badge!

RMT has long demanded basic dignity at work for our cleaner members. We've demanded sick pay, decent pensions and TfL staff travel facilities. Yet no matter what commitment to the job our members show, no matter how difficult

the conditions they overcome, ABM and TfL continue to refuse these demands. As if to mock our members ABM have offered to recognise their contribution to the Tube during the Covid pandemic with a badge labelling them as "Cleaning Champions".

RMT continues to demand Sick Pay, Pensions and Travel facilities. We call for all cleaners to be brought in-house on TfL conditions.

We will fight for all sub-contracted ted members, some of whom have been laid off without pay during the pandemic.



## DECISION OF THE RMT NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 17/12/20

The report of the so-called “independent Panel” is a disgraceful document that seeks to justify imposing job cuts, transport service cuts and additional taxation onto the working class of London. RMT rejects the report entirely and demands that the mayor immediately does the same and undertakes not to act on any of the report’s findings.

The model of self-financing that was imposed onto TfL by the government and was implemented by the mayor of London was always going to fail. The idea of never-ending increases in passenger numbers, fare revenues and commercial income was always a pipe dream but the Covid 19 pandemic has accelerated the inevitable funding crisis.

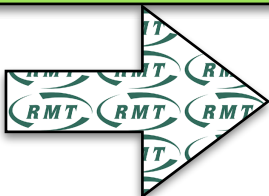
No similar mass transit system in the world operates without public financial support. RMT demands that the government immediately guarantees to fund TfL in order to maintain all transport services, jobs and conditions. RMT will not accept that TfL/LUL workers, users of the tube or the working class of London must pay to

bail out the disastrous funding decisions taken by government and the mayor.

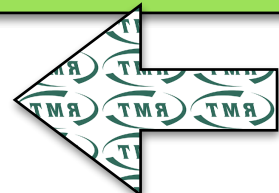
The “independent panel” was commissioned by the mayor to report on how to make TfL finances sustainable. The panel has reported that there is no case for any additional burden on business. The panel also rules out additional central government funding. Instead, the panel identifies cuts to the TfL pension scheme and cuts in off-peak services and station staffing levels as ways to save money. The panel also proposes road pricing for those who use a car in London plus additional council tax. The panel even proposes that the government legislates to allow the mayor to levy additional VAT on purchases made in London.

The panel’s report comes hot on the heels of the KPMG report that was commissioned by the Government and short term-funding agreement that itself imposes massive cuts onto TfL/LUL.

The panel’s proposals and the demands made by government in return for funding until April 2021 represent an attempt to force austerity onto the working class of London and both will be resisted by RMT with every means at our disposal.



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## UNITY IS STRENGTH

RMT will fight for full funding with no cuts in services and no detriment to jobs, pay or conditions.

It is a lie that the country can’t afford to maintain jobs and pay because of Covid 19.

For a start levels of government borrowing are only forecast to reach half the level of government borrowing after World War 2. Immediately, the government could easily fund TfL by borrowing at record low interest rates.

But we also need to recover some of the money that was showered on the rich after the 2008 banking crisis. The wealthiest 1000 people in Britain doubled their wealth after 2008 and then increased it by the same amount again before Covid hit.

Hundreds of billions of pounds was created by the government between 2008-2019 to make sure that stock markets, bonds and other assets held by the rich and powerful just kept going up in value.

It’s time for a reckoning. The government must now bail out working people to maintain jobs, pay and conditions.

We must be ready to work with other unions and passenger groups to fight for TfL funding. We must also be ready to strike when necessary. The government is weak. It is split and has shown it’s incompetence in dealing with Covid. They don’t need a fight with RMT. The Mayor faces an election in May 2021 – He must be confronted too.

RMT isn’t seeking this battle. Our members and other transport workers have kept London moving throughout the pandemic. We’re not giving up jobs, pay or pensions to bail out the rich again now.