



It's official, shift work is a killer



Our shifts are killing us, literally. In depth medical studies show categorically that 10 years plus of doing rotational shifts (earlies, lates, nights) will reduce our life expectancy by 4-5 years*. [source *American Medical Journal study into shift work of nurses 2017*].

Additionally, the British Medical Journal data indicates that shift work increases likelihood of developing cancer, stroke, heart disease, type 2 diabetes, breast cancer and depression. Studies also indicate other serious health problems. [source *British Medical Journal sleep deprivation study 2016*]

Add in the impact on work - life balance. It's a toxic mix. This is a serious matter that cannot be ignored.

The RMT has a solution

The RMT's pay claim includes a demand for a four day, 32 hour working week without a decrease

in salary. This would allow adequate rest periods to reduce or prevent the accumulative effects of fatigue and it's detrimental impact on our health. This isn't greedy

tube workers demanding the moon. We shouldn't expect to pay for our employers refusal to take our concerns seriously with our lives.

The demand for the four day, 32 hour week would benefit the employer as reduced fatigue would lead to reduced sickness and increased productivity. Scandinavian countries have already implemented a 4 day week that has seen massive increases in productivity and huge reduction in staff being off sick.

No doubt LUL will claim the lack of government grants for running the Tube means there's no money for a reduction to the working week, even if the benefits to staff and employer are irrefutable.

Consider this. The tube made a surplus of £700 million last year. And the private bus companies took £120 million profit from TfL. TfL are saying the £700 million we made has to be used to prop up

unprofitable or failing parts of the business, which includes the huge profit private bus companies are pocketing.

The cost of implementing the four day, 32 hour week by using the most expensive options is reckoned to be £114 million. Yet bus companies that are clearly running at a loss take a huge amount of profit - £120m. It Just doesn't add up as a decent excuse, does it?

The four day, 32 hour week is a huge step in the right direction and one that we must fight for now. Our lives may depend on it.

RMT General Secretary election nomination

This year there will be an election for the position of General Secretary. The two candidates are Mick Cash and Sean Hoyle. The Jubilee South branch have invited both candidates to our next branch meeting on the 8th of May.

At this meeting we will decide which candidate we wish to nominate for the position as a branch.

This meeting will allow us to question them both on how they propose to take the union forward. All members are welcome. Branch meeting details are on the reverse of this newsletter.

Branch news in brief...

Dust Update

The RMT has written to London Underground asking for an urgent meeting to discuss health concerns raised by the high level of tunnel dust on the Jubilee Line and across the tube. This ongoing problem was highlighted again recently as trains going through Baker Street had to be reduced as dust levels had become too high. An extract of the letter that the RMT sent to LUL is below.

RMT letter to LU

To Jill Collis, Director of Health and Safety,

My LU representatives have expressed their concerns about the working conditions faced by RMT members in both the train driving community and platform staff. This is against a background of media reports that some above ground road locations pose a threat to pedestrians and drivers on London's Streets and further reports that conditions are worse below ground.

Our members are driving through or standing in this dust for several hours a day, over a number of years.

This is a priority issue for the RMT and would ask that you list this matter for the next LUL Safety Forum or even consider a special one agenda item Special Safety Forum. We believe there needs to be open and honest talks so that we can jointly work together to tackle these threats to workers' health.

Yours sincerely,

Mick Cash, General Secretary.

TOD Failure Update

RMT Jubilee South branch recently discussed a rule change regarding the TOD going defective. Very

basically, LU want us to ignore the fact we have no information and stay in service. The branch was clear that this was a bad decision. Now the RMT

National Executive have passed a motion on how the RMT plans to proceed.

The NEC decision

That we note the resolution from our Neasden Branch regarding the unacceptable situation with

company changes to the LU Rule Book; resulting in transition based train control stock (TBTC) being kept in service if/when the train operator display (TOD) fails, which will also result in Train Operators having to rely on unqualified and remotely based third parties service decisions whilst they are driving their trains.

We instruct the General Secretary to arrange a meeting with the company at the appropriate level to seek an acceptable resolution and to avoid a dispute situation arising.

LUL Pay Claim



After making an offer of 2.5% dependant on us dropping all other demands LUL have now tabled talks throughout May to negotiate a deal with us.

It will be interesting to see how long tube bosses pre-condition remains, as our demands include a flat rate payment for lower paid grades, 4 day, 32 hour week, priv tickets for all staff and for the withdrawal of the CSA2 grade.

Our position is clear: talks must continue with all our demands still firmly on the table.

The RMT is your union, have your say!

The Jubilee South Branch meets every pay day (weds) 1600-1800 at The King's Arms on Newcomen St which is just off Borough High Street. The nearest tube station is London Bridge via the Borough High Street exit.

All members are welcome. It's important members have an input on what the RMT submit to LUL in regards to our next pay deal and now is the time we must format that claim.

- **The next meeting is on Wednesday, 8th of May at 4pm.**

For further information please speak to your local rep or contact our Branch Secretary Eamonn Lynch on 07578769943 / eamonnlynchrmt@outlook.com.